

What Does the Bible Teach About Christians Endorsing Conspiracy Theories?

Plandemics, shadow governments, false flag attacks, Deep State, Illuminati, Freemasons, QAnon, Flat Earth, black helicopters flying overhead in whisper mode, tracking devices in paper currency, immunizations causing disease, fluoride in drinking water to control people, et infinitum, et ad nauseum...

What Am I Talking About?

- I am not talking about the mainstream media, government that sometimes does shady things and gets caught, pharmaceutical companies that price gouge medications, powerful people who silence victims of sexual assault and abuse, systemic injustices and cultural prejudices, or partisan differences of opinion.

What Am I Talking About?

- I am speaking of conspiracy theories as “a well-organized effort initiated by an elite group of powerful men and women secretly working toward a singular goal or vision that often involves collaboration between government agencies and the media.” (Clint Patterson)
- I’m speaking of conspiracy theories related to false flag attacks, Deep State, Illuminati, Freemasons, QAnon, Flat Earth, shadow government, or any other belief system that hinges on the assumption that much of our lives are controlled by plots hatched in secret places by a select few
- Conspiracy theories are as old as politics, and have unholy origins

What Am I Talking About?

- Matt. 28:11-15 - “Now while they were going, behold, some of the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened. 12 When they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, 13 saying, “Tell them, ‘His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept.’ 14 “And if this comes to the governor’s ears, we will appease him and make you secure.” 15 So they took the money and did as they were instructed; and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.”

Why Some Christians Love Conspiracy Theories

- Conspiracy theories make some people feel special
- Conspiracy theories help us make sense of a chaotic and complicated world
- Conspiracy theories make our reality seem more exciting
- We have been raised on conspiracy theories
- Conspiracy theories allow us to replace our fear with a stronger emotion: rage (Clint Patterson)

Conspiracy Theories Are Not Christian Conduct

- Conspiracy theories are fueled by attention
- Conspiracy theories give followers a sense of empowerment
- Conspiracy theories are edited and revised so often, you cannot track or verify the evolution or agenda of the promoters
- Conspiracy theories seem to gain weight through circulation
- Conspiracy theories thrive with those who don't take the time to check the sources (Warren Berkley)

There Were Conspiracies In The Bible

- The Jewish leaders plotted against Jesus multiple times
 - Matt. 12:14 - “Then the Pharisees went out and plotted against Him, how they might destroy Him”
- Paul had 40 men waiting to kill him
 - Acts 23:12-15
- King David had family, friends, and foes who wanted him dead. His answer was to trust and love of God and His word
 - Psalm 119:161 - “Princes persecute me without a cause, But my heart stands in awe of Your word”

There Were Conspiracies In The Bible

- They showed people, not just where their fears lay, but where their faith lay
 - 2Sam. 15:12, 30-32 - “Then Absalom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counselor, from his city-from Giloh-while he offered sacrifices. And the conspiracy grew strong, for the people with Absalom continually increased in number. 30 So David went up by the Ascent of the Mount of Olives, and wept as he went up; and he had his head covered and went barefoot. And all the people who were with him covered their heads and went up, weeping as they went up. 31 Then someone told David, saying, ‘Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom.’ And David said, ‘O LORD, I pray, turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness!’ 32 Now it happened when David had come to the top of the mountain, where he worshiped God”
 - Eph. 6:10-11 - “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil”

Christians Help The Adversary With Conspiracy Theories

- Satan uses deceptive and devious schemes to stifle God's work in His church if we let him
 - 1Peter 5:8 - "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour"
 - 2Cor. 4:4 - "Whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them"
 - James 4:7-8 - "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you..."

Christians Help The Adversary With Conspiracy Theories

- Satan wants to derail every Christian's walk with God
- Satan wants to incapacitate and distract the work of the church and make it ineffective, self-focused, and distracted
- Satan wants to defame Christ and His church

What Does The Bible Teach Christians Who Endorse Conspiracy Theories?

- Test all things
 - 1Thes. 5:21 - “Test all things; hold fast what is good”
 - Prov. 14:15 - “The simple believes every word, But the prudent considers well his steps”

What Does The Bible Teach Christians Who Endorse Conspiracy Theories?

- Judge by the evident (not speculative) product
 - Matt. 7:16, 20 - “You will know them by their fruits... 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them”
 - John 7:24 - “Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment”

What Does The Bible Teach Christians Who Endorse Conspiracy Theories?

