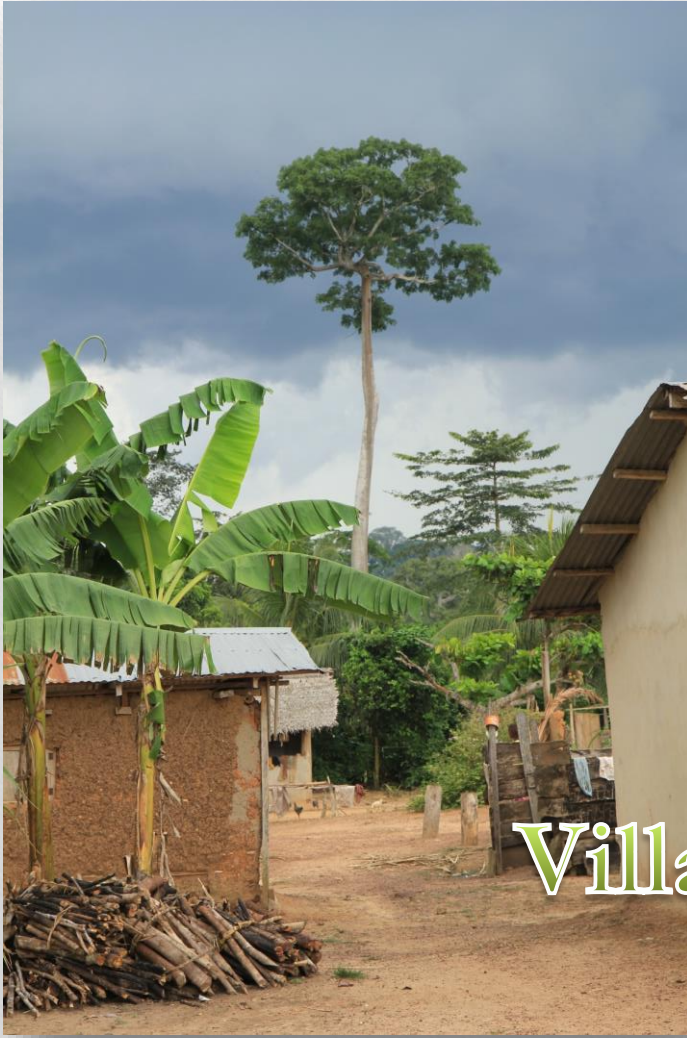


# Culture & the Church

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Village of Bobi



Venue: EBENEZER SOCIETY BUBI  
GET: GH¢ 4,000: (¢40,000,000.)  
REV. MINISTER ISAAC K. BOATENG  
JAMES OTOO  
(STEWARD)  
COYLE AND YOU WILL BE BLESS!

M.C  
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1994



FAITH

USA - BIG BAMA

NOUN

PLANT

HUMAN

STONE

LEGS AWAY

Ghanian Language

Akanfo: Adedie

BOB













United States of America

## **I'm a florist, but I refused to do flowers for my gay friend's wedding**

My relationship with God trumps my connection to anyone on Earth. And now I'm getting sued.

By Barronelle Stutzman May 12, 2015

Barronelle Stutzman is owner of Arlene's Flowers in Richland, Wash.



<https://www.washingtonpost.com/posteverything/wp/2015/05/12/im-a-florist-but-i-refused-to-do-flowers-for-my-gay-friends-wedding/>

# Charlotte Observer: Girls must overcome 'discomfort' of seeing 'male genitalia' in locker rooms

A leading North Carolina newspaper issued an editorial last week telling girls to attempt "overcoming discomfort" at the sight of "male genitalia," should transgender bathroom laws be enacted.

In a defense of President Obama's order compelling schools to allow access to restrooms on the basis of gender identity, the Charlotte Observer editorial board compared the discomfort of school-aged girls seeing male genitalia in locker rooms to the discomfort of white people being around black people in post-segregation America.



By [Bradford Richardson](#) - *The Washington Times* - Wednesday, May 18, 2016

# First in Cincinnati...



# Meanwhile in New York.....



Mamadou Diallo

1. Can we effectively preach the gospel with success to those who live around us each day?
2. Or does our current culture make it nearly impossible to evangelize?



# THE NEW YORKER

DECEMBER 26, 2014

The Meaning of “Culture”

BY JOSHUA ROTHMAN



There's something innately funny about Merriam-Webster's announcement, earlier this month, that “**culture**” is their **2014 Word of the Year**.

It goes without saying that “culture” is a confusing word, this year or any year. Merriam-Webster offers **six definitions** for it ....

