

A few copies in the church library

A short informative read







If you were accused of being a Christian...would there be enough evidence to convict you?



From Stats Canada website

Home → Publications → 91-003-X → Main page → Section three: Composition of the population

Publications

Canadian Demographics at a Glance

91-003-X

Main page

Two-thirds of the population declare Christian as their religion

According to the 2011 National Household Survey, the largest religion in Canada was Christianity. About 22.1
million people—or just over two-thirds (67.3%) of the population—reported that they were affiliated with a
Christian religion. Catholics were the largest Christian religious group in 2011, at 12.8 million people.

Counting Canadian Evangelicals1 (2007) by Rick Hiemstra, Centre for Research on Canadian Evangelicalism

 A survey by *Maclean's* magazine in 2004 found "almost one-third of Canadians defined themselves as born-agains or evangelicals."



Why is there such a radical discrepancy between what a simple reading of the bible says about what a Christian is and all the people who say they are Christian?

Clearly 66% or even 33% are not dedicated followers of Jesus!



Is it possible we are like the religious Jews of Jesus' time?

"So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine;" (John 8:31, NASB95)



Is it possible we are like the religious Jews of Jesus' time?

"Anyone who belongs to God listens gladly to the words of God. But you don't listen because you don't belong to God."" (John 8:47, NLT)



Is it possible we are like the religious Jews of Jesus' time?

"Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple." (John 8:59, NASB95)





If you were accused of being a Christian...would there be enough evidence to convict you?





Context

The Comforter /Counsellor/ Helper

- 1. John 14:17 His coming Spirit of Truth
- 2. John 14:26 Teacher/ Reminder of Jesus Words
- 3. John 15:26 He will testify about Jesus
- 4. John 16:8 Crown Attorney- Convicts the world
- 5. John 16:12-15 Glorifier of Christ

Context

The Comforter /Counsellor/ Helper

4. John 16:8 – Crown Attorney- Convicts the world

"in the New Testament to convict "almost always means 'to show someone his sin and to summon him to repentance."



The Context

"They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, a time is coming when anyone who kills you will think he is <u>offering a service to God</u>. They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me." (John 16:2–3, NIV84)





JOHN 14:16

You are not Alone

STUDIES ON THE HOLY SPIRIT

"The Father's Crown Attorney"

John 16:1-15

Pew Bible pg. 765

The Role of the Holy Spirit in Convicting

```
""And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning
```

sin

and righteousness

and judgment;"

(John 16:8, NASB95)



Doesn't say convict of any specific sin

E.g.. Stealing, lying, sexual immorality, greed, selfishness.....

We like to pick and choose what is 'bad'.

"in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me;" (John 16:9, NIV84)



Jesus = eternal Son of God = Christ = Messiah

When Jesus said do not believe in me-this has been man's sin since the beginning of time!



Jesus = eternal Son of God = Christ = Messiah
WBC 2014-15 HisStory message series

"Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself." (Luke 24:26–27, NIV84)



Jesus = eternal Son of God = Christ = Messiah

- √ Creator Col. 1:19
- ✓ Messiah to deliver all men Gen 3:15 etc.
- ✓ One with the God the Father John 10:30



Holy Spirit's role has <u>ALWAYS BEEN</u> to convict of sin & direct us to the Messiah (the Christ) "Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal..."" (Genesis 6:3, NIV84)



Holy Spirit's role has <u>ALWAYS BEEN</u> to convict of sin & direct us to the Messiah

""You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit!" (Acts 7:51, NIV84)



"Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ (Messiah) in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow." (1 Peter 1:10-11, NIV84)



The Holy Spirit has always pointed man to the Christ. To convict man of his sin and need of God's only deliverer.

"He (Holy Spirit) will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you." (John 16:14, ESV)



- Have you 'met' God's Crown Attorney? (Holy Spirit)

 Do you listen??
- 1. Has there been a clear conviction of your sinfulness before a Holy God? (Salvation?)
- 2. Is there a continuing conviction when you sin? (sanctification?)

"in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer;" (John 16:10, NIV84)



""Which one of you <u>convicts</u> Me of sin? If I speak truth, why do you not believe Me?" (John 8:46, NASB95)



Jesus' resurrection – proof of His righteousness "and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 1:4, NIV84)



The world does not receive God's righteousness

"But when the Pharisees heard about the miracle, they said, "No wonder he can cast out demons. He gets his power from Satan, the prince of demons."" (Matthew 12:24, NLT)



Jesus followers will be accused of worse than Jesus

"Students are to be like their teacher, and slaves are to be like their master. And since I, the master of the household, have been called the prince of demons, the members of my household will be called by even worse names!" (Matthew 10:25, NLT)

In the West the world used to call conservative Christians prudes, conservatives, boring, frigid, up tight, judgmental

Now we are:

Evil, haters, homophobes, dangerous, threatened with lawsuits, rights being taken away



67%??? 33% ???? Christian???? They really believe they are wicked unrighteous sinners and that only Jesus is righteous????

"Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him." (John 14:23, NASB95)

67%??? 33% ???? Christian????

"Why did you despise the word of the LORD by doing what is evil in his eyes? ..." (2 Samuel 12:9, NIV84)

"Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because <u>you despised me..."</u>
(2 Samuel 12:10, NIV84)

To not obey God's righteous Word = resisting the Holy Spirit = despising Christ = despising the Father

""Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

(Matthew 7:21, NIV84)



Have you 'met' God's Crown Attorney? (Holy Spirit)

- 1. Is there a clear belief that only Jesus is righteous?
- 2. Is my belief reflected in a love for His Word and a desire to follow it?



"and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned." (John 16:11, NIV84)



"Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?" "He is worthy of death," they answered." (Matthew 26:65-66, NIV84)



"Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself."" (John 12:31–32, NIV84)



"In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."" (Acts 17:30-31, **NIV84)**

"As Paul discoursed on righteousness, selfcontrol and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and said, "That's enough for now! You may leave. When I find it convenient, I will send for you."" (Acts 24:25, NIV84)



Have you 'met' God's Crown Attorney? (Holy Spirit)

- 1. Are you crystal clear that Jesus was judged for your sin?
- 2. Are your crystal clear that as a follower you will be judged for how you have served?



The Role of the Holy Spirit in Convicting

```
""And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning
```

sin

and righteousness

and judgment;"

(John 16:8, NASB95)





If you were accused of being a Christian...would there be enough evidence to convict you?





JOHN 14:16

You are not Alone

STUDIES ON THE HOLY SPIRIT

"The Father's Crown Attorney"

John 16:1-15