

Reasons FOR Faith

Christianity in a World of Religions

AUGUST 21, 2011 • CRAIG J. HAZEN, PH.D.

1. Christianity is _____.

1 Corinthians 15:12–19

Upon careful investigation, the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus is found to be one of the best attested fact of ancient history.

2. In Christianity, salvation is a _____.

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not the result of works, that no one should boast.

Ephesians 2:8–9

3. With Christianity you get an amazing _____.

Psalm 119:159–160, Romans 1:20, Psalm 19:1–4

The picture that Christian teaching paints of the world actually matches the way the world really is!

The sum of Thy word is truth, and every one of Thy righteous ordinances is everlasting. *Psalm 119:160*

“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.”—C.S. Lewis

4. Christianity has _____ at the center.

John 1:1–5, John 1:14

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. *John 1:14*

For further study:

Five Sacred Crossings: A Novel Hazen, Harvest House, 2008

The Challenge of World Religions Hazen, Biola University audio CD

World Religions and Cults 101 Bickel, Jantz, and Hazen, Harvest House, 2002



TWIN LAKES
CHURCH
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Daily Meditations

Monday

This week we're going to do something a little different. Each day we'll read one Psalm and then answer a series of questions. Today, please read Psalm 18. What is the psalmist's main topic in this psalm?

What passage in this psalm challenges you?

What passage in this psalm encourages you?

Write down two principles from this psalm that you want to meditate on today.

Thank God today that He is not unaware of your grief and hurts. Thank Him for His presence with you through each step of life. Pray that each day you will more and more rely on God as your Rock and source of strength.

Tuesday

Please read Psalm 19. What is the psalmist's main topic in this psalm?

What passage in this psalm challenges you?

What passage in this psalm encourages you?

Write down two principles from this psalm that you want to meditate on today.

Thank God today for who He is. Thank Him for the Bible and the opportunity you have to study it and grow. Talk to God about concerns you have. Pray that you will learn to frame your concerns in the light of God's greatness.

Wednesday

Please read Psalm 62. What is the psalmist's main topic in this psalm?

What passage in this psalm challenges you?

What passage in this psalm encourages you?

Write down two principles from this psalm that you want to meditate on today.

continued 

Thank God today for being your Rock. Thank Him for the true rest that you can find in Him. Talk to Him about the ways you need Him to be your Rock right now. Pray that you'll rely on Him more than yourself and that you'll be an encouragement to those you encounter today.

Thursday

Please read Psalm 103. What is the psalmist's main topic in this psalm?

What passage in this psalm challenges you?

What passage in this psalm encourages you?

Write down two principles from this psalm that you want to meditate on today.

Thank the Lord today for His mercy. Thank Him for His compassion on you. Pray that your life will be a reflection of His love, forgiveness and compassion today.

Friday

Please read Psalm 146. What is the psalmist's main topic in this psalm?

What passage in this psalm challenges you?

What passage in this psalm encourages you?

Write down two principles from this Psalm that you want to meditate on today.

Thank God today that you can have a relationship with Him. Thank Him for His lavish love for you. Spend time thanking Him for the many blessings you enjoy. Ask Him to grow a grateful spirit in you. Pray that your attitude will be a reflection of your relationship with God and that people will be encouraged by their encounters with you.

Saturday

Please read Psalm 10. How are you encouraged by this psalm today?

How does it challenge you?

Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that God will use Pastor Paul Spurlock to minister to and encourage our congregation.



Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.
Colossians 3:12-14 NIV