- Be aware that your influence for Christ comes before your political concerns
 - Col. 4:5 - “Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time”
 - Eph. 5:15-16 - “See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, 16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil”
 - 1Thes. 4:12 - “...Walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing”

What Does The Bible Teach Christians Who Endorse Conspiracy Theories?

- Stop fearing what everyone else fears and trust the Lord instead
 - Isa. 8:12-13 - “Do not say, 'A conspiracy,'
Concerning all that this people call a conspiracy,
Nor be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled. 13
The LORD of hosts, Him you shall hallow; Let Him
be your fear, And let Him be your dread”

What Does The Bible Teach Christians Who Endorse Conspiracy Theories?

- Stop worrying that a handful of foolish men will outwit God and overcome His dominion in this world
 - Isa. 8:10 - “Take counsel together, but it will come to nothing; Speak the word, but it will not stand, For God is with us”
 - Rom. 8:31-32 - “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?”

What Does The Bible Teach Christians Who Endorse Conspiracy Theories?

- Stop insisting you are right and open your mind to instruction
 - Prov. 18:1-2 - “A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; He rages against all wise judgment. 2 A fool has no delight in understanding, But in expressing his own heart”

What Does The Bible Teach Christians Who Endorse Conspiracy Theories?

- Stop slandering others, including those you view as enemies
 - Lev. 19:16 - “You shall not go about as a talebearer among your people; nor shall you take a stand against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD”
 - Ex. 23:1 - “You shall not circulate a false report. Do not put your hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness”

What Does The Bible Teach Christians Who Endorse Conspiracy Theories?

- Prov. 18:8 - “The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, And they go down into the inmost body”
- Matt. 15:19 - “But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man”
- 1Peter 2:1 - “Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking”

What Does The Bible Teach Christians Who Endorse Conspiracy Theories?

- Stop speaking evil of civil leaders; it is a sin whether or not you see it that way
 - Titus 3:1-2 - “Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, 2 to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men”
 - 1Peter 2:17 - “Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king”

What Does The Bible Teach Christians Who Endorse Conspiracy Theories?

- 2Peter 2:10-12 - “...Those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, 11 whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord. 12 But these, like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption”

What Does The Bible Teach Christians Who Endorse Conspiracy Theories?

- Use your time and access to communication resources to do your first work as a Christian, spread the Gospel; you waste precious time and squander your influence for Christ with speculative conspiracy theories
 - 1Thes. 2:4 - “But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts”

What Does The Bible Teach Christians Who Endorse Conspiracy Theories?

- 1Cor. 4:1-2 - “Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. 2 Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.”
- 1Tim. 6:20-21 - “Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge-- 21 by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith.”

What Does The Bible Teach Christians Who Endorse Conspiracy Theories?

- Examine yourself and your own service to the Lord before you examine and accuse others
 - Lam. 3:40 - “Let us search out and examine our ways, And turn back to the LORD”
 - Matt. 7:2 - “For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you”

Tell The Truth

- Just tell the truth that you can confirm with the word or with facts that cannot be disputed; it is enough, more than that is not necessary
 - Eph. 4:29 - “Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers”
 - Titus 2:1 - “But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine”

And Trust The Lord

- If there is a conspiracy to take away things we presently enjoy, trust God to handle it, realizing all the while that we will be with the Lord in heaven one day where it won't matter what we had or did not have in this world. God will do more with the evil plotters than you can do with an unsubstantiated, misguided Facebook post.
- “Have courage for the great sorrows of life and patience for the small ones; and when you have laboriously accomplished your daily task, go to sleep in peace. God is awake.” (Victor Hugo)

Sources:

- The Bible
- Why We All Love a Good Conspiracy Theory by Clint Patterson
- Conspiracy Theories and the Gospel by Warren Berkley
- Conspiracies in the Bible by Joe Works
- Christians & Conspiracy Theories: A Call to Repentance
- How to Keep Conspiracy Theories From Ruining Your Time With Your Family
- How to Spot a Conspiracy Theory When You See One
- Christians Are Not Immune to Conspiracy Theories
- Conspiracy Theories Are Dangerous – Here's How to Crush Them
- How America Lost Its Mind
- The Psychology of Conspiracy Theories
- On Christians Spreading Corona Conspiracies: Gullibility Is Not a Spiritual Gift
- The Death of Expertise
- The Dark Allure of Conspiracy Theories
- Why Do So Many Christians Believe Conspiracy Theories?
- The Coronavirus Conspiracy Boom
- Why People Cling to Conspiracies Like “Plandemic”
- Fact-Checking Sites: Politifact, Snopes, and FactCheck.