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July 30th, 2010

11:03 AM ET

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[Anne Rice leaves Christianity](#)

Legendary author Anne Rice [has announced](#) that she's quitting Christianity.

The "Interview with a Vampire" author, who wrote a book about her spirituality titled "Called Out of Darkness: A Spiritual Confession" in 2008, said Wednesday that she refuses to be "anti-gay," "anti-feminist," "anti-science" and "anti-Democrat."

Rice wrote, "For those who care, and I understand if you don't: Today I quit being a Christian ... It's simply impossible for me to 'belong' to this quarrelsome, hostile, disputatious, and deservedly infamous group. For ten years, I've tried. I've failed. I'm an outsider. My conscience will allow nothing else."

Rice then added another post explaining her decision on Thursday:

"My faith in Christ is central to my life. My conversion from a pessimistic atheist lost in a world I didn't understand, to an optimistic believer in a universe created and sustained by a loving God is crucial to me," Rice wrote. "But following Christ does not mean following His followers. Christ is infinitely more important than Christianity and always will be, no matter what Christianity is, has been or might become."

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soundoff (906 Responses)

troll killah

i know exactly what she is talking about.

July 30, 2010 at 11:33 am | [Reply](#)

oly

It is not Christianity she is quitting – it is church she is quitting. I can understand that. Every church draws lines at some point – completely defeating the point. If you are a Christian – or were an active Christian – your faith in God should not be waived by anything on this earth – especially people who claim to be Christian – and who are only self-righteous and judging of others. If your faith IS waived – one should question their own heart. Our walk with God is not determined by that around us – it is determined by us. Cop out – that is the action she is taking. She must have thought being a Christian was easy. It was not for Jesus – and it will not be for any of us.

July 30, 2010 at 11:44 am |

Mike, Dallas

I too understand what she means and I love a shirt that I saw recently that said, "GOD SAVE YOUR FOLLOWERS" But I also need to correct her in that she cant "leave" Christianity.. Once you receive Christ in your heart you are forever a Christian!... She can choose to stop following the group that calls themselves "Christians", however hypocritical they may

seem (and there are a lot of hypocrits these days.. but didn't God promise that to us in the New Testament concerning the end times..???) I too have a major problem with organized religion, however, am a born again Christian living my life, praising God my way, walking my walk and surrounding myself with good Christians who aren't hypocrits...

July 30, 2010 at 11:49 am | |

Edwin

oly: I do not think she is quitting a church. I think she is quitting being associated with the loudly vocal reactionaries - the conservative christians.

July 30, 2010 at 11:51 am | |

JS

There is a tremendous difference between the early, spiritual followers of Christ and Churchianity – 2,000 years of man-made church culture. If you measure the content of the the words of Jesus in terms of compassion, love for neighbor, care for the downtrodden, and insistence on a personal relationship with God through" the Kingdom of Heaven within", you find little to nothing in common. And before you rant, measure your emotion-laden reaction and with what Jesus would recommend were he sitting next to you.

July 30, 2010 at 11:51 am | |

Kirk

Good for her. Church is all about business, not religion.

July 30, 2010 at 11:54 am | |

Foodshark

Being a Christian is establishing and maintaining a personal relationship with Jesus Christ...He was never anti-democrat or anti-science – He is against that which is an afront to God.

July 30, 2010 at 11:55 am | |

Melissa

beautifully said.. and thank you for having the courage to say so..

July 30, 2010 at 12:02 pm | |

justme

I agree with her, Christ did not die so that I could have "A Religion", he died so I could have "Life Everlasting", that is what I live for and strive for. God Bless you all, especially his followers.

July 30, 2010 at 12:07 pm | |

Gena

I, too, know what she is talking about. American Christianity is a joke, merely an arrogant self-righteous social gathering. Compassion and acceptance have no place in the American Christian Church.

July 30, 2010 at 12:09 pm | |

Maine liberal

Jesus was not a Christian either

July 30, 2010 at 12:09 pm | |

garc

Me too. And if the various churches don't start listening to what she is saying—and other people like her—there really is going to be an exodus (pardon the pun) from the church. It's getting so Christianity's only vocal backers are those who don't appear to follow Christ's tenets of tolerance and generosity at all.

July 30, 2010 at 12:12 pm | |

amy

what a smart woman!!!!!! you dont need a damn building to worship god! or the hypocrits inside!

July 30, 2010 at 12:13 pm | |

Nik

She just went back to the Garden of Eden and stripped herself of all false pretenses which church thrust upon its blind followers! May she be enlightened sooner than later!

July 30, 2010 at 12:13 pm | |

Stuart Benjamin

If you let yourself be over come by church doctrines and and biblical doctrines, I am sure that you will come to the same conclusion as Anne Rice. Thank you Anne.

July 30, 2010 at 12:14 pm | |

Connie

My thoughts on religion is to find the one who helps, understands, forgive, love and makes one happy to be a honest person with no harm to others. It does not make any difference what you call it. If you belive God made all the creatures io this earth I guess you have to understand why he made some of them different. If you have boundaries on your beliefs then you do not allow to see the creating beauty of God.

July 30, 2010 at 12:17 pm | |

Stuart Benjamin

If you allow yourself be over come by church doctrines and not biblical doctrines, I am sure that you will come to the same conclusion as Anne Rice. Thank you Anne.

July 30, 2010 at 12:18 pm | |

O

i hope she brings Lestat back and makes him a born again vampire who also leaves the cult of the invisible man in the sky.

July 30, 2010 at 12:21 pm | |

Lil

Dear Anne,

I support your decision. I have found that the ways of how things were to be taught have gone astray from the original teachings. I have found a new church that has no place to hide. It is everyday that I am in a greater church and I see the most amazing things and beauty that surround me. I wish everyone could just take one moment to stop and look at the beauty of the world. Maybe they will and maybe they won't....At least I have seen many wonderful and beautiful things in

Life..... Hugs, Lil

July 30, 2010 at 12:25 pm | |

Jonathan

I agree – she is quitting Christianity. Jesus never founded anything called "Christianity". He never created this whole culture that has added all this bigoted, anti-science, politically hackery around a lifestyle that's supposed to be about following Him and loving others.

I pray she is able to find a community like-minded people following Christ to strengthen her and help her in her journey.

July 30, 2010 at 12:28 pm | |

dejah_thoris, cambridge, ma

I understand what she means. I left Christianity behind when it became clear that many of its followers cared more for hating their fellow persons than embracing human dignity. I left it when it became clear that people's money was more important to the churches than fostering a sense of loving community. I left it when it became clear that the simple teachings of Christ were no longer important to those who would kill, maim, torture, and hate based on what their Christian "leaders" told them to do. I left when it became clear that being a Christian meant surrendering the brain you were given to think for yourself, and instead letting someone else occupy your brain and tell you how to run your life. It's clear that Anne Rice did not understand atheism, either. Today, I am a happy, fulfilled person, an atheist who finds love everywhere, who respects other people's choices, and honestly does not find any belief in a white-haired sky daddy. I am responsible for myself, I try to be kind to others every day, and I do not feel the need to join organizations that would foster hate in the name of a prophet they would kick out if they met him/her in person.

So, for those of you who claim that once you know God you always know God... no, you're wrong. You don't speak for anyone but yourself, the path to ethical and moral behavior, whether it involves faith in a deity or not, is a private and personal thing - a journey that only the person who makes it can describe. Do NOT presume to cast your faith upon others - it's YOUR journey, own it, but don't force it on me.

Perhaps there needs to be a community that accepts ALL of us in spiritual brother and sisterhood, regardless of whether we believe in some invisible sky daddy or not. The concept of "love thy neighbor" is not just part of one spiritual tradition - it's a rule we should ALL live by, no matter what our spirituality.

July 30, 2010 at 12:29 pm | |

runswithbeer

She's got that right.

July 30, 2010 at 12:29 pm | |

Roscoe Chait

Thank goodness. Does that mean she'll be a God-loving vampire writer again?

July 30, 2010 at 12:35 pm | |

newmee

I will stand by you Rice because I grew up in the bible belt in northern LA. I am currently on the west coast living my life for Christ. I feel those who label themselves as Christians don't live right in the world.

July 30, 2010 at 12:45 pm | |

Lisa

I love this. After reading Out of Egypt, her love of Christ is palpable. But her dislike of what Christianity has become is understandable.

July 30, 2010 at 12:45 pm | |

Yep

Bravo!

July 30, 2010 at 12:47 pm | |

George

I quit Christianity 30 years ago and have never been happier. I now have peace in my life and my faith in humanity is restored. I have not converted to another faith, since I believe that all religion is based on fear of death and deluded worship of false idols. I am a happy atheist and all those hostile, divisive Christians could go to hell...if there was one.

July 30, 2010 at 12:50 pm | |

Russ G.

It's great to hear she's following her heart. Although it sounds like she still believes that a cosmic Jewish Zombie who was his own father can make you live forever if you symbolically eat his flesh and telepathically tell him you accept him as your master, so he can remove an evil force from your soul that is present in humanity because a rib-woman was convinced by a talking snake to eat from a magical tree...

July 30, 2010 at 12:52 pm | |

David

Please don't confuse flag-wavin', hate-filled, gun-totin', self-righteous "Christianity" for the real thing! Christ taught us love, charity, peace, tolerance and forgiveness.

July 30, 2010 at 12:54 pm | |

rjd2051

For the same reason I quit catholicism. I still believe in Christ and I try to follow his teachings as best as a human can. When church becomes a business or a political lobby it has stepped away from its role.

Also, now there is a "Christian Minister" gong to burn the Koran? Whaaaaa?

July 30, 2010 at 12:55 pm | |

Jim

I applaud you Anne Rice. I am a big fan of yours and like you I will not be anti- anything. I believe in God and Jesus and everything about them. I do not believe that some of their followers really know what it is like to love thy neighbor. I have not gone to church in years because of the negative aspects of the church, some of their leaders and the fanatics. God is a loving and caring God, those preaching hate or be anti something are not true followers or leaders of the faith

July 30, 2010 at 12:56 pm | |

RJ

All religions are man made, god do not have anything to do with it. He create all men and women equal, we as society put the label on them what they are are, or in some case we chose ourself. So, I dont know what is the big fuss about he

leaving Christianity?

July 30, 2010 at 12:59 pm | |

AnnBChrist

It is not the Religion, but how it has been taught. For new lessons visit [apageinthelife dot blogspot dot com](http://apageinthelife.blogspot.com), I particularly like the one about the Cave Dwellers

July 30, 2010 at 1:01 pm | |

joe

Society is evolving...it is dissolving...

July 30, 2010 at 1:03 pm | |

Jango Davis

Hey OLY, Jesus wasn't a Christian, he was JEW. He had no interest in setting up a separate religion from Judaism.

Might want to try reading that bible sometime bub.

July 30, 2010 at 1:06 pm | |

CC

Which church was this anyway? And out of curiosity, I wonder what denomination? Also, recommend reading the book, *Prodigal God* by Tim Keller. I think he talks about what Anne is experiencing.

July 30, 2010 at 1:07 pm | |

Nik

I believe to truly be a Christian one must accept Christ as who Christ is (God, in a body) and who we are (God's creation, fallen and sinners). We recognize that our lives are not our own and strive to live as Christ and in obedience to God. Not because 'we want to' but because we love God. There are too many "I can't", "I won't", "I", "I"...stop. Put your faith in God and Trust Him. Even if we don't agree. We cannot change God's Word to fit our liking. Hate the sin, Love the sinner. Christians are not to judge. God's word has already done this. What Anne Rice is leaving is not Christianity but "Churchianity". Christ will not leave her. And I believe she is now seeing the selfish side of humanity even in the Church. Christians are still flesh and blood but our battle is spiritual. It is normal, even as Christians, to be frustrated and even angry. Even with God. I would ask Ann to pray, "talk to your Father". He has not and will not abandon you. Being a Christian in this world does not exempt one from pain, frustrations, and persecution. In fact, it may be worse. A Christian's joy does not come from 'rewards' in this world but the gift of salvation and the knowledge that He is with us now and for eternity. Love God with all your heart, mind, and strength and Love others as you would love yourself".

July 30, 2010 at 1:14 pm | |

Domitian

It's a shame that so many people confuse fundamentalist Christian doctrine and practices with the actual teachings of the Master. The deeper meaning and Truths of Christ's life and teachings are recorded for posterity - and even a relatively casual reading of the Gospels clearly indicates that Jesus was by no means "anti-science" or "anti-gay" - he was all about the Truth, forgiveness, love of God and ALL neighbors (including our enemies who purposely intend to hurt us - EVERYONE without exception). The dualists who are filled with hate and judgement are not true followers of Christ - they don't even practice Jesus' two greatest commandments!

July 30, 2010 at 1:15 pm | |

janey

I am absolutely fine if Anne Rice wants to quit Christian church, but she is being short sighted to say the Christian church is anti-gay," "anti-feminist," "anti-science" and "anti-Democrat." I have been a life long Episcopalian and the several churches I have belonged to have been nothing like that. Our church was one of the first to ordain a woman priest. I went to an ordination just last night and of the 4 that were being ordained 3 were women. We welcome ALL people, including gays, people of any color race or creed and ALL are welcome to take communion even if you are not a member. Plenty of Democrats, as well. Never heard of being anti-science either. It seems she fell into the wrong Christian church for her and that is a shame.

July 30, 2010 at 1:15 pm | |

Robert

As a character in "Hannah and Her Sisters" said, if Jesus came back today and saw what was going on in his name, he would never stop throwing up.

July 30, 2010 at 1:20 pm | |

Saved

She wants Jesus but not his doctrines. Jesus never supported an organization without doctrines. The Bible is direct with respect to this in 2 John 1:9, "Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son". Therefore, she is actually saying, "Give Jesus but don't give me his doctrines". This is theologically illogic. To have Jesus without his doctrines is IMPOSSIBLE. How can we have Jesus without his doctrine about Resurrection, about being our "only advocate with the Father", that he is the Creator and Redeemer, etc. The only medicine for false doctrines and false beliefs are the teachings of Christ based on the Bible.

July 30, 2010 at 1:22 pm | |

rtg

If you follow Christ, you'll always be a Christian, but being a Christian has nothing to do with following a certain denomination of Christianity. I agree with Ms. Rice, as obviously many others do. Christ never taught hatred, and unfortunately, a lot of Christian denominations do exactly that. He taught love, but many of His followers seem to have forgotten that, instead they get immersed in manmade doctrine that doesn't come from God.

July 30, 2010 at 1:26 pm | |

Bert

To be a Christian is to follow Christ. If you disagree with His word then you need to choose - be transformed by or reject His Truth. For those who claim to be former Christians or to be an Atheists, here is the simple truth: you hate Him because He is holy and you are not - that is why you hate Him - you fail to understand the reality of grace - it is not about you, it is about Him. He offers you life or death - choose this day - only the way of the cross leads home. The only real question is: Is it true? To disbelieve is to believe the lie. He is holy and you hate Him for it.

July 30, 2010 at 1:27 pm | |

cw1

she didn't deny Christ she just quit dealing with religious nuts. If she had denied Christ that would have been a whole nother situation.

July 30, 2010 at 1:28 pm | |

joenyc

It's all about unproven stories anyway....

Religious folk mean well, but the whole repression thing is a turn off.

My priest actually said in a sermon once "God will love you, so long as you obey him".

That was the breaking point for me.

July 30, 2010 at 1:28 pm | |

gh0st

Jesus of Nazareth didn't invent Christianity. I could not agree more with the premise: follow Christ, quit following the idiots exploiting him (going on 2000+ years now and still going strong) for their gain. Your church is a lie, if you can not understand this, go back and read your Bible again (for the vast majority, I believe it would be the first time). You are a worshiper of John or Paul at best. Yah, JC said to spread his message...when exactly did the cathedrals or mega churches get involved?

July 30, 2010 at 1:28 pm | |

akp

Does not matter.. correct? Religion is only a tool to keep a person in a right path..and it is very personal choice to practice or not.. not really a big new..

July 30, 2010 at 1:29 pm | |

John

She should have just started attending a progressive Christian church. No, she has to be a drama queen and label the entire religion as unenlightened. She's a flake and she is probably just sore that all her Vampire books did not sell like her Vampire books did.

July 30, 2010 at 1:30 pm | |

BigTexLaw

As a Christian, I totally agree with Ms. Rice but if she works at it it is possible to find a rare Christian church in the U.S. that has not been seized by right wing fanatical thinking. True Christians are not a bunch of Glen Beck idiots.

July 30, 2010 at 1:31 pm | |

Marc

What she is quitting is a group of hypocrites and judgemental loudmouths who practice evil in the name of Christianity. I agree that they are a scourge, and I, also, refuse to associate myself with a group who dares to self-identify with "Christianity" who are clueless about what Christ actually taught. The Bible, incidentally, isn't "Christian." Parts of the New Testament may be. The Gospels are probably. But otherwise, those who profess to be Christian and quote anything other than the direct teachings of Christ, as recounted by the apostles, should self-identify with the group they TRULY represent – like Southern Baptist, Church of Christ, and Church of What Jim-Bob Says the Bible Really Means for Those Who Can't Think For Their Own Selves, for example...

July 30, 2010 at 1:32 pm | |

Guy1

justme don you think what you wrote below is a bit self infamatory? To think that somebody so powerful died for you? So that you could have everlasting life? Don't religious people see how self involved religion is?

"I agree with her, Christ did not die so that I could have "A Religion", he died so I could have "Life Everlasting", that is what I live for and strive for. God Bless you all, especially his followers."

July 30, 2010 at 1:35 pm | |

dyoung79

If that's her complaint about "Christianity" – I think she'd have to quit "Humanity" as well. Those are descriptors all people could level against all other groups. It's a shame we can't forgive each other for our faults and live without pointing the finger... "Christianity", "Humanity" and "Ann Rice" included.

July 30, 2010 at 1:40 pm | |

Sunny25

I think I know what she is saying. It sounds like she has a relationship with Christ which is central to who she is. She is quitting the church. I don't blame her. I am a follower of Christ and have been my whole life but when people ask me if I am a Christian I don't say "Yes." Instead, I say, "what do you mean by Christian?" For too long, so-called Christians have muddied the name of Christ and what it TRULY means to be a follower of Christ and a true Christian. She sounds like one of those true Christians who is trying to redefine. Religion is man-made. A relationship with Christ is created and sustained by Christ.

July 30, 2010 at 1:41 pm | |

melanie

I understand completely. I believe in the idea of Christ but what I cannot fathom is how many horrid human beings say they are Christians. Thankfully, in this country, we still have the ability to conduct ourselves in a manor we believe to be true and not be forced to attend church or a mega church with a sheeple audience buying everything sold to them like Madison Ave.

July 30, 2010 at 1:42 pm | |

P_Lock

Amen sister! I am also a believer in God and cannot accept the oppression of women and men, the flagrant misinterpretation of scripture and the shame that the church perpetrates in the name of God. Christ came to give freedom, not bondage and shame. His most faithful followers were women, he was an advocate for womens rights, and he was pro love and equality for all human beings (not just white males), these are all things that the church fails to acknowledge today.

-Recovering Baptist

July 30, 2010 at 1:43 pm | |

good riddance

and take your insipid followers w/ you

July 30, 2010 at 1:43 pm | |

lisa

Glad she got a clue. It was a sad day for me when such a great writer and a smart women jointed the land of the crazies. Maybe she can write some good books again.

July 30, 2010 at 1:44 pm | |

Roger Baker

I think she is a very very confused woman... To be a christian simply means to be "Christ like" or a "follower of Christ". The statement that she made of quitting christianity is woefully immature. I certainly hope that she keeps her "belief" in Christ and follows him in all that she does but, I hope she comes to the realization that to follow Christ is to be a "christian". I do not agree with / believe in organized religion per se, but I do believe in and follow Christ to the best of my humble ability. I hope she comes the this reality and retracts and / or updates her statements...

July 30, 2010 at 1:45 pm | |

Quietuss

I totally agree with Anne Rice on this issue. The only thing I fear is the response to this article by our anti-faith society. Many will read this and say, "Finally someone puts those stupid Christians in their place! Belief in God is pure ignorance! Hooray!" I agree with the deconstruction of the current 'Christian church', but please please please do not throw belief and faith in Jesus into the same bucket as 'Religion'. That is all.

July 30, 2010 at 1:45 pm | |

BobG

I think she has found that her Christian books haven't sold as well as her Vampire books, recognizes the current vampire craze as going on without her, and wants to make some money again. If she claimed Christianity as her own, she didn't get into it very deeply, or she would have recognized the difference between the teachings of Christ, and the teachings of those who claim to speak in His name.

July 30, 2010 at 1:47 pm | |

thewolfenmaine

Judging by most of the responses, Anne Rice is far from alone. It was and continues to be be ludicrous for Christians to believe a human being was perfect, when they wrote 'their' portion of the Bible. "All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." The only personification of God that humans got 100% right, is unconditional love period. For believers to refuse to see the glory of God in all we are constantly learning about the universe and evolution (adaptation) belittles God and brings him/her down to our puny level. The 'Bible' as we know it, was decided by one human being that was given the task by the early leaders of the chutch, and it was hidden away by my church for 100's of years.

July 30, 2010 at 1:48 pm | |

Sunny25

Guy1, I see what you're saying (below). That's not the point though. A relationship with Christ is just like a healthy relationship with your spouse. It is based on unselfish love. The point of having a relationship with Christ is exactly that...a relationship. It's not what you get out of it. It's what you can give to Him because you love him. I'm not married to my husband because of what he does for me or because of what he gives me. I am married to him because I recognize something truly amazing about him and I love him. I love him so much that I want to spend the rest of my life showing him how special he is to me. It is the same type of relationship with Christ but obviously on a different level.

"justme don you think what you wrote below is a bit self infamatory? To think that somebody so powerful died for you?"

So that you could have everlasting life? Don't religious people see how self involved religion is?"

July 30, 2010 at 1:48 pm | |

Glenn Eastman

I also understand where she's coming from, I'm sure Jesus would be in complete agreement with her if he was around today

July 30, 2010 at 1:51 pm | |

Johnny Oh

Just another stupid elitist thinking the garbage she prints really means anything. You either believe our you don't. Like I quit believing in the sun cause it is just too dang hot!..What a retard.

July 30, 2010 at 1:53 pm | |

Dr. Anthony Linton

It is very hard for me to believe that she was a Christian. If she really had God in her heart she would not likely be turning her back on Christianity.

July 30, 2010 at 1:55 pm | |

TeeChur

I hope Anne (and others) will look beyond the haters and look instead to what Jesus said and did. There are many progressive churches and groups of followers of Jesus who are deeply for all people, don't disregard science, and work for the common good. Check out Sojourners, New Evangelicals for the Common Good, and other like groups that eschew being defined by what they are against and instead look to take care of the world God has given us. Bless you on your journey, Anne.

