

# WHICH GOD IN WHAT WORLD

ser4036 God in the Real World, Pt 1

May 2, 2021 E & L

## i. (HOOK) POINT OF INTRIGUE

A. This month we begin a new sermon series, **“God in the Real World.”** The purpose of this series is to address how to make sure God is a part of our everyday lives, not just at Church and on Sundays. LOL! Today I’d like us to look at **“Which God In What World.”**

B. Let’s start with **“which God.”**

I have had the privilege of traveling to India with my dear brother, Dr Samuel Verghese, on two different occasions. (show photo)

India has as many gods as they do people. Not quite, only 33 million gods. (show photo, p2) If it breathes, it is a god.

Now, as Americans, living in an educated western world, we think to ourselves, *“How can anyone believe that a monkey,*



*cow, sun, moon, sand, wind, mountain, 'whatever', is a god?"* However, if one doesn't come from a monotheistic (Judeo-Christian) background, Hinduism could make sense. Here's how it works: "In order to keep the universe running, **Krishna**, *the supreme being*, has put into place individuals that oversee different parts of our material universe. These individuals are powerful beings [gods] that have been appointed by Krishna and have been bestowed with the necessary powers and abilities to manage and govern their area of creation. For example, there is someone responsible for the sun and his name is Surya. The goddess Saraswati is the overseer of knowledge. The creator of the material universe is known as Brahma. The destruction of the universe is overseen by Shiva and Vishnu. There are individuals [gods] overseeing the oceans, the wind, and practically every facet of creations. When seen from this perspective, 33 million is not that big a number." \*Pandit Dasa

C. **(BOOK)** As Christians, we believe there is but one God, the Creator of Heaven and Earth, and that through Him all things were made in Heaven and on Earth. *Colossians 1:16* tells us:

For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities (rulers) or powers (authorities). All things were created **through** Him and **for** Him.

**NOTE:** The God who created the universe needs no help; He is all-sufficient to do whatever, whenever He pleases.

**D. We also believe that there is ONLY one mediator between God and man, and that is the man Christ Jesus.**

***1 Timothy 2:5a***

For *there is one* God and *one* Mediator between God and men, *the Man Christ Jesus,* <sup>6</sup> who gave Himself a ransom for all.

And, that all other religions are *fake news* and counterfeits of the real thing.

***Deuteronomy 6:4 & Exodus 20:3***

“Hear O Israel the LORD your God is one God. You should have no other gods before me.”

## II. (LOOK) WHEN IT ALL CHANGED

A. I was speaking with a long-time church member last week. We were discussing America and how our nation’s morals have changed over the past half a century. Within the conversation, Mr A asked me, “When do think it all began to change?” When did the majority of Americans begin to call wrong right and right wrong? At first, I looked over the Presidencies within my lifetime—and those presidents who approved and applauded what once was considered wrong. But then it smacked me in the face. I said to this

member, “I think it all turned when we took the Bible and prayer out of the public arena.”

I recounted when I read the Bible and prayed aloud in homeroom. (Coach Chuck Scarano was our Homeroom teacher.) Although gradual, when Bible reading and prayer were removed from our public schools, God was replaced with humanism. Man became his own “final authority.”

What does that mean? Truth is relative. Every man becomes his own authority for life and faith. Need I say more?

## **B. Listen carefully. Connect the dots.**

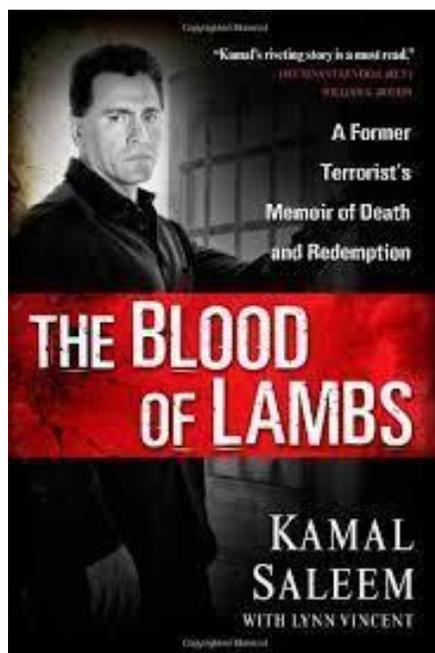
**(Video clip of Kelly Garcia’s baptism. 45 secs)**

In essence, what did Kelly say? “I replaced God with a Higher Power.” And why not? If I have 33 million gods, I can pick the god I want to do what I want. I don’t want the God of the Bible because He doesn’t let me do what I want.

