

CHRISTIAN?

(2) Quitters

Pro-Presenter

He knew how or why everything happened; He knew the disposition of every single soul. He wasn't going to let anything happen by accident! Nobody was going to go to hell by mistake. This was His world, all this! He had complete control of it; His justice, His mercy-were not our justice or our mercy. What folly, to even imagine such a thing.

I didn't know how He was going to save the unlettered the unbaptized, or how He would redeem the conscientious heathen who had never spoken His name. I didn't have to know how my gay friends would find their way to redemption; or how my hardworking secular humanist friends would receive the power of His Saving Grace.

I didn't have to know why good people suffered agony or died in pain. He knew. And it was His knowing that overwhelmed me, His knowing that became completely real to me. And why should I remain apart from Him just because I couldn't grasp all this? He could grasp it.

Today I quit being a Christian. I'm out.

I'm out. I remain committed to Christ as always but not to being a Christian' or to being apart of Christianity.

It's simply impossible for me to 'belong' to this quarrelsome, hostile, disputatious, and deservedly infamous group.

For 10 years, I've tried. I've failed. I'm an outsider. My conscience will allow nothing else.

My faith in Christ is central to my life. My conversion from a pessimistic atheist lost in a world I didn't understand to an optimistic believer in a Universe created and sustained by a loving God is crucial to me.

But following Christ does not mean following His followers."

Christ is infinitely more important than Christianity and always will be, no matter what Christianity is, has been, or might become.

My commitment to Christ remains at the heart and center of my life. Transformation in Him is radical and ongoing. That I feel now that I am called to be an outsider for Him, to step away from the words "Christian" and "Christianity" is something that my conscience demands of me.

Christian

Disciple

John 13:35

"By **this** everyone will know that you are my Disciples. If you **love** one another."

I John 4:7a

Dear friends, let us love one another, for LOVE comes from God.

I John 4:7-8

Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever

does not love does not know God, because God is love.

I John 4:9

This is how God **showed** His love among us: He sent His one and only son into the world that we might live through Him.

I John 4:10

This is Love: not that we loved God but that He loved **us** and gave His Son as an atoning sacrifice for **our** sins.

I John 4:11

Dear friends, **since God** loved us, **we also ought** to love one another.

I owe it to God to love you

Quarrelsome, hostile, disputatious, and deservedly infamous

Not Coerced

Drawn

Guilty

Not Condemned