

Brain Massage®: Show No. 759 The Superficiality of Christianity Today –
Why Christians Can Freely and Fully Support Trump For President

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1 Segment.01 Hello. I'm Dr. Jerry Scheidbach, pastor of the
2 Lighthouse Baptist Church in Santa Maria, CA—and your brain
3 masseur—get ready for your brain massage.

4 Merry Christmas! What did the Saviour's birth mean to earth?
5 Christians like the editor of Christianity Today simply do not get it.

6 I thought the war on Christmas was a myth, a figment of every
7 Christians' phobia that the "world is out to get them." One gal
8 attacked a woman for saying Merry Christmas, I mean beat her up,
9 because she said Merry Christmas. According to at least one left-
10 wing-nut Merry Christmas means F*** you! Yeah, heard the song!
11 According to this guy Merry Christmas is a call to war, an
12 infliction of one's politics on others. This is coming from the same
13 people who howl anytime someone points out the anti-Merry
14 Christmas sentiment has steadily risen in America and became
15 intense toward the end of the Obama years.

16 What is with the left's doctrine of the virtue of poverty? Warren, a
17 multimillionaire, virtue signals by claiming, falsely, by the way, that
18 her father was a janitor. He probably cleaned the kitchen once, or
19 something. Her father was a janitor as much as she is Native
20 American Indian. Buttigieg claims Jesus was a refugee! Defends his
21 honor by pointing out that all his opponents for the Democrat
22 nomination are richer than he is. What is it with the left and their
23 doctrine of the virtue of poverty?

24 Moore warns Blacks to beware of the white man. Hah! It's probably
25 a good idea to begin with white-cracker Moore.

26 Watching Virginia? The 2A supporters are standing up against
27 Second amendment encroachment legislation in Virginia — it's
28 shaping up into a major showdown. Police officers are lining up on

29 the side of the citizens who refuse to surrender their guns. Let's talk
30 about what happen when governments cross the line from
31 encroachment to infringement.

32 The latest on the "sort of impeachment" of Trump. Pelosi continues
33 to hold the articles and now threatens to add some articles to it. It
34 seems obvious that she knows there is no case for impeachment
35 and wants to keep the radical-rabid-Trump-hating-dogs at bay but
36 salivating for Trump's blood going into the 2020 election.

37 The IG Report is beginning to find its way into the light — and
38 piercing the darkness with TRUTH about the whole debacle. We
39 suspected it, but now we have proof that the Steele dossier was
40 funneled through McCain after the FBI dropped him. And Giuliani
41 has found the "smoking gun" on the Biden-Ukraine connection,
42 and lo, and behold, it turns out the Democratic Party aparatchik,
43 all the way up to Obama, was tangled up with corruption in
44 Ukraine. It was a money-laundering scheme with American tax
45 dollars. Giuliani has put together a case for Trump with
46 documentation showing he was just to call for an investigation on
47 Biden and company.

48 Well, that should be enough — it's time for your Brain Massage.

49 [TRUTH]

50 Merry Christmas! What did the Saviour's birth mean to earth?
51 Christians, like the editor of Christianity Today, simply do not get
52 it.

53 As you know, the editor in chief of Christianity Today called for
54 the removal of President Trump from office. I touched on the
55 contents of his arguments in the last show, but did not have time to
56 complete my statement. I'll do that now.

57 Daily, I get attacked by "Christians" for supporting the President.

58 I am accused of putting America before God, and of being clueless
59 or carless and a compromiser because Trump has made statements
60 supporting abortion in the case of rape or incest. Of course, his
61 unfortunate choice of shall we say "choice words" is thrown into
62 our faces, along with what appears to be boasting.

63 So, let's get started on this. Christianity today is broken! I'm not
64 referring to the magazine; I'm referring to Christianity today—that
65 is, contemporary Christianity.

66 And it's broken into so many pieces, I'm not entirely sure it can be
67 put back together again—nor am I convinced it should be.

68 What God usually does in cases like these is not re-integration, but
69 rather separation of the remnant.

70 The first thing to do is get a baseline for comparison. We could
71 compare contemporary Christianity with first century
72 Christianity—but everyone claims to be the true extension of first
73 century Christianity. So, for my immediate purpose, that won't do.
74 Let's compare contemporary Christianity with the prevailing
75 sentiments of Christians during the founding of this nation. With
76 the caveat that I am aware that even then, disagreements among
77 Christians was as common then as now, with one exception. Then
78 there was an overwhelming consensus of opinion among
79 Christians about certain things, and the overwhelming majority of
80 the population identified as Christian.