July 30, 2010 at 1:56 pm | |

Lorraine

You are not alone with being tired of the people within the church. I tend to wonder more and more would Jesus even be welcomed in many of the churches today. If you don't look like, don't act like, don't contribute like, don't serve like, they do, then you are cast aside. God uses us right where we are. We are called to LOVE, not judge. Doesn't the good book say, he who is without sin cast the first stone.

July 30, 2010 at 1:56 pm | |

SG

What Ann is doing is following what God intended her to do. How many 'god's' – small letters/small gods – have risen on the third day? Ever notice that all the 'others' are still just as dead?

Being a Christian does not mean being perfect; just forgiven by God's grace and mercy. There will never be enough good works we can do that will get us to heaven.

Only by acceptance of Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior will we succeed. In the Gospel of John 14:6, Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.". Not anyone else.

July 30, 2010 at 2:00 pm | |

truly-just-me

@justme: "God Bless you all, especially his followers." Priceless. You don't need the righteousness of fictional gods to be spiritual, conscientious, loving of fellow man, etc, as Jesus and many other prophets preached. It's an added diversion that generally obscures fundamental goodness and humanity.

July 30, 2010 at 2:04 pm | |

Ricefan

Ok. Now, give us more vampires and witches ! Back to writing the good stuff !

July 30, 2010 at 2:05 pm | |

Chase

The fence can only take so much weight from these morons... make a decision and stick with it. You believe in Christ but not Christianity, or I suppose.. the church? Give me a break! Where do you think you learned about Christ. If it wasn't for the Church and the religion, the idea of Christ and the vomit inducing notion of "letting Christ into your heart" (what does that mean.. my heart is for pumping blood), are only here because of these tyrannical organizations of religion.

This is like saying you are a vegetarian because you morally oppose the practices of slaughterhouses... BUT, you are gonna eat meat because it's what you eat every day, and once you get a taste of meat.. well, you can't go back.

This is ludicrous and is another example of a fence-sitting moron who makes the problem of religion even worse. At least fundamentalists have conviction.

July 30, 2010 at 2:08 pm | |

jamaican

Christianity is the acceptance of Christ as your personal saviour. One cannot leave that, what she has left is DOGMA & CREED. AMEN TO THAT

July 30, 2010 at 2:09 pm | |

Saunder

I understand also. It's the feeling of many that the belief and faith and acts are the important things. Do no harm. That's the message. Thanks

July 30, 2010 at 2:09 pm | |

Kathy

What took her so long? Now she should work on getting rid of the rest of it.

July 30, 2010 at 2:14 pm | |

po1too

Like you, I understand where Anne Rice is coming from. And I agree with her. Blindly following other people's religious dogma has never been my style.

July 30, 2010 at 2:16 pm | |

yoopG

When asked about Jesus, Mohatma Gandhi said "I have great respect for your Christ; it's your Christians I don't understand."

July 30, 2010 at 2:16 pm | |

Howard

Pretty silly actually.

The people she condemn are the same people who brainwashed her into believing the Jesus nonsense anyway.

July 30, 2010 at 2:19 pm | |

AnnieSee

I kinda wish she had phrased it differently but I know what she means. I'm a very committed Christian for over 45 years, but I no longer go to church due to a string of very bad experiences. I tried to stay low key and out of trouble and yet it was still a nightmare.

I asked a really fine Christian counselor where he recommended, and he said that he didn't know of any and couldn't recommend anywhere to his clients. This was an old saint, and he was very concerned about the condition of the churches.

We do watch David Jeremiah on tv, on Sundays. The sermons are the best, he's a fabulous teacher. And the music is amazing. David Jeremiah is online too. Turning Point is the name of his ministry.

July 30, 2010 at 2:22 pm | |

Marianne

Right on, Anne. I don't tell people I'm a Christian, because I don't want people to assume I belong to the hate-based, anti-gay, anti-choice crowd, or that Rush Limbaugh is my Higher Power. It is better to show one's faith by one's actions rather than claim it with self-righteous condemnation of others. To quote Woody Allen in "Hannah and her Sisters," "If Jesus came back and saw all the things that have been done in his name, he's never stop throwing up."

July 30, 2010 at 2:24 pm | |

Brenda Simpson

"HE WHO IS NOT WITH ME IS AGAINST ME, and he who does not gather with me, scatters"- LUKE 11:23 DO NOT be surprised, my brothers, if the world HATES YOU (for following Christ). 1 JOHN 3:13 HIS words, not mine! The world has rules, who shouldn't JESUS? HE created it!!! GOD bless you, anyway! (I use to be kinda like several of you, thought Christianity was full of hypocrites, but I almost died of several illnesses, and was miraculously healed! HE saved my family in the middle of an F-4 to 5 tornado (OKC) on May 3, 1999, and the little closet that our family was in was the only room that stood afterward! Praise You Lord!

July 30, 2010 at 2:26 pm | |

Bruce

The teachers name is Emanul and I call my self a nonpracticing Roman Catholic not a Chistian. The teachers is great. The followers have thier fate.

July 30, 2010 at 2:30 pm | |

Mike Descado

How disappointing. I thought from the headline that she had gone back to being an atheist. Oh well.

July 30, 2010 at 2:31 pm | |

tim2min

I actually prefer the term Christ-TI-AN than Christian!...one reflects a "relationship" the other "religion" HUGE Difference! The world has throughout history tried to control the way we think!...religion does this!!!! Christ broke the yoke of religion!! Anne appears to be frustrated as would anyone be with religion!!

July 30, 2010 at 2:32 pm | |

cornelius

Guys, enough with all the religious propaganda. I totally understand Ms. Rice's frustration. It can be totally disheartening to see those who profess Christ with their mouth, but their hearts are truly far from Him. Ms. Rice declaration is a search for the truth. And that truth can only be found in God's Word (The Holy Bible). "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be given unto you". I am a follower of Christ, but not a Christian. The word christian or christianity is a term used to describe followers of Christ. But Jesus Christ never called Himself a christian. The word Christianity was formed to put the message of Christ in a box and compare His teachings with all the other 'religions' in the world. But Jesus Christ never came to establish a religion. He never came preaching religion or denominations. Throughout the gospels, Jesus Christ preached about the kingdom of God, not religion. That was the crux of His entire message. Yes, He performed miracles. Yes, He healed those who were sick. And yes He delivered those who were possessed and oppressed by the devil. He TAUGHT about love, salvation, having compassion for your fellow man. But all these things can be found in the message He preached: which was the kingdom of God. Christ's mission was to reintroduce humanity to the kingdom of God. Believing in Him, of His death and resurrection, and that He is the Son of God, is only the beginning of salvation. If we as followers of Him would only grasp this truth and begin to seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness as He commanded us, we will begin to discover the truth as to who we are in Him, as well as why we are here. For centuries, the Church has placed way too much emphasis to being lumped in with the other so-called religions out there. But we who have grasped the revelation that we who are in Christ are part of a movement, we are here to represent the kingdom and the will of God on earth, and to exercise our dominion rights as sons and daughters of the King of kings and Lord of lords. We are not here to re-establish a religion; we are here to re-present Christ to a lost world so that by seeing us they would begin to see Him, and hearing us they would begin to embrace His message which is to "repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand".

July 30, 2010 at 2:40 pm | |

RichardR

Making a comment rather than responding to Killah. I grew up in a church that claimed to be the chosen church, but upon closer inspection became the church that would rather go with the flow rather than stand for what was right. I was misled and lied to by church leaders who should have known better but chose, rather to misrepresent rather than face the true facts of life and living. I have seen friends turn into ranting bigots willing to deny others their God given right to live in peace and reap the riches and success that this nation can provide. I have seen extremely bright intellectual people deny what they can see before them in nature and continue to believe that the Bible is absolutely without fault. When I ask who determined that the Biblical writings were the undeniable Word of God and all I get it that they can't explain it but as a matter of "faith" they refuse to believe anything other than what is in the Bible, but yet they refuse to comport themselves in accordance with the Sermon on the Mount and the sayings and commands of Jesus.

Like Rice and many others who have commented on this issue, I am a Christian, but I refuse to let that belief compel me to associate with organizations that in my estimation are active representatives of the "Anti-Christ".

July 30, 2010 at 2:42 pm | |

Mindy

I don't think some of you really understand what being a christian is, Rice may be upset with her church but I could not be happier with mine. Just because you decide you dont want to be part of a church does not mean you "quit" being a christian. A christian is a follower of Jesus. Yes some get to be a little judgemental and hypocritical but I am pretty sure that 99% of the world is like that not only christians. One bad church does not condemn the rest of them. I am VERY happy to be part of a wonderful church family that teaches the bible. I dont beleive the Bible is anti Gay (God loves everyone) but no it is not a life style of jesus christ!

July 30, 2010 at 2:44 pm | |

Woody

Thank you. I am glad someone has finally come forth and taken a stand

July 30, 2010 at 2:45 pm | |

aalc

Not to follow Christianity is your rights, but to love Jesus and experience his presence in your life, is obedience to His call. Some Christians are stumbling block to many followers. IF YOU LOVE JESUS YOU NEED TO LOVE HIS BODY (CHURCH). IT IS EASY TO LOVE JESUS, BECAUSE HIS IS GOOD Shepherd, but it is an effort to love his followers. Dear please show your love to Jesus by loving his Church.

RSA

July 30, 2010 at 2:46 pm | |

Joe

The problem with intellectuals is that they think too much.

July 30, 2010 at 2:46 pm | |

Janet

I have the utmost respect for Anne Rice as a writer and a believer in Christ. After having spent 18 years as a Catholic, I, too, disengaged myself from the church and "so called Christianity" because I could not come to terms with the church's and the Christian's beliefs. I give her all the credit in the world for having once again tried and realized she could not live with herself if she gave in to beliefs that were not her own. It's a very hard decision to make.

July 30, 2010 at 2:46 pm | |

aslex

Being a Christian does not mean being hateful or kind, anti this or pro that. Being a Christian means being a follower of Christ. Directions for that are found in the Bible. Understanding that means sometimes finding a mentor or advisor who is more experienced at being a true follower of Christ.

All of the other stuff is simply added by others – sometimes deserved, sometimes not. Sometimes things are done in the name of Christianity that are not true to God's directions. But that does not make being a follower of Christ (hence, a true Christian) a bad thing any more than me being an American makes me a bad thing simply because of what America stands for.

If a person wants to know if a belief is based in Christianity, he or she should turn to the scriptures and commentaries (note multiple commentaries, not just one).

July 30, 2010 at 2:49 pm | |

LACOLE 79

lady get a life it that is how you feel thats fine. but keep that trash to yourself. You may not have fount the right church you fit into. But dont trash christianity because you have not located the place for you. Don't hindder others because your

July 30, 2010 at 2:52 pm | |

Valerie

Hahahahahahahahaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!

Ok.

This lady is beyong self centered, seriously. But this was good for a laugh, at any rate.

July 30, 2010 at 11:35 am | | [Reply](#)

Johnny

Valerie...you made some valid points...or did you?

July 30, 2010 at 11:42 am | |

CR

Perhaps with a bit of actual thtought....god forbid...you might find some poignanacy in what she is saying/ Or is thought a mortal sin too?

July 30, 2010 at 11:48 am | |

dave

If Anne is self-centered you are an idiot. I know exactly what she is talking about because I've had the exact same experience. Anyone with an ounce of spirituality, love and goodness cannot remain in the Religion of Christianity! Only the hateful, mean spirited, sick self-centered people like you are able to. Christianity is the worst thing to happen to Christ, 2000 years of history prove that!

July 30, 2010 at 11:53 am | |

Sparky

Self centered? If you'd put some actual THOUGHT into her statement it's the exact OPPOSITE of self-centered.

July 30, 2010 at 12:06 pm | |

dejah_thoris, cambridge, ma

Valerie, I take it this is your "Christian" reaction to the story? Meaning that you read it, you didn't think deeply about it, you felt threatened and so you had to react in some vapid, shallow manner. This tells me more about YOU than it does about Anne.

May all you Christians who find this story disturbing examine your OWN motives and reasons for being upset - perhaps you might learn something about yourselves.

July 30, 2010 at 12:32 pm | |

Keith

I agree. But now you'd better look our for the arrogant left to tell you how dumb you are and how enlightened they are....even though they also are the ones that elected Obama and are now ashamed to admit it.

July 30, 2010 at 12:54 pm | |

Grace

How is she self-centered???? She chooses not to follow a religion. I did the same thing. Religion is BS created by man not GOD or JESUS to manipulate and control people. Your free will is not yours but there;s and if you do not believe what they believe then you go to hell...WHATEVER!!!!!!

July 30, 2010 at 12:55 pm | |

asrael

No need to mount any argument here; Valerie's post speaks quite appropriately of her level of spiritual attainment...

July 30, 2010 at 1:34 pm | |

BobG

Dave....

Maybe you ought to try Islam. I hear there always looking for new recruits to go and shoot their mouths off....where bombing out is a good thing.

July 30, 2010 at 1:51 pm | |

Michael

@Valerie dejah_thoris hit the nail on the head!! Couldn't have said it better myself.

@Keith Leave it to the morons to bring Obama into a conversation that had absolutely nothing to do with him....typical idiot.

July 30, 2010 at 2:11 pm | |

Stan Musial

Good for Anne. She definitely speaks the truth.

Those reasons are the same ones why I left Christianity too.

July 30, 2010 at 11:37 am | | [Reply](#)

Jake

Almost, Anne, almost. This is a good first step. But to be intellectually and morally respectable, you must be an adult and stop believing in fairytales altogether. Seems like you were there at one point, but you regressed.

July 30, 2010 at 11:38 am | | [Reply](#)

Qodex

Actually, Jake, to be "intellectually and morally respectable", you must be an adult and stop telling other adults what they must and must not believe in.

July 30, 2010 at 11:49 am | |

Tim

The only thing worse that a smugly self-righteous christian is a smugly self-satisfied atheist.

July 30, 2010 at 11:52 am | |

JohnP

Last time I checked, the religious sheep were the ones telling us that we would burn in hell because we didn't "believe".

July 30, 2010 at 11:59 am | |

Mark C

Actually, dummy, he's not telling you what to believe in. He's telling you to STOP believing in fairy tales, which is all the bible is. There is no more evidence for a biblical god than there is for the Easter Bunny. Where you go from there is up to you, but until you realize that, you're a hopeless case.

July 30, 2010 at 12:00 pm | |

MD

I agree with the replies. If being an atheist means you have to be such a condescending buffoon, I'd almost rather be a christian.

July 30, 2010 at 12:01 pm | |

Qodex

Mark C: you're apparently too stupid to realize that you make my point for me. It's the difference between saying "I don't believe in christianity because..." and "You shouldn't believe in christianity because...". It's the arrogant conceit that says you know the truth, they don't, and it's your genetically and intellectually superior duty to correct them as offensively as possible. Like MD said, it's what makes you such a condescending buffoon.

July 30, 2010 at 12:15 pm | |

BeckFastPaws

So, if I stop believing that you exist, you'll disappear ?

July 30, 2010 at 12:32 pm | |

Derek

Jake, I couldn't have said it better myself. I cannot understand how adults say that don't believe in fairytails like: The easter bunny, santa clause, the tooth fairy, etc. etc. However, they believe in something that is far more hard to believe than a large rabbit that delivers candy to children, or a fat man that can fly around the world in one night delivering presents. They don't believe in non-sense like that. But an invisible being who can hear every person speak to him/her at once, who can heal the sick, feed the hungry, preform miracles, and who has control of the entire universe and everything in it... Who wouldn't believe in that. My favorite is how every current religion claims that their "god" is the one true god, and all others are false. Even though there were many different religions way before them that thought the same thing. Even religions that have almost identical story lines are considered false. I love how brainwashed people are with religion. If there really was a god, wouldn't priests be to afraid of touching all of the boys that they can get their hands on? Wouldn't the so-called "god" make an example of them? In the past, "god" had no problem punishing people on earth rather than waiting till they come to the pearly gates and try to enter. Seems like the priests know that the religion that they preach is nothing more than christian mythology. So they have nothing to fear since death is the end of existence.

July 30, 2010 at 1:03 pm | |

John

I'm a big fan of Anne Rice's work, but she seriously needs to make up her mind regarding this issue. I believe this is the third time she has flip flopped between Christian/non-Christian. Also, by definition a Christian is one who follows Christ, so by her own words she is still technically a Christian whether she calls herself one or not.

July 30, 2010 at 11:39 am | | [Reply](#)

Moli

Well you and all Christians(I am a former Christian) are incorrect. Jesus never wanted people to lose their Jewish roots, everything we consider Christian makes you a Paulian. Jesus wanted Jews to get back to their Jewish roots...back to the basic laws provided by Yahweh, man later added all the sacrifices and rituals. More God worship less rituals. Paul came around(after Jesus by the way...never met the man) and went around preaching HIS gospel.

July 30, 2010 at 11:45 am | |

Bill

She hasn't given up being a Christian (someone who follows the teachings of Christ)... she's just given up on Christianity (the organized religion SURROUNDING and GUIDING those who follow the teachings of Christ). Her point is well made – she found herself following the teachings of the CHURCH, rather than the teachings of Christ.

One can do worse than following the teachings of Christ. While I don't actually believe in the story of Christ (I'm a Buddhist), I do realize that the TEACHINGS are worthy of any reasonable, intelligent person's consideration. I just hope she keeps a close group of friends around her who can help her stay on the path...

July 30, 2010 at 11:50 am | |

missy

Being a christian is about giving up control. You give up your own control and give it to Jesus. He takes all your burdens from you. He could give a rats ass about whether someone gives money to the democratic convention. He wants you to love one another. For some people giving up this control is very scary. I wonder if she has been down on her knees yet

July 30, 2010 at 11:59 am | |

Jeff

Moli, you speak as someone who has never actually read the gospels. If you are right, why then did Christ heal the daughter of the centurion? If you are correct, why did He tell his disciples to go to the four corners of the earth spreading His gospel? No, you cannot be right.

July 30, 2010 at 12:00 pm | |

kathleen

Moli, You are mistaken. Paul (Saul at the time) did meet Jesus. On the road to Damascus. Acts 9: 4-6 Falling to the ground, he heard a voice say, "Saul, Saul why are you persecuting Me? "Who are You, Lord?" he said. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," He replied. Paul was one of the worst Christian persecutors at the time and he later became one of Christ's most staunches followers.

July 30, 2010 at 12:15 pm | |

Johnn

I think Moli was referring to himself when he said "did not meet the man". Moli is also technically correct in implying that Jesus was not trying to make another religion. The prophecy of a coming Messiah started in Judaism. If all Jewish people accepted him as the messiah as prophesied over 2000 years ago would that make them Christians? I'm not trying to be preachy. I like a good book as much as the next guy.

July 30, 2010 at 12:55 pm | |

Sweetongeeks

Brilliantly put. She pretty much sums up what many of us who are spiritual feel. We believe in God and Jesus but chafe at the hostility, hatred and controlling tactics put forth by modern right wing Christianity. It feels wrong. And dangerous.

Good for Anne.

July 30, 2010 at 11:39 am | | [Reply](#)

Agreed

Amen

July 30, 2010 at 12:10 pm | |

Joe R.

So, those who disagree with Christians and hurl their own versions of insults, slurs, name-calling, etc. are loving, peaceful people?

July 30, 2010 at 12:36 pm | |

Snorroof

Sweetongeeks: Amen

July 30, 2010 at 1:00 pm | |

Trish

I completely, totally, 100% agree with you. Amen to that.

July 30, 2010 at 1:26 pm | |

SuperMom

I completely understand. God and Christ are central to my life, not specific organized religion.

July 30, 2010 at 11:39 am | | [Reply](#)

Mike

Amen!

July 30, 2010 at 11:50 am | |

lol

Agreed.

July 30, 2010 at 1:16 pm | |

matteo

The goal is to get christians to wake up...in their own churches!! Wake up people, this was not the way Christ lived. As Ghandi once said "I like your christ, but not your christians". Christians are far from perfect that is the way it is supposed to be, not condemning others of doing the same things you do. The church is the only organization in the world that bases success on how much it does not do. It is kinda of silly really.... REthink church!

July 30, 2010 at 11:39 am | | [Reply](#)

AriesBabe

Love that quote from Ghandi ! I believe in Jesus and his teachings the same as I believe in Buddha and his teachings. I DO NOT believe in organized religion or a supernatural, imaginary being.

July 30, 2010 at 12:00 pm | |

Clark1b

Christ said in the Gospels that if you love Him you will obey His commands. So if you are a Christian you will submit to His authority. And one of His commands is to not forsake the gathering of the Saints. So if you are quitting Christianity ... you are rebelling against Christ and you need to repent.

July 30, 2010 at 11:41 am | | [Reply](#)

Kerry

This is very disheartening. And if she believes in Christ, then yes, she is a Christian. Did she really think that we flawed mortals would behave in a Christ-like fashion? That's certainly the task for life but so many of us fall short. She could have used her celebrity to unify the Church, or to reach out to Christians and point out the error of their ways. Instead one sees the headline – stops being a Christian – and it automatically casts a shadow on Christ. Too bad.

July 30, 2010 at 11:49 am | |

Nichole

Sounds like you are exactly why she is leaving the church...shame shame shame...

July 30, 2010 at 11:49 am | |

Nuance

Simply ridiculous – your viewpoint is largely responsible for the lack of progressiveness in the Christian churches

July 30, 2010 at 11:52 am | |

Mike

Clark,

That commandment did not come from Jesus, it came from Paul.

Jesus only gave two commandments. The first, to love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, body and soul. The second, to love your neighbor as you love yourself. One of the biggest problems with the Church is that they have forgotten the second commandment.

While I can understand not forsaking the gathering of the Saints, the problem is that many churches have put so many rules on who can be included in that gathering that we have lost the real meaning of what the purpose was to gather together. It was meant to be a time of fellowship, and lifting each other up.

It is time for the Church to get back to its roots.

July 30, 2010 at 12:00 pm | |

BobEar

Jesus made no such command and there are no saints at the gatherings she described. Clark, you need to repent for

being a christian.

July 30, 2010 at 12:00 pm | |

Brian

If you actually bothered to read your Bible, you would note that Jesus never said anything like that. Things to that nature were written in letters to various churches (like Hebrews 10:25, and Ephesians 2:6) Mostly likely written by Paul.

Arguably a good guy, but not a direct command from Jesus.

