

An Interview with Pamela Christian
Author of
Renew Your Life! Rest for Your Anxious Heart

1. Clearly, we live in a contentious and divided society characterized by much unrest. You trace the origin of our cultural condition to the period known as the Enlightenment that began in France in the 18th century, explain more.

Yes, I address this in chapter two. After study, I concluded that the major cultural shift from most people believing in the existence of God, and having respect for and acceptance of the Bible with its instruction for life to the nearly complete rejection of all these truths and values began with what's referred to as the Period of Enlightenment. In the 18th century the French Enlightenment began, ultimately giving rise to the German period culminating into what's referred to as Protestant or Theological Liberalism. By the 19th century many people were following the philosophy of Immanuel Kant and Friedrich Schleiermacher. Theological Liberalism grossly revised thousands of years of the commonly-held beliefs about God, about humanity and about truth itself. Protestant Liberalism tends to emphasize ethics over doctrine and personal experience over Scriptural authority. Theological Liberalism came to dominate American mainline churches in the early 20th century. In short Liberal Christian scholars encourage people to reject the Bible, to view truth as relative, and conclude that religions are pluralistic and non-doctrinal. Other movements that came from Theological Liberalism includes the Social Gospel, Theological Feminism and the Jesus Seminar, and others that deny the divinity of Christ and the authority of Scripture.

Fast forward to today and what we have are millions of people who have been taught that truth is not absolute, God is what you want Him to be and mankind is the highest authority. There is no commonly accepted grid or morals and the result is chaos, division, angst, protesting and in general a very dissatisfied and unfulfilled culture.

2. You spend time appealing to the millennial generation in this book. Why is that?

Just like a snow ball rolling downhill gains in size and mass, so has Theological Liberalism increased over the years. The momentum has positioned leadership and professors in the theological seminaries of several mainline denominations in the United States. Theological Liberalism is the most common viewpoint in campus ministry offices in secular universities and also among the professors who teach the Bible in religion departments of those universities. For many decades now, American youth have been taught what to think, instead of how to think and that any opposing views are unenlightened. This makes it very difficult to reason with them. Instead of having a respectful discourse, there is rejection and conclusion that anyone who does not old to Theological Liberalism is an imbecile and not to

be even considered. The millennial generation has been the hardest hit by the economy and job markets. They see corruption and failure in all fronts - government, business, family, and the Church. They are seeking, as all people do, to find personal meaning and fulfillment in life, with no grid to apply ration and reason in a new process of discovery. In short, they are deceived about religion, God and truth itself. And unfortunately, when people are deceived they don't know it because that's the very nature of deception. I want to help people everywhere discover and live in life-giving truth.

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3. You stated that we're living in one of the greatest seasons the world has ever known. Why do you believe that?

When people are sufficiently dissatisfied they will lash out in search for relief. Add to that basic human needs, the most compelling of which are to belong, to be loved, to be esteemed, and to find personal significance or meaning and purpose for life, then the unrest we see in our society today will no doubt become the catalyst for people to find answers. The Christian church, if it properly follows its mandate to share the truth in love, is in a perfect position to help people. For far too long the Christian Church has been known for what we stand against. But in this season, we must proclaim what we are for and that is the restoration of all nations to the truth about God, the truth about religion and the truth about the meaning and purpose in life. Unlike any other religion – and I explore the five major world religions and New Age in my first book, *Examine Your Faith! Finding Truth in a World of Lies* – traditional Christianity offers the most plausible answers to all life's questions and provides the greatest hope for true personal fulfillment and life purpose. And let me add here a strong word of caution. The Bible, which I demonstrate to be the

most worthy of all religious documents by way of objective and verifiable evidence, clearly states that judgment will begin with the Church. The Church has had a mandate since Christ ascended and instead of doing our job, we have a whole generation of people who are going to hell in a hand basket that's been woven by the Church. This is the season that true followers of Jesus Christ have the greatest opportunity to repent and get it right for the eternal benefit of many. I'm with Dr. Lance Wallnau's position that it's time to intentionally generate a movement that can reform and restore society, with a confident hope for our future.

4. The primary focus in the third book of your Faith to Live By series is to help people discover the existence and character of God. Why is that so important?

It's widely accepted that all roads lead to the same God and heaven. The thought that truth is relative and fluid and can be different from person to person is also widely accepted. Additionally, many people believe that all religions are equal. These positions along with liberal theology that has relegated the Bible as irrelevant and God to be non-existent, are evidence that people are woefully deceived. They think they know the "enlightened truth" when in fact they are deceived. You know, everywhere I go I ask people this question: "Who in this room wants to live your life on the basis of a lie?" No one ever raises their hand to that question, which is exceedingly revealing. Since no one raises their hand we can conclude that universally we consider truth better than deception. This means that we universally have an innate moral compass that allows us to determine "good" from "bad." So, I assert that unless we examine what we believe and why we believe it we could easily be deceived and utterly unaware of our condition. It takes courage and deliberate effort to examine what we believe to make certain our life is based on truth. I don't want anyone to live their life on the basis of lies, which is why I have written my book series and speak and teach wherever I'm invited.

5. In all three of the books in the series, you point out deception as the main factor for all the evil in this world. How so?