81 As to general unity, for example, in Christian doctrine there was
82 near universal agreement that the Bible is the WORD of GOD and
83 the only absolute authority for faith and practice—the cry of the
84 Reformation was Sola-Scriptura. That Jesus Christ is God manifest
85 in the flesh, that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone,
86 that Jesus is LORD of Heaven and EARTH, and sent His Spirit into
87 the world — the Spirit of Jesus Christ — with the commission to
88 the Church to preach the liberating Gospel to all nations. The

89 command of God to repent and believe in Christ was heralded
90 throughout the land and there was a general belief that men should
91 repent and believe on Jesus Christ. The Gospel shaped the cultural
92 values and instructed the ethics of the population.

93 John Locke wrote about the limits of power, repudiated the so-
94 called divine-right of kings, and supported his claims from the
95 BIBLE.

96 Finally, our founders declared independence from Britain
97 premised on such biblically grounded notions and said, "All men
98 are CREATED EQUAL and endowed by their CREATOR with
99 certain inalienable rights."

100 America was founded upon this cornerstone. According to Quincy
101 Adams: "In the chain of human events, the birthday of the nation is
102 indissolubly linked with the birthday of the Savior. The
103 Declaration of Independence laid the cornerstone of human
104 government upon the first precepts of Christianity." That first
105 precept is that GOD created us and endowed us with inalienable
106 rights.

107 It was generally believed that America was founded upon
108 Christianity: "The general principles on which the fathers achieved
109 independence were the general principles of Christianity. I will
110 avow that I then believed, and now believe, that those general
111 principles of Christianity are as eternal and immutable as the
112 existence and attributes of God." Samuel Adams.

113 As for the separation doctrine that has been twisted into a tool for
114 Satan, consider what John Hancock said: "Sensible of the
115 importance of Christian piety and virtue to the order and
116 happiness of a state, I cannot but earnestly commend to you every
117 measure for their support and encouragement."

118 As for acknowledgement that Christ reigns over all kingdoms of
119 the earth, Hancock said: "Pray . . . that universal happiness may be

120 established in the world [and] that all may bow to the scepter of
121 our Lord Jesus Christ, and the whole earth be filled with His glory.”

122 As to the belief that Christians should rule in government: John Jay
123 said, "Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers.
124 And it is the duty as well as the privilege and interest of a Christian
125 nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers."

126 Indeed, John Jay went farther and expressed concern that even in
127 his day this was taken for granted: "Whether our religion permits
128 Christians to vote for infidel rulers is a question which merits more
129 consideration than it seems yet to have generally received either
130 from the clergy or the laity. It appears to me that what the prophet
131 said to Jehoshaphat about his attachment to Ahab ["Shouldest thou
132 help the ungodly and love them that hate the Lord?" 2 Chronicles
133 19:2] affords a salutary lesson.”

134 It was generally believed that the Bible was to be revered and
135 promoted in society: "There must be religion. When that ligament
136 is torn, society is disjointed and its members perish... [T]he most
137 important of all lessons is the denunciation of ruin to every state
138 that rejects the precepts of religion." Governor Morris, member of
139 the continental congress, signer of the Constitution.

140 But Christianity today is divided over almost all of these issues.
141 Many deny that America was founded upon biblical principles,
142 much less upon Christianity. Many Christians today believe
143 Christians have no place in politics, that politics corrupts pure
144 Christianity, that the world belongs to Satan and we have nothing
145 to do with it and no legitimate expectation of influencing it for
146 Christ. They think Christ rules in Heaven, but NOT ON EARTH.

147 But, it's even worse than that. Not only has the Christian today
148 withdrawn the salt and light Jesus intended we should bring into
149 the world, contemporary Christians have capitulated to the world
150 in almost everything.

151 It's weird how the more Christians follow this idea of withdrawing
152 from the world, they become more like it.

153 Christians have adopted a false pacifism when it comes to war that
154 our forefathers did not embrace. Indeed, Washington more than
155 once remarked how grateful he was to the support he got from
156 Baptist Christians in the war for Independence.

157 Christians today, of the sort like Christianity Today's editor in
158 chief, have adopted a "form of godliness" approach that has them
159 straining at gnats while swallowing camels.

160 So that's my general assessment — now for my evaluation of the
161 specific arguments Christians raise against Trump. But that will
162 have to be taken up in my next segment.

163 [Wow, I can see right now I'm not going to get through all this ...]

164 Segment.02 Hello. Welcome back! I'm Dr. Jerry Scheidbach, pastor
165 at the Lighthouse, your brain masseur, and Paul Revere's lantern
166 lighter, lighting the lamps in the church belfry arch, signaling the
167 enemy is on the march, an enemy that would steal from us our
168 liberty.

