

‘Christianity Is No Longer a Religion,’ Turkish Minister Declares

Some Christians have long insisted that Jesus didn’t come to start a religion—He came to establish a relationship. But that’s not what a Turkish minister meant when he declared Christianity is no longer a religion.

“The biggest three countries in the world are not Muslim countries. China, India—only the U.S. believes in a single God. Spirituality and religious feelings are weakening,” Turkish Environment and Urban Minister Erdoğan Bayraktar said at a recent conference hosted by the ruling Justice and Development Party’s (AKP) Women’s Group, according to the *Hurriyet Daily News*.

“There are 2.5 billion Christians in the world,” Bayraktar said. “Christianity is no longer a religion. It’s a culture now. But that is not what a religion is like. A religion teaches; it is a form of life that gives one peace and happiness. That is what they want to turn [Islam] into as well.”