



# Biblical v. Progressive Christianity

**What's the  
Difference?**

# Statements of Belief

How does our Statement of Faith differ from those who call themselves Progressive Christians?

# The Core Values of Progressive Christianity

(from [progressivechristianity.org](http://progressivechristianity.org))

By Calling Ourselves Progressive Christians We Mean We Are Christians Who:

1. Believe that following the way and teachings of Jesus can lead to experiencing sacredness, wholeness, and unity of all life, even as we recognize that the Spirit moves in beneficial ways in many faith traditions.
2. Seek community that is inclusive of all people, honoring differences in theological perspective, age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, class, or ability.
3. Strive for peace and justice among all people, knowing that behaving with compassion and selfless love towards one another is the fullest expression of what we believe.
4. Embrace the insights of contemporary science and strive to protect the Earth and ensure its integrity and sustainability.
5. Commit to a path of life-long learning, believing there is more value in questioning than in absolutes.

# Gracepoint Gospel Fellowship

## Statement of Faith

(Can be found on our website: [gracepointny.org](http://gracepointny.org))

- We believe that the Bible is the inspired, authoritative, reliable, and inerrant Word of God.
- We believe that there is one God eternally existent in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- We believe in the deity and humanity of our Lord Jesus. His virgin birth, His sinless life, His atoning death, His bodily resurrection, His ascension, and His imminent personal return.
- We believe in the sinfulness of all persons. Sin has resulted in shattered relationships with God and with others.
- We believe that the only means of cleansing from sin is through repentance and faith in the sacrificial death of Christ on the Cross.
- We believe in the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in the life of believers; that the fullness of the Holy Spirit is given to believers who ask for it; that Divine healing is received through believing prayer.
- We believe in the equality and essential dignity of men and women of all ethnicities, ages, and classes of people because all persons are made in the image of God.
- We believe that men and women are to diligently develop and use their God-given gifts for the good of the home, church, and society.
- We believe in the family, celibate singleness, and faithful heterosexual marriage as the patterns God designed for us.
- We believe that the prime agent for the work of God's Kingdom is the Christian local church functioning under the sovereignty of our Lord Jesus Christ. To the church has been entrusted the ordinances of believer's baptism and the Lord's Supper.
- We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- We believe that there will be a resurrection of both the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting punishment.

# Progressive Worldview

History

Who is  
Jesus?

6 Major  
Doctrinal  
and  
Theological  
Differences

# History of Progressive Christianity

## Age of Enlightenment

Modern sciences challenge faith, miracles, and the Bible.

1600s-1700s

## Liberation Theology

Liberation from "structural sins" and oppression is more important than salvation from sin.

1900s

## Modern Religious Gnostics

Doctrine deniers and are interested in finding Jesus beyond scripture, beyond creeds, and doctrines.

Today

1800s

## Liberal Protestantism

Christianity accommodates modern language and subjective feelings.

2000s

## Gay Gospel

A resurgence of progressive scholarship that advocates for inclusivity and LGBTQ+ in the Bible.

# Biblical Christianity Affirms

## Divinity

Jesus is the Second Person of the Godhead. He is fully God and fully man.

## Miracles

Jesus performed supernatural acts as the Son of God.

## Resurrection

Jesus rose physically - bodily from the dead as He predicted.

## Virgin Birth

Jesus was miraculously conceived by the Holy Spirit.

## Second Coming

Jesus will return and reign physically on earth with His saints.

## Atonement

Jesus paid for the penalty of sin and death on the cross.



# Progressive Christianity Affirms

## NO Miracles

It only might seem like Jesus performed miracles.

## NO Divinity

Jesus embodied God's Spirit and is not to be exalted as God.

## NO Resurrection

Jesus' resurrection is metaphorical, not literal.

## NO Virgin Birth

Jesus was not conceived by the Holy Spirit.

## NO Second Coming

Jesus will not return to reign on earth but shares a oneness with us in creation.

## NO Atonement

Jesus' death wasn't a substitute for mankind's sins.





# Who is Jesus?

## **Jewish Mystic**

(MPC)

The ultimate guru  
and a mortal  
person who made  
mistakes.

## **Woke Teacher**

Jesus as a rebel figure who  
didn't condemn people for  
their sins but was inclusive  
no matter what their sexual  
orientation or identity  
might be.

## **Revolutionist**

A political leader  
who attempted  
to overthrow the  
elites of Judaism  
in the 1st century.

Jesus said...

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“I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.  
No one comes to the Father except  
through Me.” John 14:6

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# Jesus' Divinity

## Progressive Christianity

Claims the stories recorded in the canonical gospels can't be fully trusted because church leaders made them up through the centuries. They believe Jesus possessed unusual qualities and eventually was deified as a "godlike" figure - a practice common among venerable historical figures.