169 The editor in chief of Christianity Today expressed his opinion that
170 the show-trial put on by Pelosi-Schiff proved Trump's corruption.
171 That was probably the most telling part of the entire editorial. No
172 reasonable person would think what was presented during that
173 proceeding was anything even remotely resembling proof
174 supporting the charge that Trump attempted to coerce Zelensky
175 into anything. Further exacerbating the insult was the fact that the
176 Democrat controlled House refused to allow the other side to
177 present their own chosen witnesses. And, as I pointed out in my
178 last show, what makes this all the more outrageous, if that is even
179 possible, is that the Christianity Today editor did not even include
180 a remark of concern in the matter of Biden's obvious use of
181 coercion against the former Ukrainian president.

182 It is obvious that the editor in chief of Christianity Today wrote a
183 hit-piece on Trump. And those who compare Trump's
184 impeachment with that of Clinton are comparing Martians with
185 men — Clinton was convicted for lying under oath and lost his
186 license to practice law. There is NO COMPARISON here.

187 The editor in chief premises his personal hostility against Trump
188 on what he considers Trump's un-Christian like behavior. He
189 refers specifically to Trump's tweets, and manner of expressing
190 himself.

191 The editor in chief of Christianity Today does not address Trump's
192 qualified pro-life position—allowing for abortions in the case of
193 rape or incest.

194 So, what's my answer to this?

195 First, for the record, I did not support Trump for president. My
196 reasons went deeper than concern about his occasional use of
197 coarse language and alleged bad manners. The fact is some
198 consider me to be occasionally coarse and ill mannered — pray for
199 me! I'm still growing in grace.

200 I will not repeat the case I constructed then out of what was on
201 record concerning Trump — there is no need. But I should explain
202 what changed me.

203 I have watched Trump lead! I have examined his policies and
204 positions, and he is leading this nation according to Christian
205 principles. And there is one thing that is particularly important and
206 many seem to be missing this.

207 Trump is openly acknowledging God, and our Saviour, Jesus
208 Christ. He is openly declaring this nation to be UNDER GOD —
209 and has repeatedly expressed concern about those who are trying
210 to change that. And if you think that is a minor thing, I
211 recommend you read the book of Daniel again, only pay attention.

212 God allowed Nebuchadnezzar, whom He called His servant,
213 considerable latitude as a pagan ruler, but one thing he insisted
214 upon was that the king acknowledges GOD RULES IN THE
215 KINGDOM OF MEN AND GIVES IT TO WHOMEVER HE
216 WILL. This is repeated in the book of Daniel, and it is of critical
217 importance—the reasons are detailed in my book, God's War, and
218 I don't have time to go into that right now. Buy the book. It's
219 enough right now to point out that clearly this is of critical
220 importance to GOD — so that when the king of heathen Babylon
221 acknowledged this fundamental TRUTH regarding God and
222 nations, the reign of Nebuchadnezzar was blessed.

223 The fact that Trump acknowledges God, and particularly that this
224 nation is UNDER GOD, is of huge importance.

225 The Democrats want to push God out of everything. The most
226 recent example was when they swore-in witnesses to the Congress
227 and omitted "So help me God." I am aware that some Christians
228 believe that Jesus' statement that we should "swear not at all"
229 prohibits them from doing it. I don't agree with that understanding
230 of Christ's statement there, but I respect those who do. But it is a
231 longstanding tradition (200+ years) in America to swear an oath
232 concluding with "so help me God." And here is what we are sick
233 and tired of. Always, we must defer to the unbeliever. We must
234 cow tow to their demands. I'm tired of this. Look, in the context of
235 our history, to refuse to include this is a statement against our
236 Christian heritage, whereas including it would be benign.

237 When it was noticed, and the chair was asked to allow those
238 witnesses who preferred to keep to the 200+ year old tradition, ole
239 wicked Jerry Nadler stepped in. Nadler said he did not want those
240 uncomfortable using the expression to feel "signaled out." Why?
241 This has been going on for hundreds of years and those who opt
242 out have been respectfully allowed to do so.

243 Why don't these wicked unbelievers extend the same courtesy to us
244 who prefer the traditional form of swearing in? It's always one way
245 with these guys.

246 In 2016, at the Democrat Convention, the leadership attempted to
247 add an acknowledgement of God in the Party platform, to affirm
248 religious faith. A little more than half of the delegates in attendance
249 objected. More recently, the DNC made an open statement
250 affirming atheism — no one objected. Isn't that interesting to you?

251 It's clear! The Democrats are the party of America is NO LONGER
252 A CHRISTIAN NATION. This is the transformation they are
253 talking about when they talk about transforming America. They
254 intend to move this nation OUT FROM UNDER GOD.