Jesus said there were only 2 important commandments: Matthew 22:36-40

July 30, 2010 at 12:14 pm | |

ficheye

Looks like Clark is busted. A prime example of how opinions these days are formed on the basis of what somebody 'thought' they read or heard. We all need to check several sources before we declare an opinion on important matters.

July 30, 2010 at 12:32 pm | |

Brent

Clark, I hope you hear my heart behind the message. As followers of "the way", we are flawed people following a perfect Christ. History shows that we (including me) are REALLY crappy at it! I would challenge all of us not to judge and become what Christ is calling his church to be. The fellowship you talk about is well demonstrated in Acts 2. That looks much different than any traditional church I know of today, especially if you look at the wording used in the ancient text.

If we all got busy loving God and our neighbors, this would be a much better world...I would even state Heaven on Earth.

Check out Matt 25: 35-40. I challenge us all to go love someone that is hard to love today and become the change we want to see in the world.

July 30, 2010 at 12:44 pm | |

John

God resides within ones self.. not in a building.

Religion and personal spirituality are not the same thing.

July 30, 2010 at 1:00 pm | |

Grace

Whatever!!!! Religion is man made by controlling hypocrites. There are so many religions out there so which one was God talking about..Really come on. As long as we have good moral character and follow in God's ways we will be fine. Or should I just continue to follow a religion where the preachers spend their time molesting boys and girls and then covert it up...then tell me I'm going to hell because i denounce to practice or follow a denomination. WHATEVER!!!!

July 30, 2010 at 1:03 pm | |

NotMe45

That is a total cop out clark! An overused and MISUSED verse intended to make people feel guilty and under the control of a central ORGANIZED church. Where the mind control and emotional abuse run rampant. I went to a church like that.

No one would sit with us. They would move to a different pew. If I did sit with someone they would go so far as move MY stuff to an empty pew and then say "I hope she gets the message"! Well I got the message alright and got out of there and will NEVER go back! I TOTALLY understand where Anne is coming from. I LIVED IT!

July 30, 2010 at 1:16 pm | |

chas

I really respect her for differentiating between Christ and his many many misguided followers. Faith isn't about going to church or following a preacher – it's about listening to the spirit.

July 30, 2010 at 11:41 am | | [Reply](#)

michael

AMEN!

July 30, 2010 at 11:52 am | |

MJD

Its not self-centered to realize that organized religion, any organized religion, has inherent problem. Good for Anne! I left "christianity" over 20 years ago and never looked back.

July 30, 2010 at 11:41 am | | [Reply](#)

john

Why not become an Episcopalian? We (largely) don't have these anti-modernity problems in our church.

July 30, 2010 at 11:41 am | | [Reply](#)

jay

To John, The episcopalian is not biblically based as I'm sure you know.

July 30, 2010 at 11:52 am | |

JohnBoy

Anne, you are not alone in your disappointment with religion. That's why a movement is spreading, called The Emerging Church. Pick up Brian McLaren's book, "A New Kind of Christianity" and know that all is well.

July 30, 2010 at 11:42 am | | [Reply](#)

spinningtrees

The Emerging Church is a movement away from tradional Church beliefs and practices, but unfortunately also away from the teachings of Christ. The Church as a whole needs to get back to the basics (I also need this) of following Jesus and living rightly.

July 30, 2010 at 2:08 pm | |

Edgy DC

"But following Christ does not mean following His followers." She's hardly the first person to come to that conclusion.

Heck, a large part of Christ's ministry was the repudiation of the religious authorities of his day.

"My faith in Christ is central to my life" is rather paradoxical to "Today I quit being a Christian." Take it easy, Ms. Rice.

July 30, 2010 at 11:42 am | | [Reply](#)

SADIEGIRL

AMEN !!! AMEN !!! AMEN !!! I APPLAUD AND ADMIRE ANNE FOR HER COURAGE TO MAKE THIS CHANGE AND TO MAKE IT PUBLIC.

July 30, 2010 at 11:42 am | | [Reply](#)

chas

Clark1b: that gathering of "saints" can be a group of her own choosing. It does not say anything about organized religion.

You are mistaken.

July 30, 2010 at 11:43 am | [Reply](#)

Lori

AMEN!!!!

July 30, 2010 at 11:43 am | [Reply](#)

Sybaris

For a second there I thought she was going to make sense but alas, she has no more grasp on physics, nature and reality than your average fundie.

July 30, 2010 at 11:43 am | [Reply](#)

Chris Arp

I agree, she is still a typical fairy tale follower. She is just going off on her own tangent now. Still dangerous and intellectually irresponsible.

July 30, 2010 at 12:07 pm |

Sylvia

It is depressing that this story is perpetuating the false idea that Christians all have one political agenda. That is not true. I know many Christians who are NOT "anti-gay," "anti-feminist," "anti-science" and "anti-Democrat." Quarrelsome, perhaps. After all, people will quarrel over important matters. I recommend that she reach out to meet people who are committed Christians with many different political points of view, not just the stereotype.

July 30, 2010 at 11:43 am | [Reply](#)

MrsFizzy

Yeah, really. And if she wanted some company, she could become a Unitarian Universalist.

July 30, 2010 at 12:22 pm |

Travis Cowsill

Annie, hon...get over it already.

You are at odds with logic across the board. And your self centered egomaniacal flip flopping and hidden silhouetted interviews espousing your "faith" in Christ (as in, Jesus H., will you shut the hell up already?-we all knew it was you sweetheart) really, frankly, are just gag inducing. Go back to doing what you do best...write some cool vampire books. We'll always love you for it.

July 30, 2010 at 11:44 am | [Reply](#)

Bob

I totally agree with her. My wife and I have felt this way for years and we both grew up in the bible belt. I agree with her distinction between following Christianity and being a follower of Christ.

July 30, 2010 at 11:44 am | [Reply](#)

Jimmy

Dear Jake,

What part of being "intellectually and morally respectable" necessitates being decidedly condescending and pretentious 24/7?

Yours,

Every non-cretinous agnostic ever.

July 30, 2010 at 11:44 am | [Reply](#)

AJ

Finally – someone who see's that Christ and His teaching is about love an acceptance not hate and violence. It's hard to separate some "Christians" from those lost souls flying planes on Sept 11 – both groups mistake teaching of peace and love for war and torture. Welcome back Anne – we missed you. We being the gay loving/welcoming/friendly/Christians. And before the other "Christians" start answering back – before you speak – ask yourself WWJD or say?

July 30, 2010 at 11:45 am | [Reply](#)

Edwin

AJ: Anne is not unique in wishing to be a follower of Christ but not being associated with other so-called Christians. I have read (on conservative boards, no less) a large number of Christians who bemoan the image their angry brethren portray. They are thoughtful and devout humans who aspire to follow the actual teachings of Christ, not the demagoguery and politics of many churches.

July 30, 2010 at 11:56 am |

rd

YAY! does this mean Lestat is coming back? i hope so!

July 30, 2010 at 11:45 am | [Reply](#)

Maria

Yeah I hope so. We who like to live in fantasy world would love to hear from Lestat and his entire gang again.

July 30, 2010 at 12:20 pm |

Win Adams

I didn't leave Christianity, I left organized religion and the hypocrits that are found there. My father was 1/2 native american and he taught me that you can worship by caring for the earth and the creatures put on it. You don't have to be in a building with a bunch of hypocrits and you don't have to worship the way they want you to.

July 30, 2010 at 11:46 am | [Reply](#)

jesus!

christ his cool. his followers are cooler.

July 30, 2010 at 11:46 am | [Reply](#)

Chris A

Christ is a silly myth and his followers are scary psychos for the most part.

July 30, 2010 at 12:08 pm |

Bill

Well said! The sort of ridiculous bickering, self-rightousness, and hypocritical behavior that comes from the Christian

CHURCHES is what led me to Buddhism many years ago. I chose to follow God rather than his followers, and I've been very happy ever since.

I hope that she has a great support system though... trying to follow any path is hard – no matter what your intent, you WILL fall off from time to time. It helps to have someone there to help you climb back on.

July 30, 2010 at 11:46 am | [Reply](#)

MDman

"Support System" Kinda sounds like what a church is supposed to be for Christsians. Yes some are messed up but I find it interesting that everyone on here seems to think that Christians are perfect, yes some claim to be, but being a messed up christian I know I am not. Church meetings are (or are supposed to be) about support for people, broken people, who are learning to follow Jesus. I realize some churches have forgotten that but for you who are condemning us all seem a little messed up also.

July 30, 2010 at 1:18 pm | |

Mark From Middle River

Anti Gay ? I take it she has not been to any of the LGBT churches that exist in country. I was able to visit one when I was visiting New York city. Sounds like another "B" list actor/actress just saying something with the hopes to "shock" them back to the "A" list.

Sadly it sounds like she should of taken the effort to find a Church that she felt comfortable worshipping at. She says that Christ is important in her life... well then she is still a Christian.

July 30, 2010 at 11:46 am | [Reply](#)

Disheartened

Amen sister!

July 30, 2010 at 11:46 am | [Reply](#)

Tom

Well, you're either a Christian or not. To say that you're not being a Christian anymore means that you never were. You may have been religious and stopped being that type of religion, but when you're a follower of Christ (a Christian), you will ALWAYS be a Christian, no matter how hard you try NOT to be one, so in essence, I question her "commitment" to Christ. Also, many people here say "that's the reason why I quit Christianity". Well people, when judgement time comes, God is not going to compare you to anyone, whether anti-gay, anti-anything, except Christ, so stop your foolishness and accept Christ regardless of what other people do. Not a "head thing belief", but a "heart felt belief", because that is what God looks at, the heart.

July 30, 2010 at 11:46 am | [Reply](#)

dejah_thoris, cambridge, ma

Tom,

Like it or not, people grow. And, following Christ's teachings, which are NOT unique to him and in fact predate him, doesn't make you a Christian. It might make you an honest, loving, open-minded individual, but not necessarily a Christian. To me, the definition of Christian is no longer a "follower of christ" but a person who would rather observe form over substance, would rather force others to kowtow to his or her definitions of morality, and would just as soon die as admit that others may not agree with them and would prefer to believe and run their lives as they see fit. There's a huge difference between being Christian these days and trying to observe Christ's and others' teachings about the right path to run one's life.

Get over yourself and be honest about who and what you believe. It's YOUR brain, don't surrender it to a bunch of haters and rule-followers.

July 30, 2010 at 12:38 pm | |

Mark

Anne, you are exactly right.

July 30, 2010 at 11:47 am | [Reply](#)

Hector

I have always been a fan of hers and I completely back her on her decision; she is right about not following his followers, How someone can say she's self centered is ridiculous, but also reflects the ignorance that many of these followers live...on a daily basis. Religion in general has been tainted by generations of followers manipulating it to what they see fit or as correct so kudos to you Anne. I cant wait for the next Lestat novel!!!

July 30, 2010 at 11:47 am | [Reply](#)

david

After belonging to a Christian church for over 20 years, I totally agree with what she says. A lot (not all) Christians have the need to single out people in the most hostile and venomous way. Many of the parishioners that I was close friends with, were angry and spiteful people who wished violent acts upon people that they disagreed with. I finally got fed up and left the church, because it had become less about loving your neighbor, and more about pseudo politics, hating liberals, democrats, gays and illegal immigrants. It really is sad. My suggestion is for people who call themselves Christian to actually spend time reading the Bible and helping their neighbors, instead of pointing their fingers and condemning them.

July 30, 2010 at 11:48 am | [Reply](#)

CK, RVC

This self-important pronouncement is just another opportunity to feed the ego of a fast fading figure on the public scene.

Should anyone really care what Anne Rice has to say about anything?

July 30, 2010 at 11:48 am | [Reply](#)

Mike

An utterly generic retort. Celebrity is what it is. You read the article, after all.

July 30, 2010 at 11:54 am | |

DrMabuse

She's leaving christianity, but still holding on to the delusion of a deity. Not much happening here. She was a "pessimistic atheist," but i like to consider myself an optimistic one: I'm a true believer—in science, rational thinking and critical analysis.

July 30, 2010 at 11:48 am | [Reply](#)

Steve

Finally!!!! I was mortified when she first chose to start following those bigots!!!! Follow your heart, not some power hungry discriminatory mob!!!!

July 30, 2010 at 11:48 am | | [Reply](#)

Larry Fasel

I don't blame her at all. In Christianity it's not who you believe in anymore, it's what you believe in. All the dogmas, creeds etc that were started in the 2nd – 4th century's. The scriptures were ripped out of there semetic soil that gave them birth and given a whole new Greek mindset. Either it's their way or the highway now.

July 30, 2010 at 11:48 am | | [Reply](#)

Raymond

This is an example of what happens when a person does not have a clue about the theological foundations of Christianity. How can you follow a Christ who by His very life, words and deeds sought to connect believers to one another. Examples of Christian failure is not the same as the failure of Christianity. In some ways, the Church is God's hospital; full of sick people in various stages of spiritual recovery. Apparently, she never learned this and foolishly equated Christianity with the behavior of some Christians. Of course, the other issue is her belief in the teachings of the Bible and the manner by which they are applied. If her commitment is to live the teachings of Christ, she would learn to love others, including gays, regardless of their opinions or choices. Loving someone does not mean that one must give tacit or any other approval to lifestyles or choices. Christ loves sinners, but hates sin as totally contrary to His nature. This is an important distinction that many Christians do fail to make, yet that alone does not invalidate the importance of the distinction. For me, "hating" sin is disapproval of disobedience as contrary to the teachings of Christ. Jesus demonstrated this clearly in His actions with a woman caught in the act of adultery. he never approved her choice, but offered forgiveness to her. Clearly, any Christian who refuses to even forgive other Christians does not understand the essence of true Christianity. I will pray for her.

July 30, 2010 at 11:48 am | | [Reply](#)

kbeck

what ever happened to " thou shall not judge till thy be judged"; hypocrite!

July 30, 2010 at 11:53 am | |

Abel Arce

Amen.

July 30, 2010 at 12:03 pm | |

Abel Arce

@kbeck.. christians can not judge, but are required to recognize. They are not hypocrites for that. May be for some other things, like most of us, but not for that.

July 30, 2010 at 12:09 pm | |

Sweetenedtea

You've hit the nail on the head. Granted, it wasn't the nail you were aiming at, but still, good show. Christians need not offer approval, tacit or otherwise, to many of the lifestyles and choices they disapprove of...primarily because most of them do not call for approval or disapproval by the standards of Christ. Jesus never offered a single opinion on most of the issues near and dear to the general conservative Christian outlook.

July 30, 2010 at 12:29 pm | |

Luke Oakes

Kbeck, correction isn't judging. Let me help you better understand the scripture you are taking out of context. This word study came from <http://www.thebiblepost.com/rebuke>.

"Many people seem to think that it is a sin to call sin by its rightful name, or at least they give that impression anyway. They will even go so far as to use Jesus' words as a means to justify this; they say, "Judge not, that ye be not judged." (Matthew 7:1 KJV). But what did Jesus really mean here? According to the Greek, the word for 'judge' is 'krino'; it essentially denotes the idea of condemnation. Thus it has to do with 'condemning' or 'sentencing' a person for committing a crime. Moreover, the context in which Jesus used it has to do with eternal consequences. In other words, when a person judges another person in this way they are essentially attempting to make a ruling on the fate of that person that only God has the right to make.

Therefore, 'krino' is not to be confused with the words 'rebuke' or 'admonish', which essentially mean 'to correct'. Yet people seem to believe that they are one and the same. But are you really condemning or sentencing a person to the lake of fire when you tell them that they need to repent? When you really think about it, even if we were to condemn such actions and beliefs as those that are contrary to what the Bible identifies as good works, that would only mean that we are condemning actions and beliefs, not actual people."

If a Christian loves a person (Who is a believer), He will inform that person of his rebellion against God. Because in Jesus there is no darkness. (1 John 1) If a blind man was about to fall in a pit, would you not inform him? The problem is that there are too many Christians like Kbeck who have no idea what they are talking about and they pridefully (judge) others to make them feel good. When a Christian corrects his brother, he should do it with love and not for a spiritual confidence boost. Good job Raymond.

July 30, 2010 at 12:45 pm | |

Chris

You're not getting the point...Christianity as a whole BELIEVES that BEING gay is a sin. She doesn't. Therefore, she is no longer subscribing to that idiotic frame of thought, amongst other bigoted beliefs which are required in order to call yourself a contemporary "Christian".

July 30, 2010 at 2:17 pm | |

Critical Thinker

@kbeck: "what ever happened to " thou shall not judge till thy be judged"; hypocrite!"

The admonition prohibits judging PEOPLE; it does not prohibit warning others of the objective immorality of ACTS. For example, I can say "murder is gravely sinful"; I cannot say that a specific person who has committed murder will go to hell. This is summed up rather well in the expression "Love the sinner, hate the sin." It is not Christian behavior to reject a person because of their sins. One of the biggest problems with modern society is that many people take this to mean we have to accept the sinner and their acts. This is not at all true. Note that Jesus dismissed sinners saying "Go and sin no

more!", "go and keep doing your thing."

July 30, 2010 at 2:20 pm | |

Marie

Religion as we know it is man-made. Believing in a higher power and living a life of goodness and kindness has nothing to do with religion. In fact, most modern religions integral teaching is separation and hate of those who dare disagree with their beliefs. Everybody can't be right, but everybody can be wrong.

July 30, 2010 at 11:49 am | | [Reply](#)

Yoopertom

Stated well, perhaps not as clearly as she could've been, but Christians have been involved in some bloody, violent actions throughout history in the name of a man who preached tolerance and love of his fellow man. Way to go Ann.

July 30, 2010 at 11:50 am | | [Reply](#)

Bertie

You would think that a writer would be a little more articulate. Is she leaving "Christianity" or leaving the "church" (as in "organized religion")? Because those are two very different things...

July 30, 2010 at 11:50 am | | [Reply](#)

slh

She doesn't have to follow Christians, but she does need to follow God's word. She is refusing to submit to God's authority and wants to live her life without that submission. It is not possible to be both a follower of Christ and to live/believe however you want. In order to be a follower of Christ, you have to recognize He is God and yield your life to Him. That's the problem with many people today, they want to have it both ways. I think she fails to truly understand what being a believer is.

July 30, 2010 at 11:50 am | | [Reply](#)

Danykins

Welcome back, Anne Rice.

July 30, 2010 at 11:50 am | | [Reply](#)

Scott Kelly

Rest assured she was not Christian. Plus she was Roman catholic. They have their own Gospel and Jesus.

1 John 2:18-19 (KJV)

18 Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

July 30, 2010 at 11:50 am | | [Reply](#)

Edwin

How intolerant of you to judge her as a non-christian because she followed a different version. Christ would be disappointed, I think - he loved all his followers equally.

July 30, 2010 at 11:52 am | |

Tom

Spoken like a true idiotoops I meant "believer".

July 30, 2010 at 11:57 am | |

Tom

I agree Scott, scripture is the best medicine. I think because people attend a church that preaches Christ, doesn't automatically mean that they are a Christian. I've been blood-bought for 17 years now and don't regret it for one minute. KJV is the only Bible I read. Thanks for the scripture.

July 30, 2010 at 11:58 am | |

Tom

Hey Edwin, it's amazing how you call Scott "intolerant". If she does consider herself a Christian, it is our "Believers" responsibility to rebuke her like the Bible tells us to, in love. We, "Christians", are not suppose to "judge" non-believers, that is scriptural also. I've been a born-again believer for 17 years now and I walk the walk, but fall, as well Christians are not perfect, and I'm guessing about 70%-75% of the people on here writing comments are not Christians, but people who are Atheist or people who attend church "on occasion", so what they say doesn't mean anything.

July 30, 2010 at 12:06 pm | |

grammi

Roman Catholics have the one and only bible of truth. All other christian churches are offspring(s) of the Roman Catholic Church. So, if you do not want the truth you just break away and make your own church!! Sounds pretty silly to me.

July 30, 2010 at 12:08 pm | |

Tom

Hey Grammi, no where in Scripture does the word Catholic pop up. I'm not here to argue with you, but just look at Acts 11:21:26 "...and they first called Christians at Antioch."...They weren't called Catholics. I was a former Catholic until I read what Scripture said and what the Catholic church was teaching. I became a "born-again believer" because of what the Bible said in Romans 10:9-13 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

12 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.

13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved,

Before I left the Catholic church in 1993 after 28 years, I never heard that..

July 30, 2010 at 12:23 pm | |

Bob of West Virginia

I can understand Ms Rice's frustrations. I was raised fundamentalist Baptist. Christ was on the right path. It's the Christians that have screwed things up! They have become what Christ despised most "Pharisees."

July 30, 2010 at 11:51 am | | [Reply](#)

Tom

Hey Bob, I'm a Fundamental Independent Baptist as well, but like you already know, no "Christian" is perfect, just look at Westboro Baptist Church in Kansas. But I believe that you and I have the same firm foundation that FIBC preach...righteousness and belief in Christ without doing anything else (giving money, being baptised, etc). We also believe that you can't "give up Christianity", that is an impossibility. You're either saved or not. "Trying Christianity" is not like trying a type of soda, like many people here believe. But at the same time, sin is sin and we cannot tolerate it, but we also need to do a better job is showing "love" toward the sinner, in which I believe we "born again believers" are doing a bad job in.

July 30, 2010 at 12:14 pm | |

Tom

Anne, just make sure that your "relationship" with Christ is one of student and teacher, not one of Superbeing and Servant otherwise you are still trapped in delusion. Like Buddha, Christ was as human as you and I and should be viewed as a source of learning and a leader on the pathway of enlightenment – not as a supernatural object of worship. If you are going down that path you might as well "believe" in the Gnomes and the Unicorns too.

July 30, 2010 at 11:51 am | | [Reply](#)

Richard Slater

Well put Anne Rice. Exactly why I also left going to church many years back.

All the petty bickering and back stabbing and hypocritical people just drove me away.

July 30, 2010 at 11:52 am | | [Reply](#)

Maggie

Isn't the definition of a Christian to believe in Christ. So if she is following Christ then she is Christian and believes in Christianity. In order to follow Christ you must follow his teachings. Christ taught compassion, forgiveness and love. She is not giving up on Christianity since she states she will continue to follow Christ. She is giving up on the cult of organized religion. And that is wonderful to stand up for your beliefs and take the hypocrites out of your life. Kudos Anne.

July 30, 2010 at 11:52 am | | [Reply](#)

Tom

Hey Maggie, I agree with the majority of what you said except for the "hypocritical Christians" you call out. If leaving a church because of hypocrites, then everyone on this site and elsewhere need to stop going to work, shopping, sporting events, anything where there are people because there are hypocrites there also. God is not going to compare anyone to the hypocrites, but to Christ.

