



Title: Overcoming Cultural Objections to Christianity

Speaker: J. Michael Lester

Panel: Tobi England, Thomas Shepherd, Paul Conner

“And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities. 2 Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, 3 and said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? 4 Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: 5 the blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. 6 And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me. 7 And as they departed, Jesus began to say unto the multitudes concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken with the wind? 8 But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? behold, they that wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. 9 But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? yea, I say unto you, and more than a prophet. 10 For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. 11 Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.” (Matthew 11:1-11)

Introduction: _____

QUOTE: “Christ never failed to distinguish between doubt and unbelief. Doubt is can’t believe. Unbelief is won’t believe. Doubt is honesty. Unbelief is obstinacy. Doubt is looking for light. Unbelief is content with darkness” —**Henry Drummond**

QUOTE: “Some of us who have preached the Word for years, and have been the means of working faith in others and of establishing them in the knowledge of the fundamental doctrines of the Bible have nevertheless been the subjects of the most fearful and violent doubts as to the truth of the very Gospel we have preached.”—**Charles Spurgeon**

QUOTE: “There was a castle called Doubting Castle, the owner whereof was Giant Despair.”—**John Bunyan**, *Pilgrim’s Progress*

1. Tough _____

- A. Is God real?
- B. If He is, does He really _____ me?
- C. Can I _____ the Bible?
- D. Is Christianity the _____ to God?
- E. What do I do when my science teacher says that I have to choose one or the other?
- F. If being _____ is a sin, why do people say God made them that way?
- G. If God is love, why would He send people to hell?

2. How Does a Christian Respond to _____ ?

- A. Be _____ and _____ with those who have doubts

“And of some have compassion, making a difference:” (Jude 22)

- B. _____ is the beginning of a _____ faith

Consider Job _____

Consider Thomas _____

Consider Peter _____

- C. Understand you will never fully understand everything about an _____ God. Be _____ to live with some _____ questions.
- D. Understand what the _____ beliefs are—the fundamentals —and do not get _____ up on the secondary _____.
- E. Distinguish between _____ and _____. View _____ as the bridge that is connecting your current faith to your future _____ faith.
- F. _____ the doubts! Sometimes people question their faith but give their doubts a free pass. Question those doubts as well!
- G. Do a self-examination to see if there is _____ sin. Disobedience to God will take its _____ on the faith life.
- Some Christians have same-sex attractions.
This is different from embracing homosexuality.
This is different from trying to justify homosexuality from the Bible.
- Once we construct a mental paradigm to justify sin, we open the door to questioning every other sin as well.

Conclusion: _____
