

September 14 & 17, 2023



## **Confronting Christianity - Week #1**

### **Isn't the World Better Off Without Religion?**

1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)

*But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,*

John 10:10 (NIV)

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*

James 4:1–2 (NIV)

*What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? <sup>2</sup> You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God.*

#### **1. Not everything done in the name of Jesus is from Jesus!**

Matthew 7:15 (NIV)

*“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.*

- What did Jesus say about violence?

Matthew 5:39 (NIV)

*But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also.*

Luke 23:34 (NIV)

*Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.*

- We are all affected by wolves but we are still responsible to heed the voice of the shepherd!

The “No’s” have it:

1. The poor would scream that they are “not” better off without Christianity!  
(Matthew 25:40-45)
2. The unborn would scream that they are “not” better off without Christianity! (Psalms 139:13)
3. The orphans would scream that they are “not” better off without Christianity! (James 1:27)
4. Those in distress would scream that they are not better off without religion!
5. Those at the point of death would scream that they are “not” better off without Christianity! (1 Corinthians 15:20-22)

**2. Life may be better without religion, but not without Jesus!**