July 30, 2010 at 12:37 pm | |

Ze Nick

Who is Anne Rice?

Why should we care whether she leaves christianity?

Had she been a young bimbo, then perhaps we'd be interested in following her news regardless of their futility.

July 30, 2010 at 11:52 am | | [Reply](#)

missy

she could become a wiccan. That might be more fun for her.

July 30, 2010 at 11:52 am | | [Reply](#)

East Coast

Unfortunately..... Christianity and its beliefs and processes are outlined within the contents of the bible.

You cant separate the two. Many people claim to be "Christian", but they live in complete denial of the truths therein.

If you believe in "God and Jesus" as was quoted, then Christ's word alone were "I am the way the truth and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me... John 14:6" So that would make you automatically quite intolerant of others faith and belief systems.

The bible goes at great length to explain how people set up idols for thousands of years (still happening) to allow them to make a god in their image. Those people on the day of judgement will be quite surprised.

You cannot separate the Doctrine of Christ from the Christ of the bible. If you do, you have made an idol.

Sorry folks.. thats a rack !

July 30, 2010 at 11:52 am | | [Reply](#)

Paul

Good Riddance

July 30, 2010 at 11:52 am | | [Reply](#)

Mike

Another good Christian speaks.

July 30, 2010 at 11:59 am | |

Konan

Anne you making the assumption that the prevailing definition of Christian or Christianity satisfies the acid test it does not.

Your heart cry is to be part of a people that would love like Jesus did and would glorify the father with their lives (

assuming that's what you mean) is not wrong. By that definition none of the major powers of the western world are

Christian nations so what do you expect. Don't give up go direct to Father, so your \$100 bill is the real thing and the rest is counterfeit does that mean you should consider your money worthless and destroy it?

July 30, 2010 at 11:53 am | | [Reply](#)

Rickd

Does this mean she is gonna start writing good books again?

July 30, 2010 at 11:53 am | | [Reply](#)

Sweetenedtea

Again? Did she ever?

July 30, 2010 at 12:32 pm | |

ATW

I think this statement from her, sadly, is really about the fact that she's about to start "writing" again, and is priming the market. All she really said is that she still believes in Christ, but her "new" viewpoint conveniently allows her future writings to be accepted by every demographic-Christians, gays, feminists, democrats & republicans. I'm glad that her comments ring true to so many people here, but this is just PR work. Anyone with real faith, especially the kind that she's

claiming, doesn't need to tell the world. She's just selling her newly refined image and, sadly, it will most likely work. New or spurned-before-but-giving-her-another-chance groups of fans will show their support and buy her new work, at least for a couple novels. I'm not hating on her, I'm glad she continues to examine the roots of her own personal faith, I just think it's sad that she, in my opinion, stopped actually writing a long time ago (I LOVED the first three Vampire Chronicles books), and chose instead to string readers along as she tries, under the guise of fiction, to find her place in the spiritual world. I can't see this announcement as anything but buying back fans who've left her ideologies behind, and another example of her need to keep the world aware and informed of every spiritual/moral roadblock that she encounters. I'm glad it clearly helps some people, but I can only say that for me, it's a little depressing how clearly her statement smacks of exactly what an agent would tell her to do to increase her shrinking fan base. It just seems like another costume for an author who, again, in my opinion, has cared more for crafting her status as a costumed author than writing as well as she could if she focused on the words and the stories. I'm not trying to convince anyone here, just venting a bit. If she speaks the truth for you and you find it edifying and faith-affirming then I'm glad for you. I just don't get the sincerity from her, and haven't for years...

July 30, 2010 at 1:14 pm |

Nathan Von Counts

Burn in hell you communist anti-christ. Christianity and religion are important to society as they teach us morals to live by. Separation of church and state is important, but to quit god is like saying bring it on satan. Wait until judgement day you communist and you will see. Look at the back of that dollar you have earned by spinning your godless yarns. What does it say? "In God we Trust". I will forever boycott your books because guess what the bible predates your horrible trash by centuries. You should be ashamed on giving up on God, just wait until your day of judgement I hear satan loves those who refuse God.

July 30, 2010 at 11:54 am | [Reply](#)

Mike

Nathan—why didn't you read the article before penning a full paragraph about it?

July 30, 2010 at 11:55 am |

Rich

Nathan, do you really think that we'd be rampant anarchists murdering people and molesting animals if we didn't have Christianity? Please tell me you're not that naive. Morality is a reflection of the needs and wants of a society, not religion — much less one religion in the myriad of options available. BTW, can you point to the part of the Bible where Christ told someone to burn in hell, much less so gleefully as you just did? Oh, right, you can't be Christ, you only try to emulate him, and as an imperfect being, you'll make "mistakes". Oops!

July 30, 2010 at 11:57 am |

Mike

Aside from your willfully ignorant perspective (again—it's clear you didn't read the article), I'll go ahead and be the first to point out the obvious: your hateful, venomous aggression is precisely the sort of nonsense which gives the Church—not God—a bad name. If fewer self-described Christians like yourself behaved in the way you do, Jesus would have more followers. It's quite obvious.

July 30, 2010 at 11:57 am |

Dave

Wow, you make her point perfectly! What a jack***!

July 30, 2010 at 11:58 am |

bostonjim

I always wonder about posts like yours. You can't be serious, right? This is satire, it has to be. Yeah...I choose to believe it is satire. Otherwise, I worry about your neighbors if you don't get your medication. Like, soon.

July 30, 2010 at 12:13 pm |

Also aChristian

Nathan...Imagine Jesus telling the demon possessed people he met in the bible the things you just said...Nothing that has come out of your mouth is Christ like and that's the reason why people like you turn a lot of people not towards Christ, but away from him....With your hateful rants, I could never imagine you as being a soul winner for Christ...Sounds like you need to get on your knees and repent and ask God to change you unforgiving hateful heart...

July 30, 2010 at 12:41 pm |

Rich

A lot of Christians will look at this and say whatever she adopts without the church will not be following Christ. Many have such a pessimistic view that treats God as some overlord who must be appeased and feared at all costs. It makes me wonder why they feel God is any better than Satan if that's how he treats his creations. I suppose they must think it will all magically change in this fantastic Heaven they think about. Ridiculous and naive.

July 30, 2010 at 11:54 am | [Reply](#)

melissa a.

I believe in Christ, but I do not affiliate with any one religion, church, political group, etc. I am very happy in my spirituality. I talk to the Father every day and he has blessed me with an open heart and mind. I am the least judgemental I have ever been, and feel like I'm getting better and better at not forming an opinion that would turn judgement to myself or shut off opportunity to understand facets of life. It's all up to Him. Follow your heart Anne. This is your path and nobody has a right to judge saying what you are doing is good, or what you are doing is bad. Let them call believers of Christ "hypocrites", but I am not a perfect person on any level. I'm not a perfect mother, I'm not a perfect wife, I'm an imperfect friend, and I'm DEFINATELY an imperfect Christian. Just because I can't be 100% right in everything I do and say doesn't mean I don't love the people in my life and they should be taken away. Don't listen to what "they" say. You are who you are. Do whatever God is telling your heart to do, but don't ever feel you have to choose sides. Life is ambiguous!!! God presents opportunities and I don't feel in my heart he wants us making harsh judgements and criticisms. Christ came in the name of love, nothing else. Don't let politics, churches, and groups sway you from his intent.

July 30, 2010 at 11:55 am | [Reply](#)

A Rood Awakening! TV

Congratulations Ms. Rice - Thousands of people have made the same decision as you and follow the bible as it should be followed. Check out <http://www.aroodawakening.tv>.

July 30, 2010 at 11:55 am | [Reply](#)

Fernando

I wonder why not everyone else does the same.

The people in charge of any Religion want just power. They want to control things. Usually through fear.

I'm done with them for a long time.

July 30, 2010 at 11:55 am | [Reply](#)

Joel3

She left the "religion" that some Christians have made our faith out to be over the years. Even Christ couldn't stand the pharisees because they were hung up on religion. The law is dead, grace and truth is abound. I plead with my brothers and sisters in the faith to always remember this. We do not need to walk in lock-step of some religious ceremony, we need to focus on allowing others to see His reflection in us and spread the good news of His wonderful grace and salvation offered to all on the cross. And I would like to remind all of you that every believer was once a non-believer. We did not crossover to truth on a whim, this thing is real, God is indeed real, but you have to seek for yourself with your heart in prayer and His Word if you want proof....that is the ONLY way.

July 30, 2010 at 11:56 am | [Reply](#)

Jeff

I agree with Anne. Being a good human who follows the universal path should be a fine goal for anyone.

July 30, 2010 at 11:56 am | [Reply](#)

Konan

Before we all start to pile on, maybe someone can give an unbiased bio on this lady. Who is Anne Rice?

July 30, 2010 at 11:58 am | [Reply](#)

Mike

Why not just hit Wikipedia? She's a pop author. Gained fame for her vampire novels in the 90s.

July 30, 2010 at 12:03 pm |

Don

Anne, you said it eloquently and to the point! God bless you.

July 30, 2010 at 11:58 am | [Reply](#)

George

Her claiming that Christianity contains all those negatives is comparable to saying that all Islamists fly planes into buildings

July 30, 2010 at 11:58 am | [Reply](#)

Dan G.

So she discovered she was a liberal progressive – what's new?

July 30, 2010 at 11:58 am | [Reply](#)

Mike

Hardly. She's always been a self-described liberal progressive. What she discovered, despite her (continuing) interest in a relationship with Christ, was that the Christian church was a corrupt place built, all too often, on principles of exclusivity, anti-intellectualism, and conservative politics. She was looking for a community with which to share her faith, and that community—politicized and pompous—failed her.

July 30, 2010 at 12:02 pm |

DCer

I am no longer a Christian for the same reasons. I ceased being an Evangelical Christian long ago, but hung on to those vestiges of Christianity that were grounded in the teachings and compassion of Jesus. But, while I could make the distinction, those appalled at what they see being done by the Church every day don't. I cannot let myself be identified by a label that includes the Catholic Church, which has a notorious history of child abuse and cover up, or Fundamentalists, who pretend to respect life (i.e., anti-abortion), but love the death penalty, guns and war.

Good going. Anne!

July 30, 2010 at 11:59 am | [Reply](#)

howie

Her writing went downhill big time when she became a religious fanatic, maybe she will be good again now.

July 30, 2010 at 11:59 am | [Reply](#)

Kelly Brooks

Who gives a crap!

July 30, 2010 at 11:59 am | [Reply](#)

Mike

You do, evidentially.

July 30, 2010 at 12:04 pm |

JillyX

Wow, that's pompous. I'm one of those "lost" atheists she speaks of and even I know that there are different types of Christians.

July 30, 2010 at 11:59 am | [Reply](#)

Luciano

from a Christian to an aesthet thank you for your clear and honest reply

July 30, 2010 at 12:10 pm |

daphnerp

Way to go Anne Rice. The fundamentalist Christians do preach hatred of anyone who is not in agreement with them.

They are just too anti most anything.

July 30, 2010 at 12:00 pm | [Reply](#)

East Coaster

I love all the Antinomian sentiment..... No law ?

Thats amusing. So if there is no law, are the 10 commandments null and void ?

July 30, 2010 at 12:00 pm | [Reply](#)

Evan

uh have you been involved or herd anything about the way we judge people, make our laws, live generally day to day.
yes the 10 commandments are completely null and void.

July 30, 2010 at 12:03 pm | |

karl popper

Gee, generalize much, Anne?

July 30, 2010 at 12:00 pm | | [Reply](#)

John B.

Does anyone really care what one wrinkled old lady has to say about her personal faith or lack there of? I mean really – who gives a s**t? As long as you don't put on a hijab, dress in black from head to toe, pack yourself full of explosives and go out to kill infidels in the name of your messed up so-called "faith", then go worship how you want and who cares about it.

July 30, 2010 at 12:00 pm | | [Reply](#)

EJ

who cares??? bye bye

July 30, 2010 at 12:00 pm | | [Reply](#)

Osama

Those damn Christians are evil, they fly planes into buildings. Uh, wait a minute, errr...

July 30, 2010 at 12:01 pm | | [Reply](#)

Chris A

Christians have killed more people than Muslims ever will partner.

July 30, 2010 at 12:10 pm | |

Abel Arce

Islam is still in a killing rampage around the world. Muslim conquests by the sword in the name of Allah has been and always be the greater murderers of history. Yes, muslim fanaticism and its supporters and defenders will be part of that killing.

July 30, 2010 at 12:48 pm | |

Cody

Abel Arce – Check your history source. Indonesia, with the largest Muslim population has never seen a Muslim "Crusade". India's 80% population is still Hindu after centuries of Muslim rule. The "conquest by the sword" is the biggest propaganda of the so called "Christians" that Anne Rice is referring to.

July 30, 2010 at 1:41 pm | |

ldjit

I am a confirmed atheist who was a christian. I believe I am a good person and apart from the praying, organized religion stuff, I believe I meet most christian principles in my life. Organized religion wants me to believe that their god will punish me for not following their religion. If this is true, then their god is not one I want to believe in.

July 30, 2010 at 12:01 pm | | [Reply](#)

dirkgambit

So she is giving up Christianity. How much money did she make off of "Memnoch the Devil" in which the devil took the vampire Lestat to see, among other things, Heaven, and Christ's Passion, where Lestat got hold of the actual Veronica's Veil (something that is an integral part of the Catholic Stations of the Cross)?

July 30, 2010 at 12:01 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jay

The big reason people want to dis-prove God is because we enjoy the sin we're living in and would rather think we're not going to be held accountable. Foodshark's statement is simple and sums it up perfectly.

July 30, 2010 at 12:02 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mike

That's delusional. For the average atheist, "dis-proving God" is as much a priority as disproving the existence of a lead statue of Donald Duck on the far side of Neptune. Most atheists are simply living their lives, trying to be good citizens, and hoping—for the love of God—that angry religious people stay the hell out of their way.

July 30, 2010 at 12:07 pm | |

svscnn

So what she really meant to say is that she is still a Christian, but has elected to become a non-denominational Christian.

July 30, 2010 at 12:02 pm | | [Reply](#)

Chom

A lost soul... The Scientologists will be more than glad to have her join their club.

July 30, 2010 at 12:02 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jim

A shame she needs a crutch such as a belief in god to come to grips with the world. But at least she called out the ridiculous organization known as organized religion.

July 30, 2010 at 12:03 pm | | [Reply](#)

lance corporal

she hit it spot on, christianity as a religion has been defined by hateful manipulative people, she could even drop the term christ as just a word and be less confusing, christians don't own god and their small minded conceptualization of god misses completely, god is larger than our definitions that simply get in the way, most people are only christians because they where told that that is what god is and they are like sheep without the ability to seek it out on their own, their faith is shallow and so they require forced reinforcement and can't abide others disagreeing, intelligent free thinkers become the enemy and they become the willing dupes of charismatic controllers – hence our current political scene – I hope anne rice writes about this and gets thru to at least some people to leave the hateful christian church that is actually standing between its followers and god – free your mind!

July 30, 2010 at 12:04 pm | | [Reply](#)

Chris Arp

I am actually dissappointed that she still claims to believe in Jesus or God. I thought she was much more of a clear thinker than that. She has ways to go to get where she should be.

July 30, 2010 at 12:04 pm | [Reply](#)

Mike

There's no shame in a private spiritual or philosophical conviction regarding the unseen—particularly, that is, in someone committed, as Rice has claimed, to modern notions of intellectual discovery and science.

July 30, 2010 at 12:08 pm |

Walter

Ann Rice? Who is she and why should her life decisions be of interest to the whole world?

July 30, 2010 at 12:04 pm | [Reply](#)

Mike

The matter seems to be of interest to you. There are hundreds of articles to turn your time and attention to.

July 30, 2010 at 12:09 pm |

ZeroFalls

"and not content with that we pull Jesus from a hat..get into that, get into that" ELP Brain Salad Sugery. So book sales are down then? Jesus was a Jew and so were his followers. So the truth is that all "christians" are anti-christ followers of a false religion perpetuated by the one who's name should not be spoken. The one true god is made of PASTA!

July 30, 2010 at 12:05 pm | [Reply](#)

grammi

This is sad, and only she will have to answer to her decisions. I would be lost without my Catholic faith (and no I do not defend the priest abusers!!) and gift of redemption.

July 30, 2010 at 12:05 pm | [Reply](#)

Rita

Good for her 😊)

Religion is so crowded thesedays; too many people in between oneself and God.

July 30, 2010 at 12:05 pm | [Reply](#)

Cindy

Sorry to tell you, Anne, but for all your seemingly "noble" stand that you are trying to take, Christ, whom you profess to love, was also "anti-gay". And don't even get me started on "anti-democrat"! There are real Christians out there who are totally sold out for Jesus. You have to search them out and even more important is you have to let go of this world and all it's evil trappings. When Jesus said to pick up your cross and follow him, he meant it. If you are a feminist, democrat, or republican or what ever else, throw it all out and serve Jesus.

July 30, 2010 at 12:05 pm | [Reply](#)

Mike

In the words of your fellow Christians, Cindy, I regret to inform you that you may very well burn in hell.

July 30, 2010 at 12:10 pm |

MaryMary

Cindy, may God bless you and keep you...you will certainly need it.

Mike, I'm digging you as the hall monitor, man. Keep it up 😊

July 30, 2010 at 2:31 pm |

just stupid

Anne, So I guess you donated millions of your dollars to help society as well as charities in America and around the world? Or do you think that you are above this and just preach to the rest of us who work real jobs and earn enough to just get by day to day? Why do you think we care what you give up on? You must think very highly of yourself to even post this to begin with. Here is some reality for you.... I didn't even know who you were before reading this. But I can also tell you that I care less after reading it as well.

July 30, 2010 at 12:06 pm | [Reply](#)

Faber McMullen

Anne still professes a faith in Jesus. Most Christians forget that He said the greatest commandment was "To love the Lord with all or your heart, soul, and mind, and to love your neighbor as yourself". Most Christians don't do this because loving God in such a way, and loving your neighbor in such a way is too costly. It is easier to bicker about doctrines that divide and to critique and criticize other "sinners" instead of focusing on the splinter in one's own eye. She has given up on "churchianity but not Christianity.

July 30, 2010 at 12:07 pm | [Reply](#)

Anthony

This story has two opposing quotes. She said, "Today I quit being a Christian," and yet she says, "My faith in Christ is central to my life." Now, either she is mis-quoted or confused. Peter denied Christ three times but was restored. Judas (also one of His disciples) didn't deny Christ but, rather, betrayed Him. I think we would all be served by some clarification (by Ms. Rice) on what exactly she means. Which side is she coming down on – Peter's or Judas'?

July 30, 2010 at 12:07 pm | [Reply](#)

MrsFizzy

She already explained what she meant. It just doesn't boil down well to neat sound-bites for the "Marquee" section!

July 30, 2010 at 12:32 pm |

J-Go

I love it! Believe in God, not religion.

July 30, 2010 at 12:07 pm | [Reply](#)

shoddymill

The Bible makes clear that we are not to attempt the Christian walk alone. Difficult as it is, we need to remain connected to that messy, flawed, frustrating assembly known as the church, or the body of Christ. We are all imperfect—at times hypocritical, and times reacting to the sin around us with hate and fear rather than love and care. But we need to stay together. If she is truly a believer, I pray she finds a fellowship of believers where she can draw strength.

July 30, 2010 at 12:07 pm | [Reply](#)

Bob

I can relate to what she's saying so well but also know that what you're saying is so true. I constantly find my self

conflicting with what others believe but also know that this is a part of growing as a Christian. I am blessed to be a part of a church that while I feel our political views don't always line up, our faith is dead on. I love the thought her forthcoming statements have provoked! My prayers are with her.

July 30, 2010 at 12:31 pm | |

Lizzie

Good for Anne Rice.

July 30, 2010 at 12:08 pm | | [Reply](#)

BFD

Christianity has suffered a huge loss today. RIP Ruth Anne.

July 30, 2010 at 12:11 pm | | [Reply](#)

Wendy

I am a born again Christian and it is sad that the right wing nuts have turned so many people off with their obnoxious hypocrisy. Most of them act nothing like Jesus. Sometimes it is embarrassing how they act and I want nothing to do with them. Jesus did not care about politics what so ever and I don't think he cares about the Republican agenda or the Democratic agenda. He cares about redemption and helping the poor and downtrodden. We should speak the truth with compassion, not with judgmentalness or hypocrisy for we are all sinners in need of the Savior.

July 30, 2010 at 12:11 pm | | [Reply](#)

Shameka

You said it all. Good point!

July 30, 2010 at 12:40 pm | |

Sue

I'm wondering if all those who quit their church because of hypocritical members of the Christian faith – did you ever consider that if y'all continued participating at your church, you would then become the majority of the members at these churches and could perhaps bring that church back to a more Jesus-centric, and bible-centric place? The best way to change an organization is from the inside. I have seen amazing things happen in churches where people care enough to stay put and implement these changes themselves. In peace.

July 30, 2010 at 12:11 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mike

A pleasant notion, Sue, but not everyone follows the same calling in life—I don't see why you should condemn anyone for simply seeking different terms with which to relate to God. The Christian mantra is, so often, "relationship with Jesus first," no? For some, might seeking that relationship in a different setting just be best?

July 30, 2010 at 12:15 pm | |

ragnes

I left the church for the same reasons, and I commend her for doing so. But honestly, why is this on the 'top stories' on CNN? Don't we have better things to be worrying about than what Anne Rice thinks about religion? This belongs as an article in People magazine, not in the news.

July 30, 2010 at 12:11 pm | | [Reply](#)

non-Christian

Jesus was NOT a Christian either

July 30, 2010 at 12:11 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mike

Well, of course not. And Mickey Mouse isn't a Mickey Mouse fan. What's your point?

July 30, 2010 at 12:13 pm | |

non-Christian

My point he was a Jew

July 30, 2010 at 12:19 pm | |

Mike

An obvious technical observation, irrelevant to this (and most other) discussions.

July 30, 2010 at 12:41 pm | |

Bob

All religion is inherently evil. Ones relationship with or without God is personal. How many "religions" throughout history up to the present have sought to slaughter other religions simply because they are different? The Crusades had "christians" slaughtering muslims in the name of God. Sound familiar?

July 30, 2010 at 12:12 pm | | [Reply](#)

Abel Arce

No, you are wrong. The crusades were called "reconquest wars", liberation wars against muslim bloody expansionism.

July 30, 2010 at 12:18 pm | |

jbmarr1312

Bob, why is it that everyone conveniently forgets that the Muslims made war on and conquered the Middle East and then Jerusalem and forced Islam on every other religion in the region. The crusades were reactionary to that. Read your history. It did take a couple of centuries for the remnants of the Roman Empire to develop enough to mount any real resistance to the expansion of Islam but the Moors made it all the way into Southern France before they were defeated by Charlemagne.