(Definition of culture from the Cambridge Academic Content Dictionary  
© Cambridge University Press)

# cul·ture

/kəlCHər/

- **culture** *noun* (WAY OF LIFE)

- > social studies –

the way of life of a particular people, esp.  
as shown in their ordinary behavior and habits,  
their attitudes toward each other,  
and their moral and religious beliefs:

*He studied the culture of the Sioux Indians.*



# cul·ture

/kəlCHər/

*Anthropology:* the **sum total** of ways of living built up by a group of human beings and transmitted from one generation to another.



Collins English Dictionary - Complete & Unabridged 2012 Digital Edition

# Secularism & Pluralism

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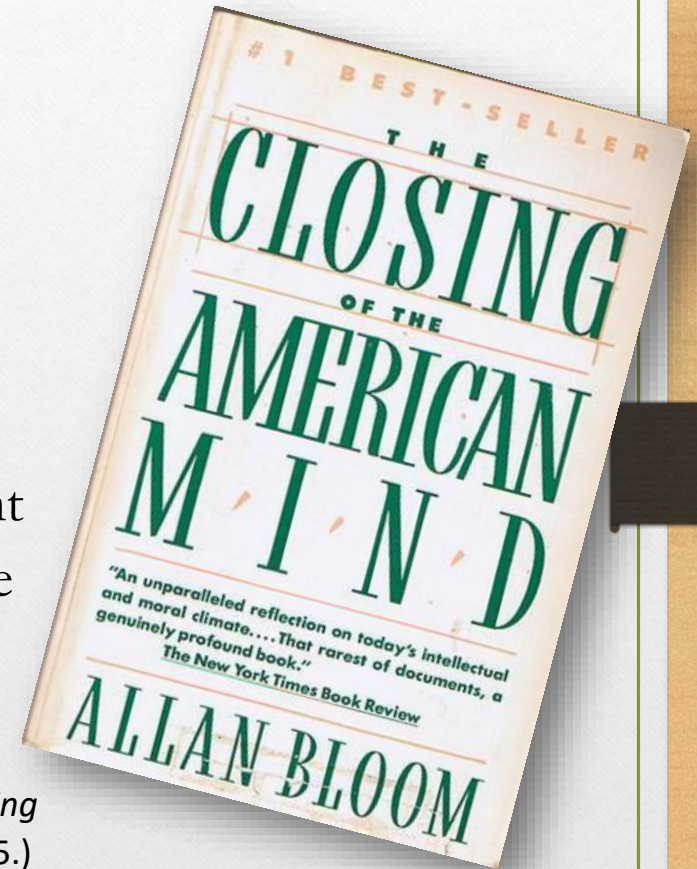
**Secularism** is the systematic removal of God/religion from society and the promotion of the autonomy of man in His/its place.

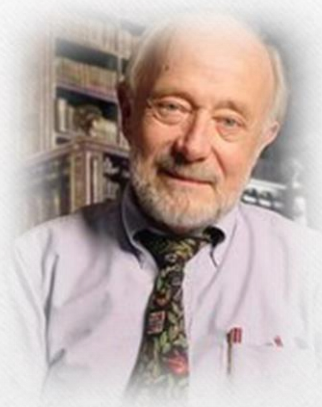
**Pluralism:** a condition or system in which two or more states, groups, principles, sources of authority, etc., coexist.



“There is one thing a professor can be absolutely certain of: almost every student entering the university believes, or says he believes, that **truth is relative.**”

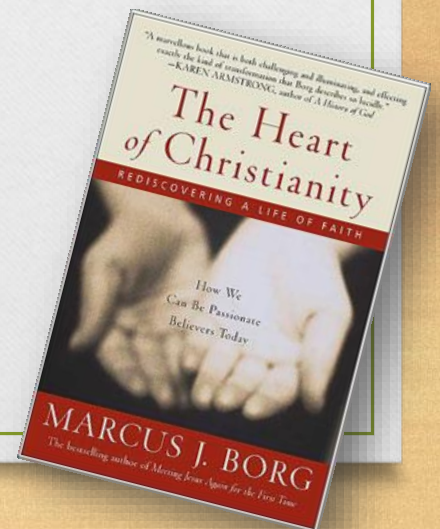
(The first sentence of professor Allan Bloom's book, *The Closing of the American Mind*, (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1987), 25.)



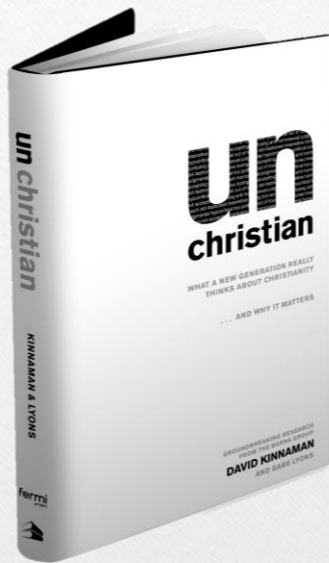


"When I ask them to write a short essay on their impression of Christianity," says Borg, "they consistently use five adjectives: Christians are literalistic, anti-intellectual, self-righteous, judgmental, and bigoted."