No other religious faith provides a better explanation for the problem of evil than the Christian faith. The Bible explains that the origin of not only evil but death on earth began when the first man and woman created by God to have an intimate and abiding holy relationship with Him, were deceived. God created mankind to be both a spiritual and a natural being. We're created in three parts – our natural body, our internal soul (which is the will, mind, and unique personality) and our spirit, which is the part of us that allow us relationship with God. Our spirit and our soul are eternal. But ever since evil entered the world our bodies are subject to death and every kind of disease and suffering, and all manner of evil. I explain in more detail in chapter three. But to condense it, Satan, originally named Lucifer, is an angel created by God. And just as God created mankind with a free-will to relate with God in love or not, angels have free-will. About one-third of the angels in

heaven, led by Satan, rebelled against God and were cast out of heaven.

Satan waited for an opportune time to entice the first woman named Eve and the first man named Adam, into first doubting what God had said to them, then Satan lied to them claiming the instructions for life God had clearly stated, were given to keep them from what would be even better than the existence God wanted for them. And with that deceptive lie implanted, Adam and Eve chose to reject God's way preferring instead their own way. The moment they did, just as God had warned, their spirits within them died and the authority God gave to Adam and Eve over the earth was transferred to Satan. It is Satan, known as the Father of Lies, who along with his minions have been at work ever since to destroy humanity, the earth, and all that God loves.

6. What hope does humanity have to overcome evil?

There is One Hope, and it's the very One that as of now, the majority of people are rejecting. The Hope is love. You know in the 1960's our culture was in an upheaval and there was great unrest, a lot like today. The popular rock band The Beatles sang songs that love is what we need to rectify the evil in the world. The tragedy in Manchester England earlier this year, the May 22nd, tragedy in Manchester England that killed twenty-two people including children and wounded up to sixty others, was inspired by Satan – who is evil personified. In response, Arianna Grande organized the One Love Manchester Benefit Concert. I was grateful for the response but saddened too. History reveals that the love of humanity is limited and lacking. The only love that can overcome evil is the love of God. In fact, Scriptures state two times that the very nature of God is holy and perfect love. This is the love that the world needs to overcome evil. And God has made His love fully available to anyone who wants it. It's simply a matter of believing by faith, that Jesus is who He claimed to be. Jesus is the Redeemer that God's love compelled Him to promise to Adam and Eve the moment they confessed their rejection of God. Every human being born since Adam and Eve have inherited the same condition of being estranged from God that Adam and Eve brought onto humanity. But God loves His creation so much that He personally provided a way for anyone who wants to be restored into the loving family of God to be restored. At the right time God delivered on His promise in the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. People who lived before Jesus placed their faith in God's promise looking forward. Those who lived during Jesus' life and afterward, place their faith in God's promise looking back. We are living in a time when evil seems to be on the increase. But understand the offer of the only love that will overcome evil remains. God is busy separating the righteous from the unrighteous and the plight of both groups is clearly explained in the Bible.

7. You wrote that unless people discover their God-given purpose, they won't find true personal fulfillment. How can people learn about and embrace their destiny?

Once a person understands that he or she is an intentional creation, fashioned by God, the Creator of all that exists, and that He has created them with a magnificent purpose to make

a positive difference in this world then very highest needs all humans have are satisfied. God—the God of the universe— loves you. He loves you individually, apart from all others. With faith in Christ you are admitted into the Family of God where your need to belong is fully satisfied. You are clearly highly esteemed demonstrated by God personally taking on human form in the person of Jesus to live and suffer and die a most painful death in order that the price for rejecting God could be satisfied, thereby opening the way for you to embrace God’s love. Love is the answer for all the problems of life providing it’s God’s love. But that’s not the sum total of what God has for you. He has also uniquely equipped you to do the primary thing He determined for you to do before you were ever conceived in your mother’s womb. You are an intentional creation with a God-given purpose and unless you discover God’s love and His intended purpose for your life you have no hope for this life or your eternal future. If anyone within the sound of my voice has not at least honestly begun to explore the truth about God, the truth about humanity and God’s will and intention for you, I urge you to start today. Get my books, open the Bible, inquire of someone you know and respect who can help you. But don’t delay. You see all the natural violence and the violence among people groups Any number of things could happen take your life and I don’t want you, God doesn’t want you to enter eternity without Him. Jesus came that those who place their faith in Him can enjoy life and life more abundant, even in this evil world. In chapters 6, 7 and 8 you’ll find some very practical steps you can take to get started on your truth journey.

8. How is a person’s life different once they start to understand and embrace God’s love? My book, *Renew Your Life! Rest for Your Anxious Heart*, is written in three sections and the entire last section is devoted to helping people experience God’s transforming love. Truly anyone who has ever sincerely placed their faith in Jesus are not only immediately met with God’s overwhelming love, we are supernaturally changed from our Spirit, to our soul, to our natural physical body. In chapter ten I have my readers a road map to discover their own unique purpose, the vision God has for their life and the mission God has planned for you. Chapter eleven I help my readers understand what to expect from the transforming power of God’s love. Then in chapter twelve I show my readers how to be an effective extension of God’s love, actually partnering with God to change this world for the better. Honestly, there is nothing more fulfilling than finding the all-encompassing love of God, to experience the transformation His love causes, and then to get to partner with Him to spread His love, according to your created life-purpose! Life for Christians—that is those who believe in Jesus also known as the Christ—is not devoid of problems. It is, however, filled with God and His loving power that helps us maneuver through any obstacle life brings, with a deep abiding joy that no evil in this world can take from us. May three books in the *Faith to Live By series* are written with the hope of helping people discover true faith, embrace and apply hope, and understand and bask in God’s love. And I want to thank you for this interview. It will help others find the answers to life issues they desperately need.