July 30, 2010 at 12:21 pm | |

Mike

Abel, it doesn't matter what the crusades were called, or how Christians have attempted to characterize them. The French and English weren't liberating their homelands when they slaughtered the residents of Muslim cities and towns. The Crusades were bloody invasions—that is incontrovertible.

July 30, 2010 at 12:23 pm | |

Mike

Jbmar, I chuckle a mournful chuckle any time someone suggests, with a straight face, that the the Franks and Germanic political/religious establishment which spearheaded the Crusades did so in an attempt to restore anything. Oh, sure—the First Crusades were largely motivated by the Seljuk wars upon the Byzantine Empire—though it's ludicrous to argue that

Emperor Alexius had any more legitimate claim to Jerusalem than did a locally-inspired Muslim Caliphate.

July 30, 2010 at 12:34 pm | |

Paul

Religious wars are causes of the killing, aye? How many people died in the crusades? Answer, not very many in comparison to what modern secular governments have done. Was religion responsible for WWI, WWII, Korean, Vietnam, ect? The answer is no, those were the creation of secular peoples. Heck WWII alone killed 60 million people, and it was caused by the non religious governments. The reality is that war was much more violent and common when religion started playing a lesser and lesser role in government. Not to mention war is ultimately caused by man, not religion.

July 30, 2010 at 12:58 pm | |

dave

I hope Anne you keep your faith in Christ as he is the author and finisher of what we believe.

The time you spend in prayer and Bible Study with a close group of believers and individually will have a direct impact on your effectiveness as a follower of Christ. There are no short cuts ..there are no political parties..it is about relationship with Christ who gave His life willingly for you and rose again. "Religion" is man made...relationship is about knowing Christ intimately thru His word.

God bless you and hope you maintain that relationship

July 30, 2010 at 12:12 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jessica

One of the main reasons that she left, which CNN conveniently leaves out, is that she refuses to be anti-gay. Why?, because her son is gay. Que religious bigots 1, 2 3...

July 30, 2010 at 12:13 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mike

Paragraph two, son. (Why do so many refuse to read these articles before commenting?)

July 30, 2010 at 12:16 pm | |

AnnBChrist

Anne is right, God is not anti-gay, the story of Lot retold according to original Scripture explains it here, [apageinthelife dot blogspot dot com slash 2009 slash 09 slash when-youre-six-feet-under dot html](#)

The problem is distortion of the facts for selfish meanspirited reasons by power grubbing individuals and groups.

July 30, 2010 at 1:23 pm | |

jbmar1312

John Doe,

You do not have to be in this particular discussion if you do not want to. It is your choice.

July 30, 2010 at 12:13 pm | | [Reply](#)

Adonomo

One can quit Christ followers without giving up on Christ. I cannot understand her decision to quit christianity because of the behaviour of some self-righteous and vicious individuals. There is no collective salvation. Salvation depend on individual relationship with God and not what church one belongs or go to. She should look beyond the pulpit and focus on our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He only, is the righteous one and the ultimate picture of a perfect Man. He even said it that "there is no righteous person, no not one". I will be praying for you.

July 30, 2010 at 12:13 pm | | [Reply](#)

adam

On the one hand, I don't feel any attachment to any label - including the label, "Christian" (though my beliefs and the spiritual communities I associate with would certainly be labeled "Christian" by just about everyone). So I can understand her not wanting her faith to be defined by that label.

On the other hand, it seems to me her perception of Christians and Christianity has been overly colored by how such have been portrayed by the popular press. NEWS FLASH: many people and demographics are not typified by the headlines about them and by the outspoken folks who are the subject of those headlines. If the people I happen to have met in life are anything to go by, there are in fact thousands upon thousands of Christians who are not "deservedly infamous".

July 30, 2010 at 12:14 pm | | [Reply](#)

Colleen

Episcopalians are the opposite of everything she listed. They are Christians, but have openly gay ministers and bishops, are especially concerned with women's rights, and at least at my church, embrace science as an integral part of the universe. I'm lucky to be in a very progressive church, I suggest you try it, Anne!

July 30, 2010 at 12:14 pm | | [Reply](#)

Qodex

Mark C: you're apparently too stupid to realize that you make my point for me. It's the difference between saying "I don't believe in christianity because..." and "You shouldn't believe in christianity because...". It's the arrogant conceit that says you know the truth, they don't, and it's your genetically and intellectually superior duty to correct them as offensively as possible. Like MD said, it's what makes you such a condescending buffoon.

July 30, 2010 at 12:14 pm | | [Reply](#)

Abel Arce

Anne is a moral relativist. She is influenced by the bad rap Catholics and Christians have gotten in the last 10 years or so. Her character is a weak one. But again, she was an atheist before, so she thinks it's time to change her stance, once again, for the benefit of fame. Buy her books.

July 30, 2010 at 12:14 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mike

She professes a deep love of Christ, and a commitment to maintaining a relationship with him. Don't your ilk value that above all else?

July 30, 2010 at 12:17 pm | |

Abel Arce

@Mike... I don't believe somebody that does this publicly. It sounds and looks like a prepared stunt. You don't even support christianity, so what do you care?

July 30, 2010 at 12:22 pm | |

Mike

Abel, don't profess to know what I "support" or don't "support." That's my business. I'm no atheist, though. Whether your cynical perspective is accurate or not, she's professing a desire to maintain a Christian heart and soul, and to pursue her faith. You seem bitter because she's rejected your team and its flag, is all. Petulant, no?

July 30, 2010 at 12:27 pm | |

Abel Arce

I said it seems it is a publicity stunt. Now, as far as her descition to abandon christianity, it is misguided. That, I don't have any doubts about.

July 30, 2010 at 12:56 pm | |

Steve

She was more patient than I was. I gave up religion when I was a kid and started thinking for myself.

July 30, 2010 at 12:14 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jeremy

Since when does being a christian not let you think for yourself?

July 30, 2010 at 12:36 pm | |

sandy

If you really know Jesus, I don't think you can leave Him as He's made His mark on your life. Actually He traded His Mark for the one we missed, perfection. I think people are discouraged with jugemental Christians. As Christians we are to just love and forgive and love and forgive. We are to lead them to the cross through our love, and then they find the Lord's word and live by that. The only difference between Christians and non Christians is Christians are forgiven.

July 30, 2010 at 12:16 pm | | [Reply](#)

liz

I like your Christ, I do not like your Christians. Your Christians are so unlike your Christ. – Mahatma Gandhi.

July 30, 2010 at 12:17 pm | | [Reply](#)

Abel Arce

"It is alarming and also nauseating to see Mr. Gandhi, a seditious middle temple lawyer, now posing as a fakir of a type well known in the east, striding half-naked up the steps of the viceregal palace, while he is still organizing and conducting a defiant campaign of civil disobedience, to parley on equal terms with the representative of the king-emperor."

- Winston Churchill, 1930

July 30, 2010 at 12:41 pm | |

portalpunk

Just by reading these comments, it is amazing the hatred many Christians have towards those who do not share their beliefs. Seems like the non-believers are the most well rounded, morally balanced and tolerant group out there.

July 30, 2010 at 12:18 pm | | [Reply](#)

Abel Arce

I think you are a young fellow. Grow up, then wisely, re-make your statement.

July 30, 2010 at 12:39 pm | |

Get a life

Who cares what she thinks, seems to be a ploy for publicity. Surprised she didn't blame Bush LOL!! Anne go back in your cave!!

July 30, 2010 at 12:19 pm | | [Reply](#)

Maggie

If you people are serious about being followers of Christ, take a look at the Jehovah Witnesses they have down pack.

July 30, 2010 at 12:20 pm | | [Reply](#)

Abel Arce

A refuge for frustated political opponents.

July 30, 2010 at 12:43 pm | |

Billy Graham

Religions will soon be eliminated by the governments. They now have all the money the government needs.

July 30, 2010 at 12:20 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mike

The mantra repeated, so often, by nearly all Christian facets—conservative, liberal, revisionist, fundamentalist, and so on—is that one's relationship with and dedication to Christ comes first. Given that, why don't the church's defenders here simply appreciate that this woman's personal relationship to Christianity will be best served in a different setting?

July 30, 2010 at 12:20 pm | | [Reply](#)

hotmomof1

I agree 100%. i too am a christian but do not believe in all rules.

July 30, 2010 at 12:20 pm | | [Reply](#)

LouAz

Yaaaaaaaaaaaaahweeeeeeeeeeeeh ! She wants it both ways. You betcha !

July 30, 2010 at 12:21 pm | | [Reply](#)

fou

Anne you must believe i thinks before you just believe in your mount not your in your heart

Asian Christian

July 30, 2010 at 12:21 pm | | [Reply](#)

Niceitalianboi

I agree 100% religion and faith and belief are all amazing and uplifting. "church" and the MAN MADE rules of the cult like followers and supposed religious leaders is all blaspheme and self loathing. I always say I'm a recovering catholic. I'm a good person, I treat people with respect, I give what I can. I help where I can. I pray often and usually not for myself. This is religion and spirituality to me. I think Anne has made a great statement. WTG God bless us all.

July 30, 2010 at 12:22 pm | | [Reply](#)

BeeBee

Good for you, Anne, for just saying NO to bigotry. Now please go back to doing what you do best, and show Stephanie "Sparklepoof" Meyer what a REAL vampire is.

July 30, 2010 at 12:22 pm | [Reply](#)

Praetorian

If you follow Christ, you are a Christian. It's as simple as that. There is no need to follow any particular 'flavour' of Christianity. After all, the first followers of Christ had nothing but his own words and actions to guide them. Unfortunately, there is very little in organized religion that Christ would recognize.

July 30, 2010 at 12:22 pm | [Reply](#)

Tim

I left the Catholic church for some of the same reasons.. I felt pressured by the church to go along with their aggressive pro life movement, and if I didn't I wasn't a Christian. The homily became a political podium. They also didn't want children coming to church on Sunday morning and only allow them on Saturday night as they were too loud for Sunday AM Mass... I was away from the church for a long time and came back because my wife wanted me to. I did and accepted Christ again... I no longer belong to any church.. My friends no longer go for similar reasons...

July 30, 2010 at 12:23 pm | [Reply](#)

scott

It's quite comical how many people make the statement, "Who cares what she thinks?" If you don't care, why did you read her statement? Why are you commenting?

Also, some are up in arms about her stating that she didn't quit Christianity, she quit the church. I think you guys rely on Wikipedia too much. Part of Christianity is believing in the church; therefore, when you quit the church, you quit Christianity. You can debate that and I really couldn't care any less, but nitpicking what she is saying is a little lame. The point is, she seems to have grown tired of the "human opinions" associated with organized religion. Can't say I blame her.

July 30, 2010 at 12:23 pm | [Reply](#)

Maggie

Billy what you said is true about religions will be soon eliminated by the governments, the Bible has foretold the very thing. I can wait for that to happen because this is one of the signs of the end of this system of things.

July 30, 2010 at 12:24 pm | [Reply](#)

DM

I feel the same way. I love God, but can't tolerate the Christian organization. Way too political.

July 30, 2010 at 12:24 pm | [Reply](#)

Maggie

DM You should join the Jehovah Witnesses, they are neutral, no politics what so ever. They are advocating for God's Kingdom therefore their government it is no part of this system of things.

July 30, 2010 at 12:29 pm | [Reply](#)

Wowjustwow

Beliefs like Anne's while encouraged and part of our free will are preyed upon and capitalized on by the zillion of "made-up" churches out there. Look at Catholicism (or Judaism) and all of its structure and rules. At least they know if they go to an Easter service at a Catholic Church in the boonies that they'll know pretty much what to expect. The other "churches" out in the boonies I'm not so sure I want to enter if I want to leave with my sanity in place.

July 30, 2010 at 12:24 pm | [Reply](#)

death in june

Ann Rice said it perfectly, and so did Sinead O' Connor: Jesus needs to be rescued from humans.

July 30, 2010 at 12:24 pm | [Reply](#)

jona

Thanks for sharing this Anne. Not sure why you felt it had to be an "announcement". We weren't following your religious activities in the first place.

In other words, Anne.. keep it to yourself.

July 30, 2010 at 12:25 pm | [Reply](#)

Mike

Jona, but you ARE following. There are hundreds upon hundreds of CNN articles to pour through any given day; you're free to pay attention to whichever strike your fancy.

That said, let's be clear. She appears to have made this declaration on her Facebook page—a place, in other words, where anything she announces or reflects upon is intended for an audience who DOES care: her Facebook Friends, essentially subscribers. Got it?

July 30, 2010 at 12:45 pm | [Reply](#)

Bob

But Jesus said we should be Christians - wait, no he didn't...

July 30, 2010 at 12:26 pm | [Reply](#)

One day at a time

This is what happens when Religion practices are contrary to what the Bible teaches. Today, bad is good and good is bad and humans think that their ideas are better than anyone's... including God

July 30, 2010 at 12:26 pm | [Reply](#)

Cheech

As children when we acted judgemental. My mom used to say: "There is so much good in the worst of us and so much bad in the best" I think she had a good point.

July 30, 2010 at 12:26 pm | [Reply](#)

SaintPetersburg

good for her. Religion is not compatible with the modern world. It's been 2000 years, why haven't people let their thinking evolve?

July 30, 2010 at 12:26 pm | [Reply](#)

TC

<http://www.tentmaker.org>

interesting read

hell = lost in translation

July 30, 2010 at 12:26 pm | [Reply](#)

Craig

Christianity is two things. One is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Walking and talking with Him every day, loving Him and obeying Him. Anne, I hope you haven't walked away from Him. It's a relationship.

The second thing that Christianity is (in our society) is an organization in the control of humans. I have found great unity with brothers and sisters of all faiths when we talk about God's love and a personal relationship with him, but the organization you read about in CNN is not the Church that Jesus died and rose again to save. It is a mirror of our own self deceived mercenary desires trying to hijack God. How ridiculous is that. Try reading your Bible daily, praying while you read and obeying what you understand to be taught (keep in mind that any book can be mis-read if it is taken piece meal). You'll find that Christianity isn't Baptist, Lutheran or Eastern Orthodox, it is walking hand in hand with the Savior.

July 30, 2010 at 12:27 pm | [Reply](#)

Jason

I felt the same way and became part of the Unity Christianity. I had previously been fed up with bible thumpers who were banging war drums, claiming that the start of the Iraq war was some sort of glorious crusade. That isn't what Jesus would do, and unity is a better alternative fit.

July 30, 2010 at 12:27 pm | [Reply](#)

Bob

Who cares. As Hillaire Belloc said, there is no such thing, and there never has been, as a Christian Religion. There is the Church, my guess is she was never a part of the Church, so who cares, this isn't news.

July 30, 2010 at 12:27 pm | [Reply](#)

a2rjr

Christ didn't hate any of the people in these groups nor do I. But I do despise the sins of all people in any group just as Jesus does. Ms. Rice got it partially right anyway.

July 30, 2010 at 12:27 pm | [Reply](#)

sk vie

she looks like she lost some weight, pretty smile.

July 30, 2010 at 12:27 pm | [Reply](#)

Agreed

I agree she looks good. Minimal or no plastic surgery and the light of the lord glowing in her face. : P

July 30, 2010 at 1:15 pm |

Ben

The reason to quit Christianity is because it's a lie. Not because of the bigoted behavior of Christians, not because of priests raping children, but because it's the continued mythology humans invented to explain the natural world around them. The sun? Oh that's Helios. The moon? Her name's Luna. Thunder and lightning are scary – oh, that's Thor. The ocean gets stormy sometimes. Oh, that's Poseidon. Volcanoes erupt occasionally. That's Vulcan, the angry god of fire. You have to placate him by throwing in a virgin.

As we've uncovered some of the forces behind these awesome natural occurrences, the gods we'd created to explain them have faded... only to be replaced with our new mythologies. Grow up people. It's okay to come out of the Bronze Age.

July 30, 2010 at 12:28 pm | [Reply](#)

stevie

Great points you make, Ben. Sounds like you actually did some thinking on the subject. The trouble with "christians" is that

most were brainwashed as children. Wanting something to be real does not make it so.

Just because it's been around 2000 years doesn't mean anything, since people were positive the earth was flat for millions of years. They even had proof!....Stand near any shoreline, and as far as the eye can see, there is a long flat line. Of course, the world could not be round, since you'd fall off!

July 30, 2010 at 12:40 pm |

stevie

The first century philosopher, Seneca, said "Religion by the common people is thought of as true, the wise as false, and by leaders as useful".

There is nothing revolutionary about the statement "love one another"; an eight year old could have said that.

As a matter of fact, whatever good there is in religion, can be had without it.

It would be smart of christians to consider that they have been fooled by all this stuff. It's really about being controlled, (by the leadership). Time to grow up!

July 30, 2010 at 12:28 pm | [Reply](#)

LP

You guys who still believe in our time in a God...Jesus or anything else there is in that book we call Bible are just 'TARD. Grow a brain.

July 30, 2010 at 12:28 pm | [Reply](#)

Bob

"Religion is not compatible with the modern world."

The Modern World will fade before religion does

July 30, 2010 at 12:28 pm | [Reply](#)

Mike

You're right in a sense. There will always be people gazing at the stars, dreaming up stories, or speaking to rocks—even long after our cities are ash.

July 30, 2010 at 12:47 pm |

Ben

As long as she has a Higher Power it makes no difference to me. We give love & receive love.we forgive & are forgiven,just be a good person—that is what counts. We should not be measured by our religions or beliefs. After all look at mel Gibson.

July 30, 2010 at 12:28 pm | [Reply](#)

TC

<http://www.tentmaker.org/store/index.php?act=viewProd&productid=156>

July 30, 2010 at 12:29 pm | [Reply](#)

Billy G. (Heidelberg)

Hang in there Anne. Don't confuse the followers with the real man of sorrows. He saves. Everyone knows it. Everyone.

July 30, 2010 at 12:29 pm | [Reply](#)

guido

The Eucharist is what is all about!!

July 30, 2010 at 12:29 pm | [Reply](#)

Paul in Louisville

She's a wacko, but then so are the people she's talking about. If Jesus exists and is to return, the FIRST people he will smite will be the virulently hateful, self-righteous haters of the "Christian" right.

Personally, I don't think there is a higher being, but I respect the rights of those who believe to worship as they see fit.

However, I do not respect those that expect me to live my life based on their beliefs. Our founding fathers spin ever faster in their graves when they hear how anti-American these alleged patriots behave. Pathetic and sad.

July 30, 2010 at 12:30 pm | [Reply](#)

happyatheist

How about being a happy, optimistic atheist. It works for me.

July 30, 2010 at 12:30 pm | [Reply](#)

Stella

FINALLY...Anne has seen the light!!!

Welcome to the REAL world Anne...good for you!!!

Cheers and hurrah!

July 30, 2010 at 12:30 pm | [Reply](#)

AI

She wants her own religion. Cafeteria Christianity at work. I've read almost all her books, especially her "Christian" ones.

She is easily led, wants to be liked, and has never been able to come to terms with the dichotomy between Christianity and her own personal beliefs. Jesus asks Peter, "Do you love me.?" Peter says, "You know I do." Jesus then says, "Obey my commandments." Notice He didn't say suggestions...

July 30, 2010 at 12:31 pm | [Reply](#)

Liz

Yeah, yeah... but how's Lindsey Lohan doing?

July 30, 2010 at 12:31 pm | [Reply](#)

Nathan from Eugene, OR

What Anne Rice calls "Christianity" sounds similar to what Kierkegaard once called "Christendom." He attacked Christendom, which was his duty as a Christian, a follower of Christ. It seems necessary to make a distinction of this kind, in one set of terms or another. There's no clear or easy way to do this without a long explanation. The danger of course is that you can end up creating a new religion that is now pure, one that keeps all the bad guys out so that you and your religion are not contaminated by them. Anne Rice has taken on a necessary but difficult and endless task.

July 30, 2010 at 12:31 pm | [Reply](#)

Gary

What *IS* Christianity? That is the most important question of all. Truly, Christianity is nothing more than the walk between God and His children. Those who are born again, meeting the requirements of Romans 10:9 and 10, are 'born again. That means they are God's children, just as each of us are the children of our parents. Nothing can change that. If Ms. Rice meets that simple criteria, then she is a Christian. If she wishes to disassociate herself from the religions claiming to be 'Christian', I don't blame here. I did that a long time ago.

July 30, 2010 at 12:31 pm | [Reply](#)

johnrj08

I quit "Christianity" about 30 years ago for the same reasons. What took Rice so long? Obviously, she's referring to the "church" here, rather than the actual belief system-- which has almost nothing to do with the church establishment today. When so-called evangelicals started meddling in politics so that they could inflict their grotesque beliefs on the entire society, it was time to get out. Genuine belief and worship is a beautiful thing, but over the last generation has been twisted and repackaged as a judgmental and xenophobic system.

July 30, 2010 at 12:32 pm | [Reply](#)

Carrie

Right on!

July 30, 2010 at 12:57 pm |

John

The day I see the vatican sell some of their priceless art to feed the hungry I will believe that they are more concerned with people than money. When religion is used to bash people over the head it is no longer a good thing. It's an evil thing.

July 30, 2010 at 12:32 pm | [Reply](#)

PauletteB

Ms. Rice obviously has never met a real Christian. I'm a Born Again Christian, and none of her "anti" complaints would apply to me.

July 30, 2010 at 12:32 pm | [Reply](#)

Vixil

I wonder what your congregation would say about you.

July 30, 2010 at 12:34 pm |

doreen

WOW !!!! Someone finally put into words how I believe..

July 30, 2010 at 12:32 pm | [Reply](#)

Georgia

Don't blame her a bit. Organized religion is a disgrace for the most part.

July 30, 2010 at 12:33 pm | [Reply](#)

Vixil

Christianity, the only army that shoots it's wounded.

July 30, 2010 at 12:33 pm | [Reply](#)

LouAz

Onward christian soldiers !

July 30, 2010 at 12:39 pm | [Reply](#)

luckyLindy

It sounds to me like Anne thinks being a follower of Christ is some sort of social club.

July 30, 2010 at 12:33 pm | [Reply](#)

ONE day at a time

LP, Sooner than later you will realize how wrong you were. All signs the end is near are out there.

The global economy is a total failure,

increase in violence is here,

false religions are rampant,

people drawing away from God and showing no respect to God everywhere.

Big corporation contaminating earth

religious leaders not leading properly or warning people of what is ahead

Nations in peril not knowing the way out.

I understand all your frustrations, but you are not looking in the right place for the right answer.

