

The Seven Pillars Christianity, an Authentic Faith

Just as no building can stand without adequate supports, so, too, Christianity can't stand without authentic pillars. Because its pillars are solid, the Christian faith also is objectively true. Here are its seven reliable pillars.

Pillar number one: A creative, eternal, omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient, and loving God. The first words in the Bible, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth," highlight and allude to many of these divine qualities. Moreover, God is both objectively real and personal. He also is just and holy; to Him all things are not the same. He is the source of absolute truth, for He is the source of reality. In addition, God reveals Himself in nature. In other words, we can learn a great deal about God simply by observing the created order, the interactions within it, and the uniqueness of human beings.

Pillar number two: Real, historical events in which God has acted to accomplish His purposes.

Pillar number three: A trustworthy and reliable written revelation of God to humanity. We have this in the Bible, which we rightly refer to as God's Written Word.

Pillar number four: A personal revelation of God to humanity in the person of Jesus Christ, who is God in human flesh. Jesus, in fact, is the central focus of the Christian faith. Jesus is God's Living Word and God's ultimate revelation of Himself to humankind. One writer, Rick Wade of Probe Ministries, even affirms this: "*Knowledge of truth is possible because of the creating and revealing work of the Logos [Word] of God, Jesus Christ.*" Jesus came to earth as a human being without ceasing to be God, lived a perfect life, and on a Passover Friday died on a Roman cross to pay the penalty for human sin. On Sunday morning, He rose from the dead and subsequently appeared to His followers multiple times before ascending back to the Father, even as

angels assured His disciples that He one day would return.

Pillar number five: Ethical teachings that mirror God's character and that contrast to man's sinful nature as well as the choice of every human being to follow his or her own way rather than God's.

Pillar number six: An invitation to humanity from God making it possible to avoid His wrath, experience His mercy and grace, and get to know Him personally and intimately. When we accept God's invitation, God the Holy Spirit regenerates us, giving us a new spiritual life.

Pillar number seven: Reasonable, clear answers to life's basic questions. We look around us, and intuitively we know things are not as they ought to be. *Why are things out of kilter?* Christianity offers us substantive and adequate, though not exhaustive, answers. The explanations it gives us make sense of the world we live in as does no other belief system. The Christian faith tells us

- how we got here,
- how we got into the mess we are in,
- the ultimate solution to our problems, and
- how God will resolve things in the end.

It also shows us how we fit into God's master plan.

Christianity and the biblical worldview square with reality because they are true in the absolute, objective sense.

Since the seven pillars are real, Christianity also is true, period—regardless of what people think or feel about it. In other words, Christianity and the biblical worldview square with reality because they are true in the absolute, objective sense.

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