

The Letter to the Mainline Churches

Written on April 27th, 2025

To Whom it may concern,

By: The Based Baptist (on behalf of the Young Reformers)

To the leaders of the mainline Church:

May the Lord be with you and guide you. May He bless you and bring you goodness in your life and keep you under His protection. I pray for you, and keep you in my heart.

However, I have begun noticing many things in the Mainline Church. This letter is a writing not to forget Christ. It is a writing to aid you, to help you remember who Christ is, why Christ died for us, and why we must preserve the gospel and His truth.

I pray for you, and for your blessings, that you may come to the same realizations and conclusions that I've come to. Remember that I am a sinner like you. I have been where you have been. Do not take this as judgement, but as something of brotherly love, that brothers could do for one another, helping each other get closer to Christ. Thank you for reading this introduction. Time for my points, which will be in bold

1. Evangelism and the death of the mainline:

From first-hand experience, the younger generation has much abandoned Christianity. I am among those people. I've witnessed first-hand how this generation is losing its faith. In fact, a few years ago, I almost lost my faith! That's how much Americans are losing Christianity.

The Mainline Churches are the historical Christian institutions. They were the ones that built America. They should be taking action and evangelizing! If you Do not want the Evangelicals taking over, start evangelizing yourself! **The Mainline is losing members, and evangelizing is the only way to stop that.** We must bring more people to salvation and Jesus!

Just for Reference, in 2010 the Mainline denominations were at these numbers of members:

United Methodist Church: 10 million
Evangelical Lutheran Church: 4 million
Presbyterian Church: 2.4 million
Episcopal\Anglican Church: 1.9 million
American Baptist Church: 1.5 million
United Church of Christ: 1.2 million
Total: 21 million

In 2022, the Mainline were at these numbers of members:

United Methodist Church: 5.4 million
Evangelical Lutheran Church: 2.8 million
Episcopal\Anglican Church: 1.6 million
American Baptist Church: 1.3 million
Presbyterian Church: 1.1 million
United Church of Christ: 710,000 members (lowest)
Total: 12.9 million (loss of 8 million in 12 years)

Evangelism is not just to send people to Christ, it's to preserve the historicity of the mainline! The Mainline Churches, being the historic Protestant Churches of America, have the oldest Protestant churches in the United States. Many people have stopped attending those churches. That spells the writing on the wall for the Mainline. You can turn the trend around and start evangelism, so that people can turn to the Mainline, instead of waiting for the church to die.

But you will need the Bible to do it. Which brings me to my next point.

2. The Neglection of the Bible:

The Second thing I see in mainline Churches is the fact that the Bible has been forgotten in many churches. What do I mean by this? Well, because of the rapid decline of the Mainline, they've felt the need to change doctrine to become more appealing to the new society of the 21st century. They've begun opening up to the social styles of the modern world. Why is this harmful to the Church? Because it destroys the role of the Bible and twists it. **You cannot twist the Word of God to fit your ideas.**

The Bible itself defines doctrine, not what society teaches.
For Society always changes, the Bible never does, and the same should be applied to Church Teaching. For the Bible says:

“Your word, LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens” (Psalm 119:89)

“I the Lord do not change” (Malachi 3:6)

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away” (Matthew 24:35).

In addition to changing the Bible to adapt social standards,
You cannot deny the Divinity and Inspiration of the Bible. Many Churches these days are beginning to deny this important part of Christian Doctrine, again, just to fit modern social standards.

For the Bible says:

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness” (2 Timothy 3:16)

Without the Bible, Christianity is nothing. **Without the Bible you can not define Christianity,** thus, Christianity would not exist, meaning if you deny the Divinity and Inspiration of the Bible, you deny that you are Christian. Thus, **Liberal Theology is heretical.**

To deny the Divinity and inspiration of the Bible means to not have faith, and not to have Faith which saves, condemns you to hell. If you Do not have faith, what good is Christianity?

3. Faithlessness of the Mainline

The rejection or uncertainty of the Divinity and Inspiration of the Bible show that the Clergy of the Mainline and in result its Lay people, are losing faith. For the Bible reads:

“**8** For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— **9** not by works, so that no one can boast.”
(Ephesians 2:8-9)

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.”
(Proverbs 3:5-6)

“And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for the one who comes to God must believe that He exists and that He proves to be One who rewards those who seek Him.” (Hebrews 11:6)

“And though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, obtaining as the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.” (1 Peter 1:8-9)

As seen above, Faith is what keeps us with God, Faith is what brings us to salvation, Faith is God’s gift. Why do you deny the gospel, which tells us about our salvation, directly stating that it IS the word of God, and that it is made specifically for your use? You must have no faith to believe such a thing. **Thus, to deny the Divinity of the Gospel, you deny the gift of the gospel, the faith needed for salvation, and God.**

Speaking of denying the gospel for social stances, my 4th point is raised.

4. The Affirmation of sin, error, and false social teachings.

Though Society is moving on and changing to accept sin, the Church cannot do such. **The Church cannot condone and affirm sin like Homosexuality.** Keep in mind that while you should love the homosexual person, and not hate them, but hate their sin, you still should not affirm their sin. In more detail, your “feelings” or sexual orientation cannot be put before your faith. The “love is love” notion, or “God wants us to love everybody” arguments for Homosexuality are false. Why? Because lust and love are different.