July 30, 2010 at 12:33 pm | [Reply](#)

Vixil

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

July 30, 2010 at 12:35 pm | [Reply](#)

Karl

Really ? You believe its the end ? Awesome.. please will to me and my future generations everything you and your like minded friends/family , have.

Thank you

Karl

July 30, 2010 at 12:39 pm | [Reply](#)

Steve

Religion is one of the two reasons that the #%&\$ seems to be hitting the fan in the first place. The other being capitalism.

It's a cause, not a solution. Most of the world's problems are either rich countries trying to get richer or religious countries trying to (violently) push their views on us all.

July 30, 2010 at 12:41 pm | [Reply](#)

One at a time

There's no DOOM day for earth... how about cleaning the house and get rid of the ones causing all the problems? Or you

people believe that things will continue the way they are, getting worse every day? God's plans to convert the earth in a

Paradise weren't stopped. He just gave time to human kind to try every kind of governments, Democracy, Facism,

COmmunism. All of the them are a total failure because none of them has been able to provide humans what only God

can provide, which is eternal life in a peaceful world.

We were created to live for ever, if not have you ever wondered why we don't want to die? Have you ever asked yourself why we love nature, animals, etc?

Jesus promised a new world free of wicked people, and is around the corner.

July 30, 2010 at 12:49 pm | [Reply](#)

Mike

Great quote Liz. I'm an atheist often appalled by organized religion and those that blindly follow it regardless of how ludicrous it may seem. I respect people's choices, but not when religious zealots feel compelled to criticize others unlike them or push their beliefs on non-believers. No place will you find more hatred than in a church, mosque, etc.; irreligion seems to be the most hypocritical mechanism in the world.

July 30, 2010 at 12:34 pm | [Reply](#)

guido

One Nation Under God

July 30, 2010 at 12:34 pm | [Reply](#)

Mary

Shut it!

July 30, 2010 at 12:59 pm | [Reply](#)

Laura

It's about time. I wonder if she will write more vampire novels, or if she is still condemning those.

July 30, 2010 at 12:35 pm | [Reply](#)

Kim S

What Christian can't relate to that! Let's not confuse the message with the messengers :) Christ has been misrepresented and misused by many a Christian, but the Christ is the answer. He will return and He himself asked, "will I find faith on the earth?" Anne, hang onto your God, your Bible and your faith.

July 30, 2010 at 12:35 pm | [Reply](#)

ficheye

Earth, this is GOD.... stop typing and start doing good works. and NO, that doesn't mean killing my other children in Afghanistan. Jesus!! Stop jumping up and down on the couch!!!

July 30, 2010 at 12:36 pm | [Reply](#)

Vixil

You first.

July 30, 2010 at 12:37 pm | |

Wayne

I love how folks with weak moral foundations attempt to justify their waivering actions by nonsense like this.

July 30, 2010 at 12:36 pm | | [Reply](#)

Vixil

I submit there is no love in you. Pull the plank out of your eye.

July 30, 2010 at 12:39 pm | |

LouAz

The trouble with christianity is that jesus left out the answer to the most important question of all humanity . . . What do women want ?

July 30, 2010 at 12:36 pm | | [Reply](#)

Maggie

Before any of you say anything bad about the bible, you should read it for yourself cover to cover several times and see if you will come to the conclusion that it is a fairy tale book. I have read it cover to cover and i have read many other men made books and none of them can come close. The bible is a seller year after year. And I think God for the bible because the idea that I evolved from apes is depressing.

July 30, 2010 at 12:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

robbie h

Well, I understand what she's saying. However, she also seems to be painting all Christians the same color.....which is really no different than painting all Moslems as violent fanatics, all Jews as greedy, etc. It sounds like she may have just been aligning herself to the wrong denomination. There ARE very liberal Christian denominations that embrace ALL people and are less judgmental. To each her own, though, and I'm glad she's found some peace.

July 30, 2010 at 12:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

alex

That's exactly how my wife and I believe! We believe in "Buddy J" but we are sick of the power hungry and the judgmental.

July 30, 2010 at 12:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

Robin Burns

There is a huge difference between being truly Christian and belonging to a fundamentalist Christian movement. Ann is right in one respect- fundamentalists are ruining the association of Christianity with any reasonable mindset. I am staunchly pro-Christ, but similar to being a political independent I consider myself an independent Christian. Understanding what Jesus brought to the world is essential, following modern fundamentalist doctrines is contrary to His message.

July 30, 2010 at 12:38 pm | | [Reply](#)

Taw3123

"Enjoy your time in hell being embarassed for changing your faith to adjust with the times.....idiot"

This very comment reinforces Rice's reasoning and subsequent departure from the fallacy of religion. It is possible to believe in GOD without believing in man's intrepretion of Christ through religion. Religious terrorism needs to be dealt with once and for all, more people have been killed in the name of GOD than any other reason. What the author of the quoted comment proves is the intolerance of religious fanatics with anyone that doesn't maintain the same narrow minded thoughts as they do.

July 30, 2010 at 12:38 pm | | [Reply](#)

Joe R.

Here we go again. Apparently leaving Christianity or confessing to be gay is news, however, the opposite is ignored.

July 30, 2010 at 12:38 pm | | [Reply](#)

Vixil

Joe, we always suspected.

July 30, 2010 at 12:42 pm | |

SueW

I was the daughter of agnostic parents and ended up converting to Catholicism. There is a lot of misunderstanding about the Catholic church. We do not diss gays but do not allow intercourse outside of marriage – that's according to the Bible. As for leaving the church due to it being pro life, there have been many more who have CONVERTED to Catholicism because of the respect for ALL human life from conception to natural death. Also to note: because she leaves now (Anne Rice) doesn't mean she might not return. Most spiritual paths are not in a straight line.

July 30, 2010 at 12:38 pm | | [Reply](#)

LouAz

Tell us about the little boys.

July 30, 2010 at 12:43 pm | |

zack chease

More power to her.

July 30, 2010 at 12:38 pm | | [Reply](#)

Patty

Quitting Christianity is close to quitting on Jesus. The Bible teaches that The Church is "the body of Christ" and Jesus is the "head of the body." Jesus himself is loving and kind to us no matter how imperfect we are, no matter what our opinions are. The Truth is Jesus is in Heaven now as our mediator between us and God because we are imperfect and can't approach God the way we are. Jesus doesn't expect us to be perfect nor our opinions. As the race of man we are busted and broken and we cannot fix ourselves. To quit Christianity is to abandon the mercy of God towards ungodly Christians and Sinners. Now to disagree with other Christians is okay and to disagree with veiwpoints of the Church is okay. Luther disagreed with the Catholic Church and millions of people lost their lives and this is the sad history of the Church. We can disagree with the Church and sad to say the Church isn't always led by the spirit of God, however the Church is still the body of Christ and Jesus is still the head of the body and one day Jesus will come back for his body and we will be one. Stay close to Jesus no matter what

July 30, 2010 at 12:39 pm | | [Reply](#)

LouAz

The bible says none of this. The catholic church says this.

July 30, 2010 at 12:46 pm | |

Vixil

The Bible also calls believers to be good Bereans. Studiers of the word. To achieve the spirit of discernment so as not to be trapped by false teachings.

July 30, 2010 at 12:55 pm | |

Amanda Massenhouser

Christians are sinners saved by grace – not perfect by any means. It is their faith in Christ which defines them as Christians – he bore the penalty for their sins – since they by themselves are unable to live completely righteous lives. There it is where their detractors go wrong – they expect Christians to behave as Christ – which is not always the case. If a Christian truly loves God, he/she will look beyond the faults of their fellow Christians, forgive them and love them anyway – just as Christ did and does. Maybe that is a lesson Anne Rice never learned....

July 30, 2010 at 12:39 pm | | [Reply](#)

Brittany

This absolutely sickens me. This is just another sign of the coming of the Lord. Things just keep getting worse and worse and when people like this are left behind after the rapture of the church, they are going to realize that they didn't live the life that Christ commanded us to live. It's just so sad.

July 30, 2010 at 12:41 pm | | [Reply](#)

Carrie

You are a product of brainwashing. Very sad. God is Love.

July 30, 2010 at 12:48 pm | |

Mike

Brittany,

What about this sickens you. Her decision to walk away from "Christianity" is not the same as walking away from Christ. She states in her comments, "My faith in Christ is central to my life. My conversion from a pessimistic atheist lost in a world I didn't understand, to an optimistic believer in a universe created and sustained by a loving God is crucial to me," Rice wrote. "But following Christ does not mean following His followers. Christ is infinitely more important than Christianity and always will be, no matter what Christianity is, has been or might become."

She is not renouncing her faith, she is walking away from a religion that has been hijacked by legalism, special rights for those who fit a particular mold based on man's interpretation.

She is choosing to follow Christ, but not buy into what Christianity has become.

I, for one, applaud her action and fully expect her to be one of those carried away in the rapture.

July 30, 2010 at 1:12 pm | |

Just another Atheist

All religions are designed to control the the people whom wish to remain ignorant, are afraid of dying, and need a fairytale of an afterlife to live their life. Face it, man is just another animal, and dead is dead.

July 30, 2010 at 12:41 pm | | [Reply](#)

Andy

Religion is set of rules and ceremonies that are set up by mankind. True Christianity is NOT a religion but a faith and a relationship with God. Christ himself was likely the most anti-religious person to have ever dwelled here. All that is required of a man or a woman is faith that Christ became a sacrifice for us no need for anything else including a new rule book.

July 30, 2010 at 12:42 pm | | [Reply](#)

Vixil

Religion is the hook in the jaw of the ass.

July 30, 2010 at 12:44 pm | |

Zortron

There are plenty of Christians that work to flood the West with the refuse of the Third World, in the name of mercy and social justice. She should go fellowship with them.

July 30, 2010 at 12:43 pm | | [Reply](#)

Vixil

Christians, oh yeah, they are the peopole that cut you off and flip you off on the freeway Sunday mornings.

July 30, 2010 at 12:43 pm | | [Reply](#)

LouAz

All the catholics are at mass. The Mexicans can't get their car started. All the jews are in Palm Springs or Miami. Those must be muslims or those terrible athiests that flipped you off. Betcha !

July 30, 2010 at 12:51 pm | |

Karl

Religion.. the worse plague ever known to man.

Oh well, as they say you can fix ugly but you can't fix stupid.

July 30, 2010 at 12:43 pm | | [Reply](#)

Carol

I know exactly what she is talking about, too. These 'Christians' should take on the name 'Bigotians' instead.

July 30, 2010 at 12:45 pm | | [Reply](#)

ChiefOBoB

It seems she is judging an entire faith and the members thereof based on the actions of a small segment. That is HARDLY following Christ. Perhaps, rather than condemning the entirety of Christianity, she should work to fix the areas she feels are a problem.

July 30, 2010 at 12:45 pm | | [Reply](#)

Vixil

And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.

July 30, 2010 at 12:52 pm | |

Frank

Hello...is this what the vast majority of people out there think?...I think so !! Kudos for saying and doing what is in your heart. It takes courage and true pride in oneself to say "enough" hypocrisy. Be there no mistake...churches are a business...often where, to whom, and to what the money from your wallet goes is seldom clear. Many people join and follow lock step large Christian churches in an unconscious effort to sway those pearly gates open for them. More have died in name of religion than for any other reason. Paradoxical and pathetic.

July 30, 2010 at 12:45 pm | | [Reply](#)

Vixil

Religion, opiate to the masses.

July 30, 2010 at 12:45 pm | | [Reply](#)

jeanniel

Why dont you just let the woman do what she wants without judging her – a lot of these posts reinforce what she is talking about....if you're not "with us" there's something wrong with you. It's her life, her call.....none of us can judge her.

July 30, 2010 at 12:47 pm | | [Reply](#)

alex

Thank you!

July 30, 2010 at 1:33 pm | |

Jace

Someone should introduce her to the United Church of Canada.

July 30, 2010 at 12:47 pm | | [Reply](#)

Vixil

"United Church of Canada"

In this church you go to Haven instead of Heaven when you die.

July 30, 2010 at 12:50 pm | |

Evan

People don't like religion because they don't understand it. 'Christianity' is centered on Jesus. The term Christian means 'little Christ' and was used to describe the followers of Jesus because they believed in Him and acted like Him.

Christianity is rooted in love. There are individuals who are self-proclaimed 'Christians' who may be hypocrites or may not be true Christians. But the faulty actions of mis-guided, hypocritical individuals, does not transfer to the fundamentals of Christianity. Just because some 'followers' are misguided and hypocritical does not mean Christianity is, because it's not. And the Church absolutely does have a place in society. Everyone, regardless of your beliefs, needs people to relate to. For the same reasons this is why support groups exist for all kinds of things ranging from addiction/rehab groups, to fitness training classes at gyms. People support each other in their beliefs and actions. The Christian Church exists for the same reason. To encourage and sustain each other in faith, and learn from and follow Jesus Christ.

July 30, 2010 at 12:47 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Anne wouldn't disagree.

July 30, 2010 at 12:49 pm | |

CL

"They went out from us, but they were not really of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out in order that it might be shown that they all are not of us." 1 John 2:19

July 30, 2010 at 12:47 pm | | [Reply](#)

Atul C.

Dear Ann, I am pretty happy that you have decided to get along with your worldly principles rather than Godly. Although, I do believe that christianity as a religion doesn't do anything for you, only the relationship with Jesus Christ does. Having said that I do not think as per the Bible that we can embrace sinful nature. I am not telling you to hate those people but you cannot love sin.

July 30, 2010 at 12:47 pm | | [Reply](#)

kic

She's confused...she admits she has a personal relationship with Christ and this is first and foremost. Followers of Christ are and were (biblically) called 'Christians'. She is putting too much emphasis on what other people are doing/saying. Her walk/journey with the Lord should be her own. If you go look, they had this same issues early on in the church... only God is perfect, people are not. And those of you who think you have 'no religion'... you do. You have church of 'Money', 'Job', 'Self', or whatever...Atheism is impossible.. you WILL make a God out of something if not the Lord.

July 30, 2010 at 12:48 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

KLC, she's not confused—you are, regarding her position. Frankly, she's in agreement with you. You've written, for instance, that "her walk/journey with the Lord should be her own." Isn't that precisely the move she's making? She's expressed, above all, frustration with the community of Christians she's dealt with, and has elected to seek out God and Christ in a more personal, private means.

July 30, 2010 at 12:51 pm | |

Steve

If there is a god, he's far from perfect considering what he supposedly created. Maybe he should have put more than 6 days work into it.

July 30, 2010 at 12:52 pm | |

GH

Hmmmm...I had no idea she was Christian.

July 30, 2010 at 12:49 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

She was a self-described atheist for many years, and later an agnostic—at some point, maybe 6 or 7 years ago, she declared that she had experienced a personal change in herself and was becoming a full-blown Christian. She wrote a series of novels about the life of Jesus.

July 30, 2010 at 12:53 pm | |

CW

When will people understand that Catholicism and "Christianity" are not synonymous. The "Church" does not belong to Catholics, it belongs to Christ.

July 30, 2010 at 12:49 pm | | [Reply](#)

Truth

Islam is the only way, if she is looking for truth. Prophet Jesus (pbuh) would come back to this world as a Muslim also. (saying of prophet Mohammad (pbuh)

July 30, 2010 at 12:49 pm | | [Reply](#)

publius enigma

The idea that she was trying to believe makes no logical sense. You cant force yourself to believe something.

July 30, 2010 at 12:50 pm | | [Reply](#)

m.a. sample

"Jesus was all right, but his disciples were thick and ordinary. It's them twisting it that ruins it for me." – john lennon. ...and he is right, there is nothing that is remotely christian about the modern american christian cult.

July 30, 2010 at 12:50 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mark

As I believe Gandi said; "I love your Christ, I do not like your Christians. Your Christians are so unlike your Christ."

July 30, 2010 at 12:51 pm | | [Reply](#)

Milky

Ghandi is dead..Jesus is not. You won't have to stand before Ghandi on judgement day, just remember that.

July 30, 2010 at 12:57 pm | |

JFK

Milky, Thats not very Christ-like of you! Question is, will God judge you for judging others. Its not YOUR job! So mind your own business and live your own life.

July 30, 2010 at 1:01 pm | |

Mikel

Thanks, Milky, for once again making Ghandi's point. (While simultaneously MISSING it).

July 30, 2010 at 1:01 pm | |

Jeremy

Christ wasn't ashamed to call out sinners, nor was he wasn't ashamed to forgive them and offer repentance. Poeple confuse his forgiveness with acceptance of sin. We can be tolerant and loving of others who live different lifestyles, but I'm sorry, at the end of the day I'm not going to say they are right just because they mis-understood what Christ was all about.

July 30, 2010 at 12:51 pm | | [Reply](#)

BMR

To each his own.

July 30, 2010 at 12:51 pm | | [Reply](#)

Born Again Scientist

She seems to be confusing Christianity with the extremists on the Christian Right and the Vatican. Although I feel I've moved beyond the need to believe in Santa Claus, divine beings and the Easter Bunny, there is certainly great merit in the teachings of Jesus. On the other hand, many of the interpretations over the last couple of millenia leave a lot to be desired.

Keeping the government and religion separate was a good idea at the founding of the Republic, and it's a good idea now.

July 30, 2010 at 12:51 pm | | [Reply](#)

Dave

Hurray for Ms. Rice, realizing she cannot live a lie.

July 30, 2010 at 12:51 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mike Rhode Island

You can't just pick and choose which of Christ's teachings and doctrines that you want and forget the rest and then still call yourself Christian. Read and study what He said and did in the Bible and you must come to the conclusion that there are many "professing" Christians, but few "true" Christians.

July 30, 2010 at 12:52 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

You'll forgive me for noting how typically "Christian" your language is: exclusive and exclusionary in an inherent sense. I'd argue that your reasoning is misguidedly qualitative. What you're most accurately arguing, after all, is that many aren't "good" Christians, according to your personal standards, in turn based, of course, upon your personal interpretation of the texts. If reality illustrates anything at all (that is, the vast myriad of sects, divisions, teachings and practices associated with the Bible over 2,000 years), it's that your claim to the singular and correct standard is a false one.

July 30, 2010 at 12:58 pm | |

Blah Blah Blah

Nice Mikel - you could've said that in a sentence or two and sounded like a pretentious p*r!*c*k

July 30, 2010 at 1:04 pm | |

Cher

Anne says...."But following Christ does not mean following His followers. Christ is infinitely more important than Christianity and always will be, no matter what Christianity is, has been or might become."....

Whatever does she mean – if you don't follow the individuals who followed Christ, then what are you following? Christ is Christianity. I don't know what "Christianity" she is talking about. She just does not want to take a stand. Sorry, Ann, but I think you are confused and hanging around the wrong people.....

July 30, 2010 at 12:52 pm | | [Reply](#)

JFK

I think her message is about being Christ-like, not a Christian. Man has interfered with the message and delivery so much that being a Christian today is not being Christ-like at all.

July 30, 2010 at 12:57 pm | |

Allen

Religion is mans effort to reach God. True Christianity or Christ followers, is God reaching down to man. I take the latter of the 2 since God is so much more reliable than any man.

July 30, 2010 at 12:52 pm | | [Reply](#)

Enigma

Wow so much righteous indignation for something that isn't our decision! Anne's decision to go public with this had to have been difficult and I will not question her reason for doing so. I merely wish her luck in finding what she needs to go forward with her faith in God and Jesus. I have many bibles in my home and not one says the same beyond one concrete item that happens to have been written in stone: The Ten Commandments. Sadly, we don't have the original of them, nor of any original copy of the bible, the one that says 'first edition, first printing 1 of...'. Religions biggest problems began with heresay and with the interpretations for translations.

Go with your heart people, be good, kind, considerate, generous, helpful, loving and faithful. Do your very best every day and try not to give up on yourself, your family or your faith.

These are the things that matter.

July 30, 2010 at 12:52 pm | | [Reply](#)

Vixil

Puzzle?

Are you sure it isn't Enema?

July 30, 2010 at 1:09 pm | |

SoCalDave727

Atheism is a true expression of freedom. Free yourself!

July 30, 2010 at 12:52 pm | | [Reply](#)

JFK

Good for her! Religion does nothing to help the world. It is used for hate, anger, and even wars. The good thing she realizes is that you can still love God and not be in a church! And its okay too!!

July 30, 2010 at 12:53 pm | | [Reply](#)

Petey

I don't really understand what she's leaving and what she isn't, or why I should want to know. She disclaims, "if you care," but inherent that disclaimer is the assumption that some people will. Why? It all sounds like a shoddily calculated publicity grab.

On a related topic, I'd like to announce that I am leaving the bathroom. It's not that I don't still poop. I just don't want to associate with people who poop. And I want everyone to know about it, in case they care.

July 30, 2010 at 12:53 pm | | [Reply](#)

Lilarose in Bandon, Oregon

Anne, I agree with many similar statements on this blog that you have not discounted the beliefs, you have denounced those who profess to believe but are not honest believers and who do not practice their beliefs based on Christ's teachings. You and I corresponded about my concern for my own beliefs or lack thereof, and I think you are now where I was at that time. Thanks for speaking out.

July 30, 2010 at 12:53 pm | | [Reply](#)

Me_

She finally came to her senses.

July 30, 2010 at 12:53 pm | | [Reply](#)

BonelessChuck

Obviously she is a mixed up woman, first she does then she doesn't, and why do we need a public announcement ? books not selling well Anne. I know your last "Angel" book left a lot to be desired.

July 30, 2010 at 12:53 pm | | [Reply](#)

pc

Keep your eyes on God and not on man. It's through faith that you believe and discern the word of God.

July 30, 2010 at 12:53 pm | | [Reply](#)

Garfunkel

Funny how oppinionated and atheus most of you are and I bet don't even opened a Bible.

July 30, 2010 at 12:54 pm | | [Reply](#)

Gino

Glad she realizes how crazie fundies are and is open and NOT "anti-gay,anti-feminist,anti-science and anti-Democrat." Being an atheist myself-i say whatever makes one happy, go for it. BUT i do believe one can be as happy not believing . i have never met any decent moral ethical loving people in my life than my fellow Atheist. BE GOOD NOW—who needs fairy tale to keeping one going.If Ann Rice made the move in saying i am NOT a Christian-but a follower of Christ.

Whatever--i still want to spaghetti Monster to give me more PASTA!

July 30, 2010 at 12:54 pm | | [Reply](#)

downinfront

Isn't it about time for Christianity 2.0?

July 30, 2010 at 12:54 pm | | [Reply](#)

Charlie Ocean

I have NO DOUBT that Jesus of Nazareth existed. I would LOVE to sit around with the apostles and Jesus and share a glass of wine and some bread and get his insight on what is going on.