255 The editor of Christianity Today is superficial. He would strain at
256 gnats and swallow camels. If someone says "Is coercing a foreign
257 president to serve the interests of an American president's
258 campaign nothing but a gnat to you?" I would answer, absolutely
259 not. That's why I want Barack Obama investigated for pressuring
260 Ukraine to investigate his political rival's campaign manager.
261 That's why I want the three Democrat Senators who approached
262 Ukraine and asked them to investigate Trump to be investigated.
263 That's why I want the leadership of the DNC to be investigated for
264 soliciting Ukraine to dig up dirt on Trump. That's why I want
265 Biden's use of loan guarantees to threaten the then president of
266 Ukraine to fire a prosecutor looking into a business that just
267 happened to employ his son. Trump's conversation with Zelensky
268 was clearly not coercion, and there was no quid-pro-quo, and that's
269 all been vetted — so, now, let's take a look at Obama, Hillary,
270 Schiff, and the rest of them, Brennan, et al. Let's get to the bottom
271 of this.

272 However, for Christianity Today's editor, tweets that tweak the
273 sensitivities of snow-flake Christians who have been polluted by
274 political correctness, yeah, I think they are straining at gnats!

275 Definitely irritating, buzzing, annoying gnats. But the truth is, most
276 of us, and I include my self in this number, enjoy watching the
277 lefties swatting at the swarm of gnats, and gagging, and spitting,
278 and coughing when they fly into their mouths.

279 Okay, what about Trump's qualified pro-life position. Like Reagan
280 before him, Trump accepts abortion in the case of rape or incest.

281 I don't remember hearing a single "Christian" rage against Reagan
282 because of his position on abortion. I often took him to task for
283 this. I said it is inconsistent with the fundamental principle
284 underlying the entire pro-life position — the child is a human
285 being at conception and like every human being, the child has a
286 RIGHT TO LIFE. In no sane world would we murder a child
287 because its father was a rapist, or incestuous. I would no more
288 support abortion for these reasons than I would support the insane
289 idea of rounding up all children alive now conceived in rape or
290 incest and executing them.

291 But I supported Reagan and appreciated his excellent leadership at
292 a time in America when we desperately needed it. I understood
293 that he was a life long democrat who woke up one day and realized
294 the Party had left him—that liberalism had become the home of
295 socialism, which is anticapitalism — and ANTICHRISTIAN.

296 Trump also is a convert to the RIGHT! His social policies tracked
297 left throughout his career, but he began to wake up and change his
298 mind about some things. I too was suspicious—and I made my
299 suspicions known to all who listen to my little voice crying in the
300 wilderness.

301 I believed Reagan was a Christian, and could see that he was
302 governing according to Christian principles, that he acknowledged
303 God, and defended the rights of Americans of conscience.

304 I am comfortable affording to Trump the same support. I disagree
305 with him on this point of his position regarding abortion — but

306 here is the biggest difference, and it's the difference that makes a
307 difference — Like Reagan, Trump is not compelling anyone to
308 agree with him on that point.

309 I would prefer that Trump agreed with me on this matter — but I
310 respect the fact that he does not desire to compel me or anyone else
311 to believe his way, or to support his point of view either in actions
312 or financially.

313 The Dems want to COMPEL us to agree with them, to fund their
314 murderous policies, to force Christian health care professional to
315 perform this monstrous act against their own conscience and
316 against the innocent child — that's the difference.

317 The President can have whatever personal views he feels
318 comfortable that he can justify to the satisfaction of his own
319 conscience — that is his prerogative! But it CROSSES the line when
320 government leaders use their power to COMPEL us to participate
321 in this wickedness.

322 I am happy Trump has moved from pro-abortion to pro-life, even
323 if he has not yet come fully into the light, he is at least facing in the
324 direction of the LIGHT and not supporting with his policies the
325 DARKNESS on this issue at all.