## V. Biblical Christianity

Holds that Jesus is God, and that He proved it by fulfilling prophecy, performing miracles, forgiving sins, and raising others from the dead before being resurrected Himself. Following His ascension to Heaven, the early New Testament writers advanced the Gospel of Jesus and worshiped Him as God. Jesus is, as the Apostle Paul writes, "our great God and Savior" (Titus 2:13).

# Jesus' Virgin Birth

## Progressive Christianity

Generally claim Jesus did not miraculously come into the world. Either the disciples took ideas from pagan stories of virgin births, or the virgin story was later fused into the narrative to cover up a sex scandal between Mary and an older Roman soldier.

V.

## Biblical Christianity

Holds that the Virginal Conception shows Jesus' humanity by being born of a woman (Galatians 4:4-5) and His divinity through the power of the Spirit.

# Jesus' Miracles

## Progressive Christianity

Claims the miracles recorded in the Gospels are metaphorical. Though it is plausible that Jesus healed a few sick people (psychosomatically, not supernaturally), they emphasize His life and moral teachings, not His miracles.

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## Biblical Christianity

Believe that miracles are divine acts of God in the natural realm, and they are central to the Bible. Miracles validated Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God. There would be no such thing as Christianity had there been no miracles.

# Jesus' Atonement

## Progressive Christianity

Claim Jesus did not come into the world to free the humanity from sin. Jesus was a good, moral teacher who was flawed (like the rest of us), but we can learn much from His example. He inspires people to live in harmony and resist the world's evil.

V.

## Biblical Christianity

Believe Jesus' atoning work on the cross is the main reason He came into the world and took on flesh. Without Christ's sacrifice, there would be no forgiveness of sins or redemption from bondage into new life.

# Jesus' Resurrection

## Progressive Christianity

Claim Jesus' resurrection is metaphorical and not to be taken literally. "Resurrection" in the Scriptures points to renewal and transformation - not because Jesus rose physically from the dead, but because His love and sacrifice live on in each of His disciples.

V.

## Biblical Christianity

Believe Jesus' physical resurrection from the dead is the citadel of Christianity. Because He lives forever in His resurrected body, we shall receive new resurrected bodies and dwell in God's presence for eternity (see John 5:25, 28-29; Acts 23:6; 1 Corinthians 15:51-52).

# Jesus' Second Coming

## Progressive Christianity

Claim the Second Coming of Jesus is not a literal event that will occur soon. The main consensus is that Jesus' apocalyptic teachings had to do with the persecution

He and the Jews faced in the first century, and the destruction of the Temple in AD 70.

