

Top of the Week: What's Going on With High-Profile Christians Walking Away?

Another High-Profile Christian Walks Away—What's Going on?

A headline this week has many people scratching their head: "Former Desiring God writer Paul Maxwell announces he's no longer Christian." How can this happen? Did he lose his salvation?

Below is my response about salvation that I've shared before. I also just released this short clip that goes into more detail on why Paul Maxwell may have fallen away.

A common question for many is, "Can I lose my salvation?" I've heard both sides of the argument, and only God truly knows a person's heart—but I can share a few thoughts. The reason there is a debate is because the Scriptures teach that salvation is a gift from God that cannot be earned, but they also offer warnings about falling away.

There should be a healthy tension between God's sovereignty and man's responsibility. This issue should not create a spirit of division, elitism or theological superiority.

America's False Goddess Has Ensnared the Country in a Demonic Trap

Few people know that in the 1800s, America embraced a goddess with roots in ancient Rome. She became so prevalent that her representations stand in some of the most prominent places in the country. You can find her on the pinnacle of government capitol buildings, courthouses, state flags, monuments and even U.S. coins.

Her Roman name is *Libertas*, but she is also referred to as the

goddess of Liberty, Lady Liberty and Columbia. Under the latter name, she became the very depiction of America.

Libertas is the goddess of liberty and *personal* freedom. Liberty is a blessing to a moral people. To the moral, it gives the freedom to live a life free of tyranny. But to an amoral or immoral people, it becomes a curse. For these, it becomes the freedom to seek material, fleshly desires and leads them down a path of slavery to sin.

Why Has John Piper's Son Become a Bible-Bashing TikTok Star?

On a regular basis, we are hearing reports of high-profile Christian leaders renouncing their faith, most recently, Dr. Paul Maxwell, an author, former Moody Bible Institute professor and writer for *Desiring God*. Yet, for many of us, it was even more shocking to learn that Abraham Piper, son of the influential pastor John Piper, had become an internet sensation, best known for his videos mocking his former evangelical beliefs.

As reported by Ruth Graham for *The New York Times*, "Abraham Piper became a sensation on TikTok nearly overnight. He posted his first video in November, and he now has more than 900,000 followers, many of them young people who thank him for capturing their experiences so precisely. His unlikely path to online stardom: irreverent critiques of evangelical Christianity aimed at others who have left the faith."

'Still the Christians Come': Canada Protesters Flood Church Perimeter With Praise

The power of "Jesus Loves Me" was put to the test at the perimeter of GraceLife Church in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, Sunday afternoon.

After being shut down for violating COVID-19 restrictions, the Alberta chief medical officer of health ordered fences be erected around the church's perimeter in an attempt to stop

the church from meeting.

Protesters gathered around the fenced area Sunday. But the Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms, which represents GraceLife Church in its legal battle to uphold the right to worship, says no one from the GraceLife congregation was in attendance.

“Grace Life Church appreciates the public outpouring of support to fully open churches in Alberta,” the statement reads. “Grace Life Church congregants were not at the protest that occurred on Sunday, April 11, 2021 near the Church’s facility. Grace Life Church recognizes the place for peaceful protest within the context of a democracy.”

3 Lessons for These Last Days About the Mark of the Beast

Prominent personalities and powerful nations of the world are discussing plans to require so-called “vaccine passports” as a condition for travel and, possibly, to restrict entry to shopping and entertainment venues—even the Tokyo Summer Olympics.

China is actively lobbying the discredited World Health Organization (WHO) to develop COVID vaccine passports for all nations. The communist, hyperauthoritarian nation says it can adapt its dehumanizing “social credit scoring system,” which now covers 1.1 billion people, for such a worldwide effort in just a matter of weeks. {eo}

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