



SAVED TO SERVE

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IS THE GOD OF THE BIBLE A CHRISTIAN? JAMES TALARICO SAYS NO!

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study if the God of the Old Testament and New Testament is Christian. This is a Biblical response to former claims made by Representative James Talarico of Texas.
2. Current Event: **Texas Senate hopeful James Talarico once claimed 'God is not a Christian,' defended abortion during 2023 sermon**
Texas Senate hopeful James Talarico once delivered a sermon titled "God is not a Christian" as part of a fiery rebuke of conservatives whom the Democrat accused of trying to transform America into a "Christian theocracy."
Talarico, a Presbyterian seminarian and Texas state legislator, admitted in his 2023 sermon that he is sometimes reluctant to share his faith, while warning, "There is a cancer on our religion."
"God is so much bigger than our human categories. God is not a Presbyterian. God is not a Christian. God is not a noun at all. God is a verb. God is not a being. God is being self. God is love," Talarico told a congregation at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Austin.
<https://nypost.com/2026/08/20/us-news/james-talarico-once-claimed-god-is-not-a-christian-defended-abortion-during-2023-sermon/>
(Video) **Sermon, October 22, 2023 - Rep. James Talarico**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ln7LQbd2xpl&t=692s> minute marker 10:50-11:41
3. In the first portion of the clip, James Talarico said that "there are many pathways to the sacred" and then proceeds to quote from the Islamic mystic and poet, Rumi. What does the Bible say about the pathway to God and the sacred? John 14:6; John 10:1, 7

4. **Note:** James Talarico went on to say that God is not a Christian and Jesus is against anything that gets in the way of loving our neighbor, including religion. Let us now study the Old and New Testament to see if God is a Christian. Who was the Rock which gave the Hebrews drink in the time of Moses? 1 Corinthians 10:4

5. **Note:** 1 Corinthians 10:4 says that the Rock followed them (the Israelites). Is the Bible implying that the Israelites were leading the journey? No. Notice the following scriptures.
6. What does Exodus 13:21-22 say?

7. Where did Jesus also position Himself in relation to the Israelites? Exodus 14:19-20; Isaiah 52:12

8. **Note:** We just proved that Jesus is the God in the time of the Exodus who guided the Israelites. This means that they were Christians or followers of Jesus. Therefore, God Himself is Christian.
9. Let us examine another evidence to prove the aforementioned point. Who was in the beginning with God, and who created the world? John 1:1-3

10. What else did the Word do, and what is His name? John 1:14, 17

11. The Bible is clear that Jesus is the God of Creation. What promise was made in the Garden of Eden after Adam and Eve sinned? Genesis 3:15

12. **Note:** The promise given in Eden was that the seed of the woman would grant salvation to the world by bruising the head of Satan and that there would be enmity between his seed and the seed of the woman.
13. Which patriarch also received that same promise made in Eden? Galatians 3:16
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14. Who was that seed which was prophesied to come and through Him, salvation would be granted to all men? Galatians 3:16, 26, 29
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15. **Note:** This means that the faithful people of God in the Old Testament from Adam onward were followers of Jesus Christ. They were Christians. The God of Creation, Jesus, is Christian!
16. What did Jesus say to the Jews about Abraham in John 8:56?
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17. What did Jesus tell the Jews in John 8:58 which they attempted to stone Him for?
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18. Whom did God first reveal the name "I Am" to in the Old Testament? Exodus 3:14
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19. **Note:** Jesus presented Himself as the I Am to the Jews in His day and they understood this to mean that He claimed to be the God of the Old Testament who revealed Himself to Abraham and to Moses.
20. How does the Bible describe the man who spoke with Abraham just before the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, and who was that man which spoke with Abraham? Genesis 18:1-2, 22
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21. We just proved that the God of Creation is Christian because He is Jesus Christ. Let's now look at the New Testament to see how God and His followers are described. What name was given to the believers in the doctrine of Jesus and His disciples? Acts 11:26
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22. Not only is the God of the Bible a Christian but He is also a Seventh-day Adventist. Which day did Jesus set aside as holy from Creation and keep when He was on Earth? Genesis 2:2-3; Luke 4:14, 16
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23. The word "adventist" means a person who believes that the literal Second Coming (or "advent") of Jesus Christ to Earth is near. What did Jesus preach while on Earth? John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11
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24. Let us transition to look at Revelation 12 which brings to view the experience of true church in these last days. Read Revelation 12:1. A woman represents a church in prophecy (2 Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:23; Jeremiah 6:2). What does it mean that she is clothed with the sun? Malachi 4:2 with 1 John 2:1
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- a) What does the moon under the woman's feet represent in Revelation 12:1? Psalm 81:3; Jeremiah 31:35 **Answer:** The sanctuary services & feasts connected to it. The true church teaches the sanctuary message!
25. What do the twelve stars represent that were upon the woman's crown? Matthew 10:1-8; Acts 1:17, 26; Genesis 37:9-11; Acts 7:8 **Answer:** The stars represent the twelve patriarchs of Jacob and the twelve apostles. It means that this true church, which was started by Jesus, also has its foundation and experience in the twelve tribes of Israel and the twelve apostles.

26. Remember that Genesis 3:15 promised that there would be enmity between two groups. Who will Satan, the dragon, be wroth with? What are their identifying characteristics? Revelation 12:17

27. **Note:** The group of believers today who keep all of God's Ten Commandments, have the testimony of Jesus (the Spirit of Prophecy - Revelation 19:10), are Christians, and are built upon the foundation of Jesus and the apostles is none other than Seventh-day Adventists.

28. As we close, take note of the practical steps to become a child of Jesus Christ and a Christian, Seventh-day Adventist. Write down the steps outlined in the verses below.

a) Galatians 3:26

b) Galatians 3:27; Acts 2:38

c) Galatians 3:29 - **Answer:** You now become a child of Christ and Abraham and are empowered to live a victorious life over sin.