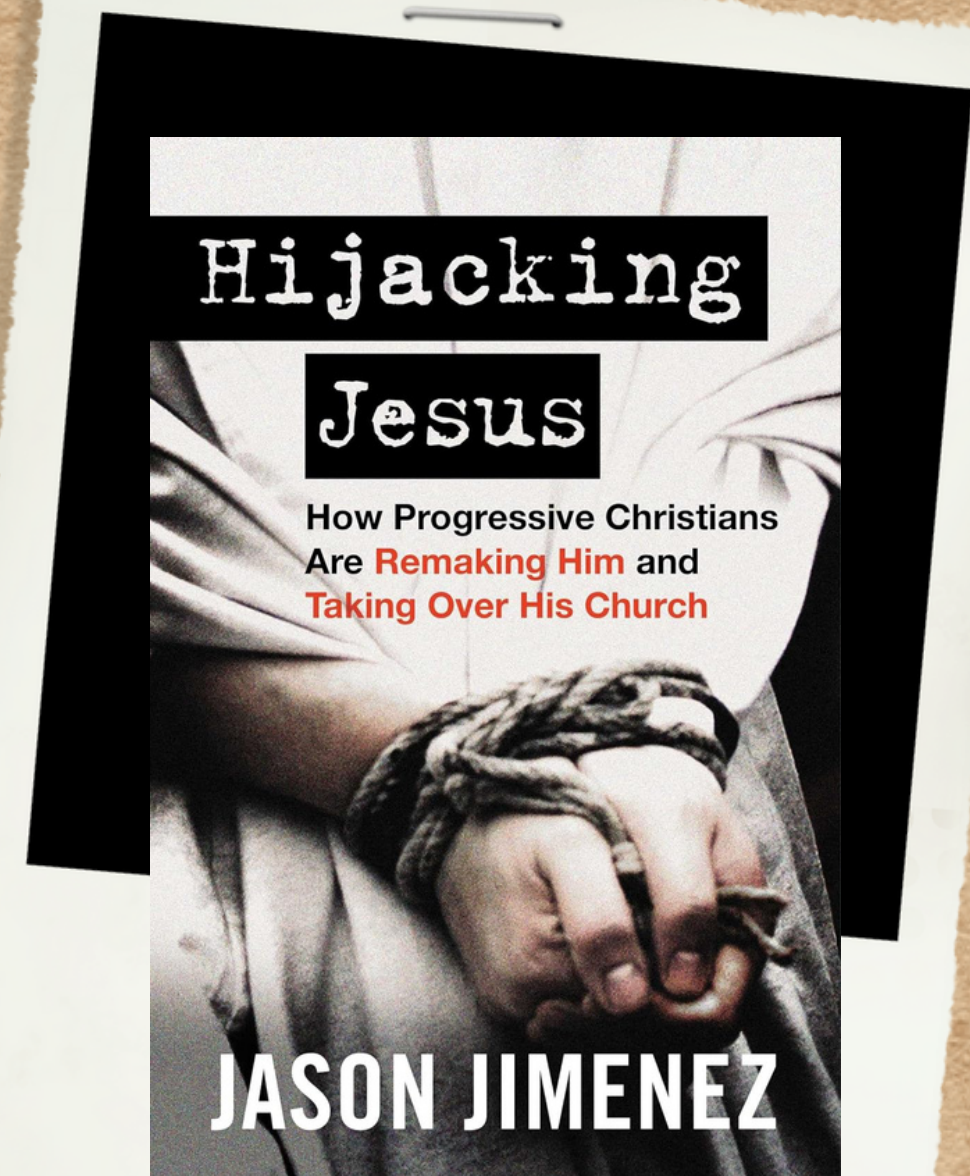
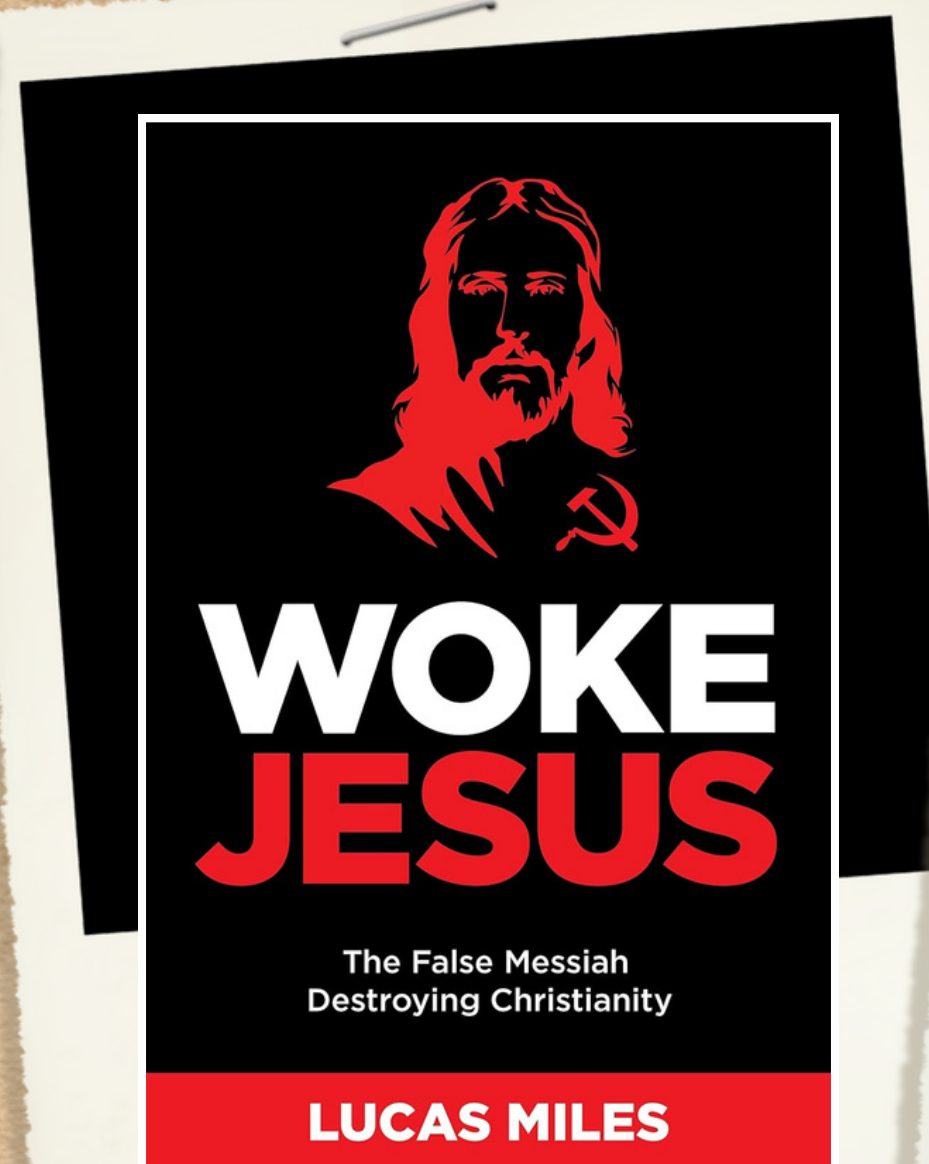
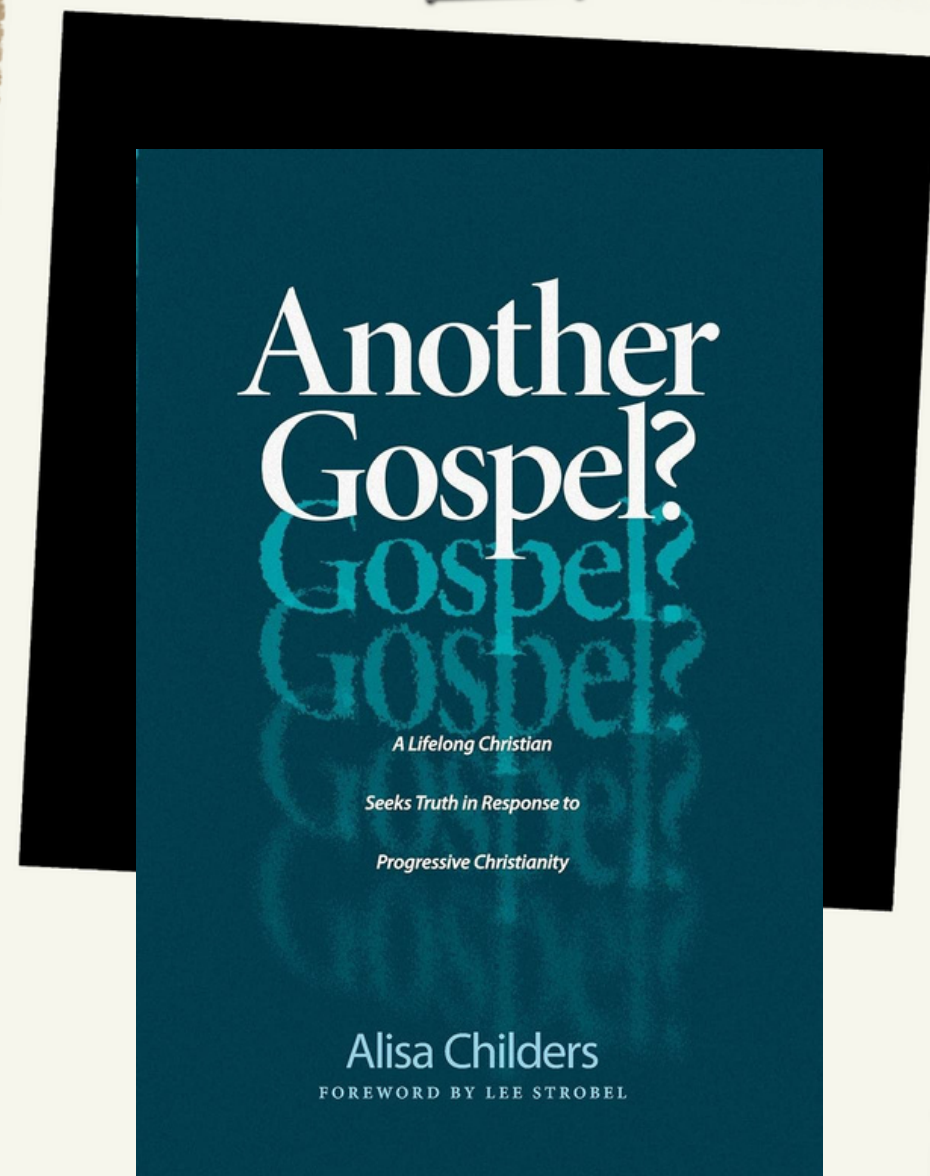
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## Biblical Christianity

Believe the Second Coming of Jesus is the central and conclusive truth of the future. It is the sum total of Scripture: Jesus is judging sin, restoring His creation, and reigning in the New Heaven and the New Earth with His resurrected saints. (Ephesians 1:10, Revelation 22:3)



# Recommended Reading



# Prayer Point

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That those who are leading and believing in this false version of Christianity would be set free by the inerrant truth of God's Word, that the glorious truth of Jesus would be revealed to them, and that the Holy Spirit would move in their hearts and minds in a miraculous way.