Unanswered: Why Has Christianity Done So Much Harm?

Pastor Dennis Rouse April 21-22, 2018

History of Christian Harm:

- 1. Christian Crusades
- 2. American Holocaust
- 3. African Slavery
- 4. Jewish Holocaust
- 5. Modern Day Atrocities

Matthew 5:13-16 NKJ

"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

2 Corinthians 5:17-20 NLT

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. SO WE ARE CHRIST'S AMBASSADORS; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"

True Christian Characteristics:

1. Value everyone

Philippians 2:2-4 NIV

...then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2. Humility

Philippians 2:5-8 NIV

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

3. One with yourself

Matthew 7:21-23 NKJ

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!"

4. Live to give

Atheists:

- Joseph Stalin (Russia): responsible for around 30 million deaths
- Mao Zedong (China): responsible for between 40-70 million Chinese deaths
- Ho Chi Minh (Vietnam): responsible for over 500,000 Vietnamese deaths
- Kim Il-sung (North Korea): responsible for killing about 1.3 million of its own people

• Adolf Hitler: responsible for over 6 million Jewish deaths

"Let every student be plainly instructed and earnestly pressed to consider well the main end of his life studies is to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life ..." — *Harvard University*