326 In fact, Trump has consistently appointed pro-life judges, he has
327 stopped tax dollars from funding abortion overseas, he has
328 permitted States to defund Planned Parenthood of Title X Funds,
329 he has defunded the pro-abortion UNFPA, he has required health
330 insurance companies to disclose if plans cover abortions, he has
331 consistently appointed strong pro-life advocates to important
332 positions of influence in government, such as Mike Pence,
333 Kellyanne Conway, Mike Pompeo, and others. He has consistently
334 supported conscientious objection to abortion for medical workers,
335 and defended the right of private colleges, and employers from
336 being compelled to provide abortion to employees. His new office

337 for Conscience Protection at Health And Human Services is a big
338 step toward LIGHT and away from DARKNESS. He allowed States
339 to defund Planned Parenthood of Medicaid funds, he canceled a
340 huge contract for taxpayer-funded experimentation with body
341 parts of aborted babies, he cut Planned Parenthood funding by up
342 to 60 million.¹

343 Do I consider those who spit out their hatred for Trump because
344 *he supports abortion for children conceived in rape and incest*
345 straining at a gnat while swallowing a camel? In the context of all I
346 just laid out, I certainly do. These Christians who strain at this and
347 swallow the irrational I hate Trump mantra of the Left — they are
348 ridiculous, and frankly, I am very suspicious that we never heard
349 from these people during the Reagan years. I wonder if they are not
350 left plants sent out to confuse Christians and undermine his
351 support. Don't be a dupe! Know who your friends are!

352 In my opinion, Trump has seen the light along the way. Rumors
353 are that Pence has led him to Christ. (I guess these gnat chokers
354 hate Pence because he supports Trump! Yeah, that's how twisted
355 these people are. Their sense of morality is such that they would be
356 among those who cursed Jesus for healing on the Sabbath. Don't
357 have time to develop it, but that's exactly what we have with the
358 editor in chief at Christianity Today. That guy is so focused on the
359 outward expressions of Christianity he has lost sight of the core
360 values of the Christian faith.)

361 Okay, I think I have time to touch on one more related issue.

362 What is with the left's doctrine of the virtue of poverty? There is no
363 virtue in poverty, or in riches. Most poverty is the consequence of
364 laziness, and most who enjoy riches are enjoying the consequence
365 of hard work and smart work.

¹ <https://www.sba-list.org/trump-pro-life-wins>

366 Some poverty is the consequence of choosing honorable
367 professions that don't typically generate a great deal of wealth, or
368 from reversals of fortune through no fault of their own. And some
369 get rich by graft, and deceit, by selling influence given to them by
370 voters (Hillary), by trafficking in child porn, and drugs, and so
371 forth. But these are the exceptions.

372 Typically, those who are poor got that way by dereliction of duty,
373 laziness, or some addiction. The Bible says, for example, adultery
374 brings a man to a piece of bread. But the Bible is also replete with
375 encouragement to labor in hope of increase and the blessings of
376 riches are repeatedly connected with the blessing of wisdom.

377 In other words, from a biblical point of view, neither poverty nor
378 riches are inherently virtuous.

379 In some places, the poor are commended if honest, and the rich are
380 warned of the sometimes-corrupting influence of riches. At the
381 same time, however, the Bible warns against perverting justice in
382 the cause of the poor, or the rich.

383 You see, the Bible doctrine on this subject is full and balanced. The
384 Democrats have developed their own doctrine of poverty and in
385 all their actions and statements, define their doctrine in this way —
386 the poor are virtuous and the rich are wicked.

387 And so they find themselves in this very strange position since
388 every one of them is a multimillionaire — including Comrade
389 Bernie. So you have the embarrassing spectacle of Millionaire
390 Warren trying to come across like she can relate to the poor she
391 pretends to represent. And Buttigieg, along with Sharpton, et al,
392 imagines that Jesus was a refugee and born in poverty.

393 The fact is Jesus was a middle class suburbanite (haha!). His father
394 was an honorable tradesman. The reason Mary ended up
395 delivering Christ in a barn and laying Him in a manger was not
396 because Joseph could not afford to hire a room at any Inn in town.

397 It was because there were no vacancies. As for Christ being poor,
398 that's nonsense. First, I don't know a lot of children who receive
399 visitors from the east with gifts of frankincense, myrrh, and gold.
400 And it is well known that Jesus wore a costly, seamless robe —
401 considered to be a high-end garment in the day. True, he did not
402 live luxuriously, but He certainly did not live in poverty. In fact, He
403 reminded His disciples that throughout their time together, they
404 never lacked for anything.

405 Well, I must adieu.

406 I trust you are looking forward to a great new year. 2020 is a pivotal
407 year in America. We will decide, as a nation, whether we will
408 finally and fully pull this nation out from UNDER GOD, or
409 whether we will turn this ship of State back toward her
410 FOUNDING principles.

411 A great way to prepare to engage for Christ in the battle for
412 America is to get my new book, God's War!

413 I have lit the lamps in the Church belfry arch and now you let me
414 know if you see them.

415 Email me by going to our web site at branmassage.net. That's
416 brainmassage.net. Find the CONTACT button and send me an
417 email.

418 You can leave a message on our Lights On hotline: 805.314.2114.

419 God bless you. God bless America! I'll see you in Church.