*The Heart of Christianity* (2003) Marcus Borg of Oregon State University



When non-Christians aged 16 to 29 years old were asked, “What is your current perception of Christianity?” here’s how they responded:



- **91% anti-homosexual**
- **87% judgmental**
- **85% hypocritical**
- **78% old-fashioned**
- **75% too involved in politics**
- **70% out of touch with reality**
- **70% insensitive to others**
- **68% boring**

*Unchristian* (2007) by David Kinnaman of the Barna Group

# The Christian's Challenge

WARNINGS!	EXHORTATIONS
<p>John declared, “Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him” (1 John 2:15)</p> <p>James said, “Whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God” (James 4:4)</p>	<p>And, “I do not ask Thee to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.” (John 17:15,16).</p> <p>Paul said, “Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity” (Colossians 4:5).</p>

# What can be done?

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SOLUTIONS



PROBLEMS



# Keeping Perspective

And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only **evil continually**. (Genesis 6:5)

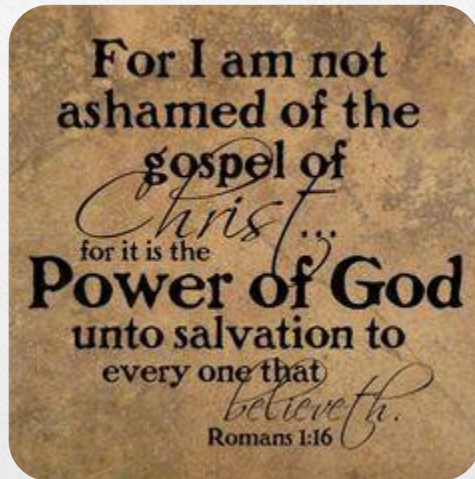
In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did what was right **in his own eyes**. (Judges 17:6)

“And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man.” (Luke 17:26)



# Keeping Perspective

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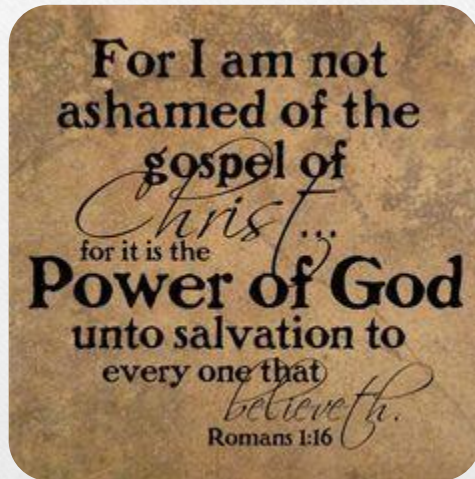
Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about **three thousand** souls. (Acts 2:41)

...the Lord added to the church **daily** such as should be saved. (Acts 2:47)

...many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about **five thousand**. (Acts 4:4)

# Keeping Perspective

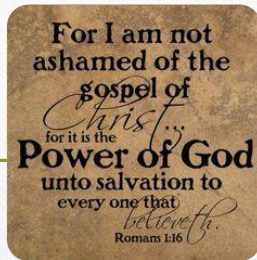
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And believers were the more added to the Lord, **multitudes** both of men and women. (Acts 5:14)

And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples **multiplied** in Jerusalem greatly; and a **great company** of the priests were obedient to the faith. (Acts 6:7)

“You see, brother, how many **thousands** there are among the Jews of those who have believed...” (Acts 21:20)

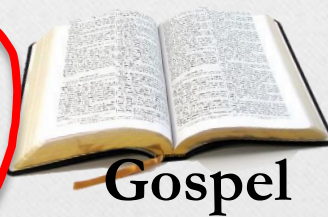


# Solutions

1 Timothy 4:16 - Pay close attention to **yourself** and to your **teaching**; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.



Good/Honest/Open



**SALVATION**  
A Conversion!

# Assessing the real issue.

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	Good Heart	Teacher	Gospel

But we have this **treasure in earthen vessels**, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves.

2 Corinthians 4:7

A “Cultural Christian”.

**More robust churches will result from the death of nominalism.**

Nominal comes from the Latin, meaning "name" or "name only." A growing number of people are name only Christians. They claim "Christianity" for survey reasons, but rarely attend church or give any consistent consideration to their faith identification.

2 Timothy 4:2-4 – **Preach the word!** Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 3 For **the time will come** when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

1. How does one find honest and open hearts today?
2. What is the key for each of us to truly become “meet for the Master”?



*Yes we can!*

## Culture & the Church

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