I'm pretty sure that Jesus (the man) would be appalled at what his message has been reduced to...guys on TV begging for money, child molesting priests, wars, etc.

Oh, by the way, I'm pretty sure Mohammed wouldn't be really happy at the way things are turning out these days. I'd like to hang out with him for a few days as well.

It's not the message....it's the messenger, both seem to be men of peace and common sense. The message just somehow seems to get lost and complicated in the "passing down,"

I don't know that Apalachian snake handlers are any different than the Taliban in their interpretation of scripture, which I

always thought (Koran and New Testament) was a message of hope, love and togetherness,
I was in New York a few months ago and went to the Hard Rock Cafe and above the kitchen there's a big sign that says
"LOVE ALL FEED ALL."

I think those four words pretty much sums the whole thing up.
Hug your children , wife, girlfriend or lover tonight and pass it along.
"Shower the people you love with love".....James Taylor

See ya from the still beautiful Gulf Coast beaches.

July 30, 2010 at 12:55 pm | [Reply](#)

JL

I have to laugh at this whole dialogue. We embrace being open minded and loving everyone in our society, unless your belief system requires that you be more modest. MOST Christians are not hatemongers who do nothing all day but spew venom. And yet, the liberal thinkers seem to do a lot of stereotyping, and lumping people together. Hmm... So we can apply the liberal mentality, and every politically correct agenda has to be swallowed by everyone. (DRINK the fruit juice, America) I CHOOSE daily to do what I believe is best, treating those around me with common courtesy and respect until you show me you are not worthy of it. Seems there are several here simply not worthy.

July 30, 2010 at 12:55 pm | [Reply](#)

Vixil

Church is a social network with a bend on spritual facism. It is not the word of God that pushes people away, it is the politics that push people away.

July 30, 2010 at 1:05 pm | |

JJ

I suppose next she will become a Scientologist

July 30, 2010 at 12:55 pm | [Reply](#)

Jon

Welp. Who saw this coming? (raises hand)

July 30, 2010 at 12:55 pm | [Reply](#)

Tess Allen

Anne has it wrong. You don't have to be ""anti-gay," "anti-feminist," "anti-science" and "anti-Democrat." to be a Christian. A LOT of us are not. Don't be fooled by the few angry vocal people. It is the same mistake people make with politics painting parties by their most fringe elements.

And it is not "the Church" either it is some churches. Many of us Christians feel the responsibly to teach love and tolerance outside and INSIDE the church. Don't give up Anne. Our jobs and your views are more needed than ever.

July 30, 2010 at 12:55 pm | [Reply](#)

Vixil

The first church did not call itself Christians. The towns people called the first church Christians/Little Christs because of the way they treated eachother. I submit that the Church as a whole is nowhere near this model today. What ever happened to Promise Keepers?

July 30, 2010 at 1:00 pm | |

Ignorant humans

Atheist are a joke. Even the Devil believes God exist!

July 30, 2010 at 12:55 pm | [Reply](#)

portalpunk

yes little grasshopper, now run off and play with Santa, the easterbunny and all your other made up friends.

July 30, 2010 at 12:58 pm | |

Steve

We don't believe in the devil either so who cares what he believes...

July 30, 2010 at 1:01 pm | |

Mankera

and every one claims they love Jesus but they are not familiar with his teachings. Very shallow statements about bron again, or Jesus this or that. I challenge you Christians to quote form the Bible. OOps, you are embarrassed of even using the Bible

July 30, 2010 at 1:01 pm | |

whoaaa

love her.

July 30, 2010 at 12:55 pm | [Reply](#)

Kristi

I believe it says " find your own salvation..."

There are lots of people who worship Christ and do not attend a church. Still, I believe that since her daughter died she has tried to fill up the void with a "magic bullet" so to speak and finds nothing because it doesn't meet her standards.

July 30, 2010 at 12:55 pm | [Reply](#)

Beebop

Had to come to the same decision – my 'membership' in organized religion made me a silent partner to evil, and I simply could not continue without giving up Jesus' true teachings. The crazier and more political churches become, the more members they force into a crisis of conscience. That makes more people leave, which takes the voice of sanity and the true spirit of love from the organizations. And around and around it goes.

I applaud Ms. Rice for her honesty and her courage. She's gonna be crucified for this by those who were thrilled to have her on Team So-Called Christian for so long.

July 30, 2010 at 12:56 pm | [Reply](#)

Casey

I can identify with Ms. Rice. I have always loved Jesus but I have a hell of a time with Christianity and Christians. I'll just stick to the old New Age cliché-I'm not religious;I'm spiritual.

July 30, 2010 at 12:56 pm | [Reply](#)

Harry

Anne,

The Muslim world welcomes you, now strap this explosive vest on and walk on a bus.

July 30, 2010 at 12:56 pm | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Nonsensical, Irrelevant and Ultimately Stupid Post of the Day award. Also, I've declared you runner-up for the Not-So-Christian-Christian-Award.

(Islamic terrorism? Seriously? What a loser, kid.)

July 30, 2010 at 1:04 pm |

Kriss

To Cathy–

Christ's way was to embrace everyone. Christians today are supposed to be Christ-like. That is what the term Christian means. Anne Rice is just trying to be the best Christ-like figure she can.

July 30, 2010 at 12:56 pm | [Reply](#)

zalisa

Amen, sister!!!!

July 30, 2010 at 12:56 pm | [Reply](#)

enlightened

Go Anne!! I am right there with you: I left organized religion long ago (raised Catholic, have attended other Protestant churches), but my head and heart were aligned and I just could not accept the anti-gay, anti-feminist hypocrisy of most churches. You can be a good, moral person without religion.

July 30, 2010 at 12:56 pm | [Reply](#)

aCE

When its all said and done it will be our Faith and belief in Christ that will stand. A lot of people claim to believe in a God, but their actions toward his people and children reveal something different. I'm not saying that I agree with this very public stand because it may serve as discouragement to those who seek God's face. All in all its a personal thing anyway.

July 30, 2010 at 12:57 pm | [Reply](#)

Pre-school kid

I'm leaving pre-school because they're mean and make me do things!

July 30, 2010 at 12:57 pm | [Reply](#)

jerry

God will not quit her..... That said, why is this newsworthy.....

July 30, 2010 at 12:57 pm | [Reply](#)

shadtree

I know exactly what she is saying, I have also tried to fit in with the "Christians" here in the south, but you cannot be a Democrat or express freedoms for gays, or womens rights and be a part of this group...I am now a proud Unitarian and extremely happy

July 30, 2010 at 12:57 pm | [Reply](#)

harry

Christians are against womens rights, your nuts. Maybe the right to kill a baby, thats what thier against.

July 30, 2010 at 1:03 pm |

usm92

you hit the nail on the head! and most of the rednecks around here knock the "anti"

July 30, 2010 at 1:04 pm |

Wakari mas ka

Secure the borders!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Just realized that American not only hate foreigners, they hate everything spiritual too!!

July 30, 2010 at 12:58 pm | [Reply](#)

Monkeyshines

This is news? I'm Christianity won't miss her, anymore than they missed me when I determined religion is a crock of BS.

July 30, 2010 at 12:58 pm | [Reply](#)

Uwe P.

Yes, Jesus was not a "CHRISTIAN" he was a "LIBERAL". Living the words he spoke.

Talking about Love, showing love and understanding. Forgiving those who did not believe in Him. Being his brother's keeper. He did not force Rome to make laws, neither did he hate the people that hated him.

Anne, I agree with you completely. Organized religion has become severely corrupted.

One man decided which books would go in the Bible and others interpreted the Bible to enrich themselves.

July 30, 2010 at 12:58 pm | [Reply](#)

David

You are right we do not follow others. We follow (means we are disciplined to his teachings). We are instructed to , or better yet, we were instructed how to love and forgive others. I know it's contradictory to how we think, react, etc. but the new nature promised by Him makes possible. Do you believe ?

July 30, 2010 at 12:59 pm | [Reply](#)

kole

question: if Christ died for the church wouldn't that mean that the church is something to be sought in a life that follows Christ? of course the church is made of fallen people, and some church are so off the straight and narrow, but to fully devoid and reject the "church" isn't right either. there must be some kind of seeking by a follower of Christ to interject into the church (the body – Christ's teaching on the hands and feet of believers). thoughts?

July 30, 2010 at 12:59 pm | [Reply](#)

Mike Rhode Isalnd

Christ said I will build my CHURCH, not churches. We are admonished to be one in faith and doctrine speaking the same things. There is one true church or Christ lied.

July 30, 2010 at 2:44 pm |

Lynda

Yes, I left "The Church" because I too, didn't particularly care for their idea of politics. It disturbs me that women aren't allowed to be ministers, when we could minister best to women than men can. I believe in Feminism, the right to be and I shall defend the idea with my life. I refuse to believe that women were created to be under the foot of a man. We are here to stand beside a man, not behind him in a subservient manner. I believe after having served in the military, doing exactly a man's job in combat support, I may not be as strong as a man, but I can do the same job as a man. If people wish to be gay, whether it is by genetics or choice, then so be it. It's not up to me to judge them. I don't particularly like the "campy" act, but I am not here to judge. Per John Lennon – Let it be! I am now Pagan, and I like it this way. I'm also a minister and a High Priestess. It's the best path for me. Yes, I still believe Jesus came to us to save us from ourselves, learning how to live with our friends and neighbors – Love thy neighbor as thy self. But I have yet to see this in the Christian Church.

July 30, 2010 at 12:59 pm | | [Reply](#)

dsallen

If one claims to love Christ but hates his church, there is a serious disconnect somewhere.

July 30, 2010 at 12:59 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jess

She hasn't found the right church. It's not an easy task, but my husband and I found one that is very liberal with like-minded ideas of what Christianity is. We have several pastors at our church, one lesbian and one gay. In our church to be Christian is to love everyone and, of course, love Christ. I don't think she understands that she can stay a Christian and have your beliefs and not have to go to a church. She shouldn't "quit Christianity", that's worded wrong in my opinion.

July 30, 2010 at 12:59 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

She did word it clumsily, for an author.

That said, her point is sound: she has devised a personal strategy for pursuing God, and it involves not contending with a church community. You're absolutely right, Jess: there are Christian churches with liberal atmospheres and socially tolerant congregations. I don't think it's right to hold it against any believer, though, for seeking their own, personalized strategy for communing with God.

July 30, 2010 at 1:07 pm | |

ken

I pity all the people who believe that they are Christians, because you do not even fathom what religion is all about. It is not your fault, give your immature religion a few more millennia and maybe then you will figure it out. If you have not killed each other by then, that is.

July 30, 2010 at 1:00 pm | | [Reply](#)

Monkeyshines

This is news? I'm sure Christianity won't miss her, anymore than they missed me back when I determined religion is a crock of BS and told my mother I refuse to attend church.

July 30, 2010 at 1:00 pm | | [Reply](#)

Anonymous

While I really don't give a ding dang donkey what religion she is or not. Her comment about anti stuff isn't even true. No one says you have to be anti science anti feminism or anti democrat you don't have to be those things you can be a new age christian so to speak. Follow the main rules etc But I don't even think it says any of those anti's in the Bible I don't know not Christian

July 30, 2010 at 1:00 pm | | [Reply](#)

Erik

Good for her and I hope she goes farther. I think all religion, e.g., Christianity, Islam, etc., belongs to the Dark Ages. Actually, I'm an anti-theist, i.e., against religion because it's done more harm than good over the millennia, subjugates its own people, elevates its believers over others, and so forth. Darwinism slaughters it and I'm optimistic about the continuing evolution of society.

July 30, 2010 at 1:00 pm | | [Reply](#)

OReviewer

I agree with what Ms Rice wrote but why should it be in the news. Does her celebrityhood make it news?

July 30, 2010 at 1:00 pm | | [Reply](#)

Dlst

So far so good—now 2 more steps to real-world salvation:

- 1) resume pessimistic atheism
- 2) achieve optimistic atheism

Best of luck.

July 30, 2010 at 1:00 pm | | [Reply](#)

B

all of you sound like pompous asses... really... you ALL do... spouting your reasons as to why ONE woman just wanted to leave a faith? this is HER decision. let her have it, leave her alone in it. someone reported on it and took a privacy away because she is a public figure. whether she allowed that to happen or not... big deal. shut up. you are no better than she is whether you are a christian or an atheist.

July 30, 2010 at 1:00 pm | | [Reply](#)

very interesting

Interesting point of view which unfortunately makes sense. One could argue the only thing wrong with Christianity is Christians.

July 30, 2010 at 1:01 pm | | [Reply](#)

scott

True Christians must follow Jesus's teachings.... like some of you I became disappointed in religion and it was because everyone wanted to do what was good for them and not what was good to God.... Jesus taught about God's kingdom not man's and the only religion that follows his true teachings today are Jehovah Witnesses.... next time they come to your door why not talk to them instead of slamming the door on them... I did and now my eyes are open to all the false teachings that all the other religions allowed in order to get more money in their pockets. They are the only ones

that truly love their neighbors throughout the world not just in their local congregations.

July 30, 2010 at 1:01 pm | | [Reply](#)

David

I know when I got married if you would of spoken badly about my bride it would not of been very good for you.

Im very jealous (we are the apple of his eye).

July 30, 2010 at 1:01 pm | | [Reply](#)

Anthony

Quitting the church without quitting belief in the doctrine is stupid and hypocritical. The "Church" and the "Religious", have the same books, the same rules, the same rewards and the same threats of torture after death. The good thing is that she has taken a step in the right direction away from religious faith. De-Brainwashing is a series of these steps.... so good for her that she has taken the first one even if she is still clinging on to the basic nonsense of Jesus as a Scapegoat and Savior.

July 30, 2010 at 1:01 pm | | [Reply](#)

Ed Waters

Eric Hoffer made the comment "Christ was not a Christian" If you chew on that for a while, I think you'll get what she's talking about.

July 30, 2010 at 1:02 pm | | [Reply](#)

david

Does this mean she no longer believes in the Easter Bunny, Santa Claus and the other figments of imagination created by MAN? Sorry i forgot those things are fake, and some old guy living in outerspace somewhere judging me on if I eat a hamburger on Fridays is real.

July 30, 2010 at 1:02 pm | | [Reply](#)

VeeZee

"quarrelsome, hostile, disputatious, and deservedly infamous group".

And she's joining the democrats? LOL!

July 30, 2010 at 1:03 pm | | [Reply](#)

Dave H

If god wanted a 1000 religions ...he's a success

If she wanted one true religion... she's a failure

July 30, 2010 at 1:03 pm | | [Reply](#)

cyn

I understand where she is coming from, I too dont believe in the Christianity ways. I hope that Christians dont take too much offense. But it just doesnt make sense all the hostility and quarrelsome behaviour of Christianity. I know there is a powerful source and we can attain that force within us to be what ever or who ever we can be..

July 30, 2010 at 1:04 pm | | [Reply](#)

Herb

Problem: If you are a follower of Jesus Christ, you are admonished not to "forsake the gathering together of the saints". This is scripture.

The love Jesus taught is not acceptance of everyone's immorality. Acceptance of everyone, yes. But there must be a stand against the immorality. If that means I don't vote for Democrats because they, according to the party platform, are pro-abortion and pro-gay marriage, then I don't vote for them and I, if called, campaign against them.

For those who think you can live a moral life without Jesus... and yes, I think you can be a good person in my eyes without Jesus, but... who defines that? Who decides what's moral? Government? Who?

For those who say "once you accept Jesus you are always saved", that just isn't biblical. Nothing can pluck you out of His hand... but He never said you couldn't jump out.

As for those who said that church leaders are telling people to kill people... I've been in a lot of churches. I am not going to say that has never happened... but this isn't Islam... Jesus didn't come close to saying this, and I have never been in a church where it was said...

July 30, 2010 at 1:04 pm | | [Reply](#)

angel

She sold books as a pessimistic atheist and probably determined that she was missing a large sales market, thus adjusted her marketing strategy to include the christian buyers. She is now making another strategic adjustment, to corral all the debaters in one market. She'll be coming out with a new book soon. Is she atheist or is she christian? God only knows. One thing I'm certain of, she's a smart business woman.

July 30, 2010 at 1:05 pm | | [Reply](#)

Dave

The political face of Christianity has become prowar, progun, and devoid of love for the poor and lacking in tolerance. I hope that this trend passes, before more nice people feel that they can't be associated with the church

July 30, 2010 at 1:06 pm | | [Reply](#)

Ace

I must say this is the most civil discussion on religion ever on the CNN site... We must remember in our own personal walk with God that we cannot hide what gives us so much joy and peace in the corners of our hearts. We should share it with others. We have to share it in the way we treat our fellow man and tell them about God's love.

July 30, 2010 at 1:06 pm | | [Reply](#)

Thomas Bodetti

I think it is impossible to be a real christian, and write books about satan and the dark art of witch craft, she was a pretender and probably always will be

July 30, 2010 at 1:06 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

First off, Thomas, thank you for illustrating the broad, welcoming tent of the Lord. You've proven Anne so wrong in her distaste of a judgmental, intolerant community.

Secondly, for the record, when she claimed to have discovered Christ, she announced a rejection of the nihilistic themes in her previous work, and declared that all her future writings would aim to glorify God.

Don't let that fact interfere with your warm, accepting perspective of her, though.

July 30, 2010 at 1:11 pm | |

arthur

As a follower of the only true and LIVING GOD, LORD N SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST my heart grieves for u ANNE, because it is obvious that u are confused or simply never understood that CHRIST IS CHRISTIANITY[He is the author thereof];unfortunately 'christianity practiced ' is not always in line with HIS teachings. Blame not yourself,as the abundance of fslse teachers/followers have sugar coated 'the word 'and lived hypocritically for decades confusing the whole world and misrepresenting GOD. But no one said the world was perfect;so if u wish to experience joy ,peace and the promise of eternal life ,profess ROMANS 10:9,HUMBLE YOURSELF ,POUR OUT UR HEART TO GOD and HE will show u the WAY. May the Lord have mercy on you and give you peace!!

July 30, 2010 at 2:16 pm | |

aelric

Rice seems to have bought into secular stereotypes of Christianity, which is sad. There are followers of Christ who advocate social and political opinions across the spectrum. What is true is that you cannot have Christ without having the "body of Christ" – the Church. We are not called to agree with everything our fellow Christians believe or practice, but we are called to love them. Rice may think that she is losing nothing by abandoning the church, but I have lived among believers my whole life, and I can assure her that she is losing a great deal.

July 30, 2010 at 1:06 pm | | [Reply](#)

Shirley

Dear Ann,

Amen to that. I always say "Judge not lest ye be judged". Now where did I read that. LOL No, seriously, I am with you 100%. People do not realize that part of God's wish for us and what he expects from us is the same thing. Follow the 10 commandments and you just about have it all. He created us all as equals. How sad for the whole world. I would not be surprised if he spent most of his day being so sad and disappointed with us. Look at all he gave us and how most of us we squander it. Most people don't get it. It isn't how much money you make, what social station you have achieved, but how you treat you fellow human beings and the rest of God's creatures for that matter. God help us all.

July 30, 2010 at 1:07 pm | | [Reply](#)

johnnypro

Don't let the door hit you on the way out Ann....good riddance.

July 30, 2010 at 1:07 pm | | [Reply](#)

Satan

Ah, success, success, my plan worked. (rubs hands greedily together while chuckling) Soon enough Anne will be penning some delightful new yarns concerning all the doings of my earthbound minions, Jolly good! (gives thumbs up, swishes bifurcated tail in twirls of evil delight)

July 30, 2010 at 1:07 pm | | [Reply](#)

God

Satan, how many times do I have to say it: don't count your chickens before they hatch. Especially the ones you keep in that roost where you crudely painted the word 'evil roost' over the door. Christ!

July 30, 2010 at 1:11 pm | |

Ace

Dude, you are already defeated!!!! Stay in your lane and under my feet!!!!

July 30, 2010 at 1:23 pm | |

Satan

Ace, please return Gene's phone calls. I think he's serious and Kiss was never the same without you.

July 30, 2010 at 1:29 pm | |

God

Ace, how can I be defeated? I'm the Almighty for chrissakes. Ah, I can't resist saying 'for chrissakes'. Who says I can't make jokes about my own flesh and spirit? He was my son, y'know. IS my son, I mean. Sorry.

July 30, 2010 at 1:32 pm | |

God

But Ace, I do have to admit that the one of the few things that I agree wholeheartedly with Satan is that Kiss was a much better band with you in it. Definitely one of our favorites. (various 'hosannas' heard in the background)

July 30, 2010 at 1:38 pm | |

gunther tooty

FAVORITE QUOTE: When asked if he believed in Jesus Christ, Mahatma Gandhi replied, "Absolutely! It's Christians I don't believe in!!!

FAVORITE BUMPER STICKER: "God, protect me from your followers!".

July 30, 2010 at 1:07 pm | | [Reply](#)

Steven

Heres a thought, who cares!! i love how people get so wrapped up in celeb life styles that they loose complete track of their own.

July 30, 2010 at 1:07 pm | | [Reply](#)

MysteriousSeth

When I chose salvation through Jesus I knew the end result wasn't this world. This is not it. When Jesus returns and that will be very soon, that will be it. I honor Ms Rice for being honest and candid. Everything mentioned is biblical. Jesus talked about how the cares of this Life, persecutions from the world can sniff us out. Jesus said that he did not come to unite but to divide , wheat from tares, goats from sheep. We are to love everyone but hate sin, and folks, before 1963 sodomy was on the books of every state, a crime, a sin. Why does God allow Satan to be the Prince of the power fhe Air, to give you, me, Ms Rice, and everyone the gift -Free wil, choice, love -Faith in something unseen.

Believe me when you read this (Jesus will return very soon, 90 percent chance in your Lifetime). Oh yes, that's right, we are supposed to know the season, not the hour. God Bless

July 30, 2010 at 1:07 pm | | [Reply](#)

Frank

She needs a better group of friends!

July 30, 2010 at 1:07 pm | | [Reply](#)

mattmchugh

Anne Rice quits Christianity. A deeply personal decision based on conscience? Or a headline-grabbing ploy to promote the coming third installment of her "Christ the Lord" books? Hmm... I wonder? Do people generally draft press releases to announce their deeply personal decisions?

July 30, 2010 at 1:07 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mataus

She must have been a lazy atheist and not a skeptic. I love these conversion stories from "pessimistic atheist" to Christian. Might as well pray to Zeus because basically they are one in the same, narcissistic bronze aged sky gods invented by man. These so-called atheist who convert obviously didn't even examine why they didn't believe to begin with.