For the Bible on this topic says:

“**9** Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality” (1 Corinthians 6:9)

“**27** and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.” (Romans 1:26-27)

“You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination.”
(Leviticus 18:22)

Homosexuality is a sin that the church should condemn and not condone, and we should not hate a person for that sin. Rather, We should help them fight the sin of homosexuality and return to Christ.

While things like Racism, Racial Supremacy, Segregation, Xenophobia, hatred, and many other things can not be supported, we cannot go so far as to support homosexuality in the church, or the liberal theology that plagues it.

As for Clergy, Many Pastors of the mainline are not qualified or prepared enough for ministry. We're not saying that mainline pastors are all bad or destructive, we're simply saying that many of them have abandoned the truth of the Gospel. Part of this is the Mainline seminaries drifting away from the historic standards of teaching. With the concept of liberal theology, many churches are rejecting the truth of the gospel. **We must remember that scripture is the final say on social issues and ordination, whether counter-cultural or not.**

For the Bible says:

1 Timothy 3:

“**3** The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task.² Therefore an overseer^[a] must be above reproach, the husband of one wife,^[b] sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,³ not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴ He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, ⁵ for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? ⁶ He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. ⁷ Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

⁸ Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued,^[c] not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. ⁹ They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰ And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. ¹¹ Their wives likewise^[d] must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. ¹² Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. ¹³ For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.”

Titus 2 reads:

“**2** But as for you, teach what accords with sound^[a] doctrine. ² Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. ³ Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, ⁴ and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, ⁵ to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word

of God may not be reviled. ⁶ Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. ⁷ Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, ⁸ and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us. ⁹ Bondservants^[b] are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, ¹⁰ not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

¹⁵ Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.”

These verses above show that only qualified ministers who are willing to preserve and teach sound doctrine that has no contradictions with the Gospel, who are willing to focus on scriptural authority, and who are willing to preach the true Gospel according to what scripture says, above personal preference. We're not to choose what we want to listen to and what we want to ignore in scripture. We're to follow it wholly, with no exceptions. And when it comes to debate on if women should be ordained Pastors, we most certainly must follow what 1 Timothy 2:11-12 says:

“**11** A woman^[a] should learn in quietness and full submission. **12** I do not permit a woman to teach or to assume authority over a man;^[b] she must be quiet.”

To summarize this point: **Only Pastors qualified by the requirements of scripture should be ordained in the Church,**

And the role of a Pastor is reserved for biological men.

Conclusion:

The Mainline Church is dying. I'm here to help it survive. My points and arguments can be summarized into these 13 theses:

- 1. The Mainline is losing members, and evangelizing is the only way to stop that.**
- 2. Evangelism is not just to send people to Christ, it's to preserve the historicity of the mainline!**
- 3. You cannot twist the Word of God to fit your ideas.**
- 4. The Bible itself defines doctrine, not what society teaches. For Society always changes, the Bible never does, and the same should be applied to Church Teaching.**
- 5. You cannot deny the Divinity and Inspiration of the Bible.**
- 6. Without the Bible you can not define Christianity**
- 7. Liberal Theology is heretical, because it rejects the truth of the gospel and proclaims things that are against Christ.**
- 8. To deny the Divinity and inspiration of the Bible means to not have faith, and not to have Faith which saves, condemning you to hell.**
- 9. Thus, to deny the Divinity of the Gospel, you deny the gift of the gospel, the faith needed for salvation, and God. In return, you do not just condemn yourself to hell, you also reject any gift of God.**

- 10. The Church cannot condone and affirm sins like Homosexuality**
- 11. Homosexuality is an sin that the church should condemn and not condone**
- 12. We should help people fight the sin of homosexuality and return to Christ.**
- 13. We must remember that scripture is the final say on social issues and ordination, whether counter-cultural or not.**
- 14. Only Pastors qualified by the requirements of scripture should be ordained in the Church.**
- 15. The role of a Pastor is reserved for biological men.**

Who am I? Who are the Young Reformers?

I who write to you are the leader of the Young Reformers. I started the Young Reformers as an attempt to revive Mainline Protestant Christianity. We're a coalition of people and small youtubers, mostly among Generation Z (born 1997-2012) dedicated to the values of Traditional Christianity. I wrote this letter for people to wake up and to save the Mainline. As a side note, I am a teenage lay member, and not an officially ordained Pastor\Priest. I'm also a small theology youtuber. I write this message from personal experience of the dangers that have been plaguing the Mainline. I've witnessed it. I've seen it happen. We're all in this together, as Christians. This is your Church and this is my Church. We must restore Christ. As much as there are bad teachings in this church, I pray for you, your church, your families, your friends, and this world, that God may guide you. May God bless you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

If you're interesting in affiliating with the Young Reformers, contact me at theholychristchannel@gmail.com

Our beliefs of the Young Reformers are down here:

☰ The 2025 Young Reformers Core Protestant Confession:

My channel:

[The Based Bdaptist](#)

Soli Deo Gloria,

From, *The Based Baptist*