**OTHER RELIGIONS MAKE EXCEPTIONS FOR SIN** in their religious rituals.

1. Travel to India, and to this day at the festival of Saundatti, parents dedicate their adolescent daughters to a life of prostitution in Yellamma’s honor in hopes of moving to a higher caste. (**see photo, p4**)





2. Kamal Saleem, who we had as a guest speaker at GCCC, tells of wealthy Arab princes renting young blond-haired, blue-eyed boys—justified by Islam so long as it was hidden in the tent. ([show photo](#))

3. The Canaanites worshipped Baal. Within the canopy of worship, a variety of immoral practices, including offering children as a sacrifice, were a part of its rituals.

This has never been true of Judeo-Christianity because our God is the same yesterday, today and forever. His command is to **“Be holy even as I am holy.”** (*Lev20:7 & 1 Peter 1:16*) His standard of righteousness hasn’t changed. What He requires of us doesn’t change with the times or the world in which we live. His commandments are written in stone, literally, and upon the hearts of men.

### III. **(TOOK)** NO MATTER HOW THE WORLD IN WHICH WE LIVE CHANGES, OUR GOD DOES NOT, NOR DOES HIS STANDARD.

**A. The Church at large has lost its voice and power because it refuses to raise God’s standard of righteousness.**

The Government is not man’s final authority on moral matters, the word of God is. We have an unadulterated

faith today, and will tomorrow, because men and women have been willing to lose their lives on this very principle—God’s word is the never changing truth in an ever-changing world.

**1. Abortion is murder no matter how one phrases it.**

The only person who has a right to abort a child is the Creator.

**2. Same-sex marriage is sin, no matter how one**

**justifies it.** The Bible tells us, “In the beginning God created them male and female ... and the two shall become one flesh.” *Genesis 1:27 & 2:24* It’s the only way the plumbing works.

**3. Social injustice is sin, no matter what color you**

**are or what language you speak.** The Bible tells us, “God is no respecter of persons.” *Romans 2:11*

**4. When the state censors your freedom of speech**

**and allows big tech to do the same, “it is not only unethical it’s immoral.”** *\*Progressive ad?*

**5. When government, local, state, or federal,**

**restricts your freedom of religion and the convictions that are a part of it ... it is wrong.** Speak up, speak out and act.

**ILLUSTRATION:** When I speak up and speak out about these things I get laced with, “*I want my Pastor to just preach the word and stay out of politics.*” How can one separate the pew from politics? *What a person believes in the pew is what he/she votes in the polls.*

- 1) Aren't we all glad that *William Wilberforce* didn't believe that? (abolition of slavery)
- 2) Aren't we all glad that our *founding fathers* didn't believe that? (taxation without representation)
- 3) Aren't we all glad that *Susan B. Anthony* didn't believe that? (women's right to vote)
- 4) Aren't we all glad *Martin Luther King, Jr* didn't believe that? (social justice)
- 5) Aren't you glad *Jesus* didn't believe that? (freedom from sin)

The separation of Church and State is not the same thing as the separation of pew and politics. The Almighty has called us all to speak out, speak up and act.

### **B. Will we always get it right?**

No! But we can do our best.

## **IV. (TOOK-2) HERE'S THE REALITY—IF WE COULD GET IT RIGHT THERE WOULD BE NO NEED FOR JESUS.**

### **A. Let's watch it! (video—The Chosen:**

<https://youtu.be/el7dzoNV3IY>) (3:02 - 7:20 "The water I give . . . . I was counting on it.")

### **B. Here's the beauty of the Judeo-Christian**

**God**—whether you're a man *highly esteemed* like Daniel, or a person like the *woman at the well*, "you are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to

do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” *Ephesians 2:10*

**C. Will you enter in? Here’s how!**

## V. IN RESPONSE/INVITATION

**Admit**– your sins have separated you from God.  
(Psa 14:1-3; Rom 3: 23);

**Believe** – that God did something about your sins through Jesus Christ. (The final Pascal Lamb/Messiah.)  
(Lev 17:10; Heb 9: 19-22);

**Commit** – yourself to His righteousness by confessing Jesus as Lord and Savior. (Isa 53:5; Col 1:22);

**Do it today!** (Isa 49:8; 2 Cor 6:2).

Father in Heaven, I’m sorry for the things I’ve done that are wrong: I am a sinner; forgive me. Thank You for loving me and sending your Son, Jesus, to pay the penalty for my sin. Holy Spirit come into my heart; Jesus be my Lord and Savior. I give You my life. Amen.

ser4036, *Which God in What World* (God in the Real World, Pt1) 1481 words (approximately 11.4 minutes) Does not include Kelly’s video clip (45 seconds) & (The Chosen 4:18 seconds). **Total time:** 18-20 minutes)