July 30, 2010 at 1:08 pm | | [Reply](#)

Erik

Exactly. I'm an atheist and optimistic. I'm also anti-theist because religion because it's done more harm than good over the millenia, subjugates its own people, elevates its believers over others, and so forth. Darwinism slaughters religion.

July 30, 2010 at 1:13 pm | |

Keri Mur

I thought this was interesting. It is sad so many people think the same thing about organized religion, but it is true.

July 30, 2010 at 1:08 pm | | [Reply](#)

Too Much News

What will the next article be about? Her BM's? Give me a break, who cares what this pretentious toad thinks!

July 30, 2010 at 1:08 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Out of hundreds of available articles on CNN, you elected to read and comment on this one. You care.

July 30, 2010 at 1:13 pm | |

Too Much News

The headline is unavoidable - on the front page of CNN almost dead center! If this were in the entertainment section I would have never sniffed it. Regarding the fact that I commented – yes, I'm a corporate time-stealing weasel!

July 30, 2010 at 1:30 pm | |

CS0210

Amen to that sister! Why stay with a group of people that are the exact opposite of what they say they are. They hate themselves, they hate anyone that is not like them, and they hate everyone that disagrees with them, in short they simply hate. Why one insists on calling themselves Christian but loathes all that Christ and God has given is beyond comprehension to me.

July 30, 2010 at 1:09 pm | | [Reply](#)

Raj

If only someone said – follow God. Whether you follow Christ or Bible or Koran does not matter.

July 30, 2010 at 1:10 pm | | [Reply](#)

Ace

As a Christian that just doesn't fit what I believe.

July 30, 2010 at 1:14 pm | |

Michael Daily

While I'd rather she go all the way and ditch Christ along with Christianity, I admire her for struggling deeply with the issues. Nonetheless part of true "spiritual maturity" is accepting there is no guarantee of a happy ending to your life, that there is no god taking care of you. Sure, breaking these religious attachments and comforting illusions is painful, but once you do you have liberated a lot of energy to spend on making the best of life emotionally that is actually possible.

July 30, 2010 at 1:10 pm | | [Reply](#)

Nikki

Go, Anne! Christ is in each of us that believes, not just in some building...

July 30, 2010 at 1:10 pm | | [Reply](#)

Thoroughbred10

Exquisite! I too went through a church period several years back after a(n) lengthy conversion/evolution. I moved into and out of the church. Recently, I tried returning and decided on Unity, perhaps the most inclusive, non-judgmental denomination that is considered a Christian Doctrine. Even with Unity, I could not find myself to be part of that kind of organized structure. I understand exactly where Anne Rice is.

July 30, 2010 at 1:11 pm | | [Reply](#)

SAM

"Goodness= God" just practice only good things –we will be saved. Do not have to be in any religion to be saved.

July 30, 2010 at 1:11 pm | | [Reply](#)

mark

americans are so lame!

July 30, 2010 at 1:11 pm | | [Reply](#)

HAHA

Yes we are, for well over 200 years we have been the lamest Champions of the World. It's hard to imagine how lame everyone else must be in they can't topple us. If we sent your country some more aid would it make you feel better?

July 30, 2010 at 1:17 pm | |

Vixil

Mark?

Hair lip Dog?

July 30, 2010 at 1:28 pm | |

Bubafette

Christianity is a belief. If she's still believes in Christ she is still Christian. I don't particularly like church. I think you can be a

christian just by reading the bible on you're own. Christianity is a label created by man not god. You just have to read the word and follow it. You dont need a church to do that.

July 30, 2010 at 1:11 pm | | [Reply](#)

Vance

Have all of you "I left-ers" forgotten Jesus words: Whoever listens to you listens to me? He was speaking to the apostles (the Church which he had established).

July 30, 2010 at 1:12 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Vance, the theological point is taken—Jesus placed value in teachers, and in the community of the faithful—but he didn't expect (I'm certain) for countless generations to disregard their personal judgment at every turn and accept his self-described followers in whatever form they present themselves.

Communities and churches come in all forms. Who are you to presume Anne Rice won't continue her faith in private studies with small groups of like-minded friends? Or through occasional consultations with trusted theologians or clergy? Must one embrace and adore First Baptist Church of the Word, and all of their prescribed messages, to fit the bill of "good Christian?"

July 30, 2010 at 1:20 pm | |

Vance

Mikel, thanks for graciously acknowledging my point (theologically speaking). ha. What Jesus did with the apostles was much more than 'value' them. He gave them authority. I would be the last to tell anyone to check their brain (or their conscience) at the door when they submit to the authority of the Church. However, as a Catholic, Anne agreed to submit to the authority of the teaching magisterium of the Church. The idea that she can reject the authority of the Church when it comes to its teachings on faith and morals while remaining a faithful follower of Christ is misguided. I am not speaking of everything someone with apostolic authority permits to be heard or read. I AM speaking of the authority of the Church to speak into every generation on matters of faith and morals. Period. Every age will have some moral dilemma, political reality or technological / scientific issue that the previous generation was not faced with. The Church is (among other things) the visible shepherd which Jesus left to guide his people through these things. If you have read Anne's statement, you can see that one of the things she is rejecting is the interpretation of modern problems by the Church as well as their authority to guide us through these problems. By leaving the Church she gives herself over to the tyranny of relativism that curses all those who live by flawed, human reasoning. There is no reason to rejoice when a strong-willed sheep leaves the safety of the flock and the shepherd. Jesus rejoices in returning that lost sheep to it's fold.

July 30, 2010 at 2:20 pm | |

Pagandragon

Good for Ms. Rice..and someone already said.."Jesus wasn't Christian either"...he was Jewish..as was his Mother. I rejected all of it some years ago for the belief that "God is"...God is in all his/her forms.

July 30, 2010 at 1:12 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jim

she should try Islam

July 30, 2010 at 1:12 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Now why would she do that? Oh, I GET it. You're another one of those warm, patient and tolerant Christians—so much so, that is, that when a fellow believer expresses disillusionment with your church (and their basketball team), you feel driven to this sort of petulant "fine! go then and become a Muslim!!" recourse.

Terribly mature—most certainly Christian of you.

July 30, 2010 at 1:15 pm | |

Erik

waste of time too

July 30, 2010 at 1:16 pm | |

Nick

With so many disparities in story-telling even in the Bible itself, it's a wonder that ANYone believes in Christianity. You may as well believe in Harry Potter. There isn't even any proof that Jesus, as described, existed at all. What is so terrible about believing that there are nameless, faceless forces at work around us, that don't necessarily work for us or care about us, but which sometimes might help us? Everything is so me, me, me. It's like assuming that the first intelligent life that we come across in the universe is going to look humanoid, or believing that the sun revolves around the earth. We're not that important, never were, and never will be.

July 30, 2010 at 1:13 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jose

Anne Rice, that was perfectly said. My own feelings of confusion in religion were resolved after some deep thinking in what you said. God is my life, my being is for Him. I appreciate everyday with all my heart because I know a life is not something to take for granted. The Christian church, of which I belonged to as an adolescent, was actually veering me away from Him, because of so much negativity in many of its teachings. I too openly accept gays, feminism, democracy and, simply put, love. I live my life knowing that when God looks down on me, he will be pleased with my actions. I am a good person because I don't deserve to be anything less; He doesn't deserve anything less from me. I do right by him, by others and by myself, and I know He smiles. He didn't just die for the church. His relationships aren't composed of ties between Him and a body of people AKA a church, it is much much more personal and private, it is between Him and one person. What a church does does not dictate what kind of relationship a single individual should have with Him. That was in responde to Kole. Believe in Him and His ties with you, and you will find a life of enchantment and good.

July 30, 2010 at 1:13 pm | | [Reply](#)

Iacrosseson

So first she's a rational atheist, then a Christian Pollyanna, now an ex-Christian who still believes in all that religious falderal? What a confused woman! Go back to being an atheists—that's the only thing that makes sense.

July 30, 2010 at 1:14 pm | | [Reply](#)

Greg

OK, so when is CNN going to post a story when someone well-known decides to become a Christian, or decides to come

back to whatever church he/she left? "THE" church is God's church...this is very different than "a" church, whatever the denomination may be. It would appear that this woman is yet another person in our society who wants her religion to be all happy-clappy and "feel good," with no right and wrong or clearly delineated right and wrong. That's not reality. We are all sinners in God's eyes. He DID set rules for us to live by, and there are eternal consequences for not accepting His Son Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. I am not an intolerant fundamentalist. Love the sinner and hate the sin. If you do don't want to be inconvenienced by your religion, you're probably not going to like Christianity...look at the sacrifice Jesus made for us all.

July 30, 2010 at 1:14 pm | [Reply](#)

Greg

So Anne finds that when she's in church she's among sinners that quarrel. I have news for her – church is for those of us that were lost and broken, and needed salvation. It is not for the man or woman that is strong and perfect, or those that are still comfortable in their destructive path that are still not broken.

July 30, 2010 at 1:15 pm | [Reply](#)

Ken in Pisgah Forest

I am pro-feminist, pro-gay rights, pro-science, and pro-Democrat (most of the time), and I am these things because of my Christian beliefs. I had dinner one time with a young lady who was a former Christian who had converted to Judaism. When she described her church life to me, I told her I was not surprised she gave up on Christianity, but that all churches are all hellfire and brimstone. I told her I was sorry she had to endure that. If Christians would just read the words of Jesus and ignore the rest, they would get a better understanding of what it means to be a Christian. God is not schizophrenic. Either believe in the God of Jesus Christ or believe in the God of the old testament and some places in the new (for example, Jesus' God would never smite anybody, but he did some smiting in Acts). They cannot be the same.

July 30, 2010 at 1:15 pm | [Reply](#)

Ken in Pisgah Forest

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July 30, 2010 at 1:17 pm |

ATW

I think this statement from her, sadly, is really about the fact that she's about to start "writing" again, and is priming the market. All she really said is that she still believes in Christ, but her "new" viewpoint conveniently allows her future writings to be accepted by every demographic-Christians, gays, feminists, democrats & republicans. I'm glad that her comments ring true to so many people here, but this is just PR work. Anyone with real faith, especially the kind that she's claiming, doesn't need to tell the world. She's just selling her newly refined image and, sadly, it will most likely work. New or spurned-before-but-giving-her-another-chance groups of fans will show their support and buy her new work, at least for a couple novels. I'm not hating on her, I'm glad she continues to examine the roots of her own personal faith, I just think it's sad that she, in my opinion, stopped actually writing a long time ago (I LOVED the first three Vampire Chronicles books), and chose instead to string readers along as she tries, under the guise of fiction, to find her place in the spiritual world. I can't see this announcement as anything but buying back fans who've left her ideologies behind, and another example of her need to keep the world aware and informed of every spiritual/moral roadblock that she encounters. I'm glad it clearly helps some people, but I can only say that for me, it's a little depressing how clearly her statement smacks of exactly what an agent would tell her to do to increase her shrinking fan base. It just seems like another costume for an author who, again, in my opinion, has cared more for crafting her status as a costumed author than writing as well as she could if she focused on the words and the stories. I'm not trying to convince anyone here, just venting a bit. If she speaks the truth for you and you find it edifying and faith-affirming then I'm glad for you. I just don't get the sincerity from her, and haven't for years...

July 30, 2010 at 1:16 pm | [Reply](#)

fuyuko

everyone should do what their conscience dictates. there are many who believe in God and Jesus, but do not believe in the bible or even that the bible is an interpretation of gods word. Some of them are deists.

Anne has a right to choose what is good for her.

July 30, 2010 at 1:16 pm | [Reply](#)

Joe

My hat is off to her! I am not a practicing Christian but I respect most of what Jesus preached. We can find the true Christians among us by how they live their lives and how they follow in his footsteps. The rest of these pious hypocrites are the worst of our lot because they claim to understand but act otherwise. Much of what is wrong with the world today can be sourced to people who spout evil in God's name, be they Christians or otherwise.

July 30, 2010 at 1:16 pm | [Reply](#)

Vixil

Pious Hypocrites?

You excluded correct?

July 30, 2010 at 1:25 pm |

Bill

Religion and Science are incompatible no matter what Theists and Agnostics say. Look at the computer you are using. The immense complexity within this device is based on fundamental or otherwise very basic phenomena in nature. We attribute what we know to probability, where extremely unlikely events are considered statistically negligible, therefore they are not considered true. Think of a tank of air spontaneously occupying only one half of the tank—it is statistically possible, but it is so unlikely that it probably never will happen. The attribution of a spiritual force to some otherwise arbitrary aspect of life is the same concept. So, I am afraid that she still follows a path that strays from intellectual growth.

July 30, 2010 at 1:17 pm | [Reply](#)

Vixil

Complexity? Ones and Zeros.

Bill are you retarded?

The computer is nothing more than a hybrid abacus.

It is appropriate that most of the manufacturing of these devices is done in Taipei.

July 30, 2010 at 1:22 pm | |

DianeRL

Certainly, Christianity has nothing to do with the Christ, most likely never did, and he was a devout Jew as we know from your scripture. But for all who believe Jesus is The Christ (Messiah), his excellent life should be emulated not worn on one's sleeve. . . I have known all kinds of christians in my 70 years: protestants, catholics, pentacostal, baptist, mormon, etc, but not one of these individuals emulates the life of Jesus, NOT ONE.

I chose NOT to raise my kids as christians years ago and never regretted it for a minute and neither do they.

Our family includes Hindu, Atheists , Jews and Catholics these days and. hey, if that's what rocks your boat, be a Hindu or a Muslim, or a Christian, etc. but at least be honest and keep all but your love and charity to yourself.

July 30, 2010 at 1:17 pm | | [Reply](#)

DC

After reading some of these posts I am sad to see how many does not believe. The books of the bible are the only religion that has historical proof that it is real, or for you have full glass people that it can't be prove wrong. How many people have you heard say they live by the bible and their lives are bad, no, it is when people live without God and their bible that their life goes wrong. Come and have a happy and wonderful live, come and follow Jesus.

July 30, 2010 at 1:17 pm | | [Reply](#)

Carol

You go, girl! My own town of Williamsburg, VA is a perfect place to live; however, if you look under the bridges and in the corners of most buildings on any given night, you will see plenty of homeless people. Yet the churches here prefer to ignore this group of humanity because "we don't want them to feel welcome here." So we try to send them somewhere else. Then in church we ask God to "bless us everyone"???? Shame on anyone who doesn't see that all of us are created equal in the sight of God, that we are all part of the earthly community, that we are supposed to treat others as we would want to be treated. Hypocrisy rules!

t

July 30, 2010 at 1:17 pm | | [Reply](#)

TMick

next....

July 30, 2010 at 1:17 pm | | [Reply](#)

Vixil

It is interesting that the "Believers" come out of the wood work to comment when a celebrity Departs the Sect. The same vessels of light love are nowhere to found on blogs of great concern to the rest of America. Perhaps that is the reason for the success of today's church. When the church does come around, nobody recognizes it.

July 30, 2010 at 1:17 pm | | [Reply](#)

Star

It is PEOPLE who distort the word of GOD to suit their needs. PEOPLE look at other PEOPLES failures and blame Christ. Follow Christ with your heart and all shall be well.

July 30, 2010 at 1:18 pm | | [Reply](#)

Michael

I understand where she's coming from. But I think it's Christianity, not Christianism, that she is leaving. Christianism is concerned with power and control, seeks to impose rigid fundamentalist orthodoxy through law, and does not recognize the separation of church and state. True Christianity, on the other hand, follows the teachings of Christ and is concerned with spirituality, not with with earthy power.

July 30, 2010 at 1:18 pm | | [Reply](#)

Ed the Oregonite

Jesus said: Whoever believes in him (Jesus) is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. (John 3: 18-19)

According to Jesus, people reject him because they love darkness and their deeds are evil.

July 30, 2010 at 1:18 pm | | [Reply](#)

K

The headline sensationalizes the truth of what Ms. Rice has actually said and done. In truth, what Ms. Rice has said and done here is something many of us have said and done: left the organized church, with its emphasis on politics, dogma, appearances, and other non-spiritual matters in order to focus on a personal relationship with Christ. That relationship, the Church seems to have forgotten, takes precedence over everything, and demands of those who profess to maintain it one thing and one thing only: that we love one another. Not that we chose whom we will love based on their actions or inactions, or most of the acts described in the New Testament and ascribed to Jesus become null and void – or at least a pleasant fairytale.

I applaud Ms. Rice for having the courage and strength of character to stand and state publicly what so many of us have said for years. It is not what one appears to be on the outside that makes one a follower of Christ, and personally, I am thankful that high-profile people such as Ms. Rice are finally pointing this out publicly.

July 30, 2010 at 1:18 pm | | [Reply](#)

JC-VA

I too am a Christian and completely understand what she is saying. Churches this day are too much about money and fame, not about love and compassion any more.

July 30, 2010 at 1:19 pm | | [Reply](#)

Bob Dalzell

I too am a former Christian. I left the church for the exact same reasons as Ann Rice. I never could find a place in the Bible that advised man to start a "church". In fact, I'm pretty sure MAN created GOD in man's image, not the other way

around. One more thing. Without religion, most of the wars on our planet would not exist.

July 30, 2010 at 1:19 pm | | [Reply](#)

Sara

Matthew 16:18: "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church."

July 30, 2010 at 1:51 pm | |

Brent

Welcome, Ms. Rice, to the growing ranks of Atheistic Christians! We welcome you with love.

July 30, 2010 at 1:20 pm | | [Reply](#)

Greg

Atheist Christians? Now that is a lost group of people I've ever heard of one. I'm white, but sometimes I wish I were were darker, like a Filipino. White, yet Filipino. Sortof like Agnostic, yet Christian. But because I'm white and I want to be black, I could say I'm white black.

July 30, 2010 at 1:34 pm | |

Mike

She needs to quit being a freaking Drama Queen

July 30, 2010 at 1:20 pm | | [Reply](#)

Nancy

I wonder if she has ever tried the Episcopalian Church? It is not anti-gay, anti-feminist, anti-science or anti-democrat.

Remember, church is not a museum for saints, it is a hospital for sinners. All of us fall short and miss the mark most of the time.

July 30, 2010 at 1:21 pm | | [Reply](#)

Sara

the episcopalians are just catholics who started following Henry VIII instead of Rome.

July 30, 2010 at 1:54 pm | |

shadtrees

Harry women do not kill babies, you must have a very low opinion of women. Some women may determine that they cannot take care of a baby, and I guess they have the opinion that they are the only ones that should determine if the blob of cells inside their body should become their baby. You and all the other so called Christians that think women kill babies need to put all that energy into helping the real living babies that are already here that are not being taken care of.

July 30, 2010 at 1:21 pm | | [Reply](#)

Greg

I'm so grateful to have found a bible-based church. The bible doesn't prescribe political beliefs; the bible teaches us to bring peace, not division; the bible teaches us to glorify God, not ourselves. Anne, you're confusing the words of mere humans, sinners that happen to be in churches, with the word of God. We are not of this world. If you find yourself frustrated with people, welcome to earth. Turn to prayer, turn to the bible, and turn to God – it is there you will find salvation.

July 30, 2010 at 1:21 pm | | [Reply](#)

IndianTrojan

This world doesn't need religion. This world needs love.

July 30, 2010 at 1:21 pm | | [Reply](#)

AnnBChrist

Religion is to Teach not to Manipulate, yet time and again it is wielded as a tool to control the masses. Read. Those were not aliens visiting Earth during the Phoenix Lights incident. Learn more at the UFO-Human Link A Page In the Life...just might make some of us go back to school for that advanced degree.

July 30, 2010 at 1:36 pm | |

John

Ephesians 2:8&9 "For by grace are you saved through faith and that not of yourself it is a gift of God; Not of works lest any man should boast". The Bible says it is about the Gospel and nothing more. As a Christian our lives are to show who Christ is and his Gospel. That of love and salvation from total seperation from him and the father. The Bible says religion is taking care of the windows and the fatherless. True Christianity is seeking those who do not know the Father and telling them the Gospel. God will do the rest. It's not about the church or about the people. It's about God. Church is there so we can come together and brothers and sisters n Chrst to refresh from the week and fellowship in Christ.

July 30, 2010 at 1:22 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jonny K

I also left Christianity but to a greater extent and it doesn't really matter. I was brought up as a Protestant, and at first I was very religious and once even wanted to be like a Saint. But I became disenchanted due to blantant hypocrisies and contradictions and for many of the same reasons Anne Rice left, I also did. However I have gone further than her. I can't believe anyone but perhaps a wealthy naive uneducated and sheltered or illogical person could let themselves believe there is a loving god. Sorry Anne. However, I did keep all my solid Christianesque ethics, only better. Rather than blindly following rules, or basing my morality and conscience upon faith, fear of god's wrath or hope of heavenly rewards, I base them on reality, facts, and reasoning. Reality and Logic work a lot better for me because I don't have to pretend there is a god of some kind up there loving us and watching over us, keeping track and caring for each one of us and preparting ultimate fates for us on some cataclysmic Judement day. Sounds too much like a dippy lie anyway and is one. I am a happy and a very moral ex-Christian too but also a wise and good atheist. I am not lost and confused and I am not ever going back. Finally enlightened. TGIF.

July 30, 2010 at 1:22 pm | | [Reply](#)

Lenore

All I have to say...Amen!

July 30, 2010 at 1:23 pm | | [Reply](#)

JK

I see her point. There are a lot of Christians who don't follow the teachings of Our Lord Jesus very well.

However, I think each one of us has a responsibility to build up the church to what it should be rather than abandon it.

Some of the comments posted indicate that there are Christ-Followers here "throwing stones" at Christians. Hopefully you

were "without sin" before those stones were thrown (See also Matthew 7:1-5).

July 30, 2010 at 1:23 pm | | [Reply](#)

Ed the Oregonite

Good point, JK...my observation as well.

July 30, 2010 at 1:31 pm | |

Bobington

Who really cares?

July 30, 2010 at 1:25 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

You, who selected this article among hundreds, and chose to post on it—you care.

July 30, 2010 at 1:27 pm | |

Susan

Only 4% of people in the United States under the age of 25 are Christians...I am from the 70's generation of parents and I believe we have done a poor job of raising true believers in the Lord Jesus Christ and His teachings. He loves us all but does not sanction sin, as much as that is not an acceptable doctrine today, not even in the church. It actually is hard today to distinguish between the unchurched and the church world in many of the activities that both deem as appropriate. I pray for this country that we will revive and wake up to truly be a Christian nation and that God will continue to bless us as He has in the past because of our strong heritage in Him.

July 30, 2010 at 1:25 pm | | [Reply](#)

Peter the So-So

I was raised in a christian home (the whole family were Jehovah's Witnesses except me). I learned that basically the Bible can be broken down into 2 tenants. 1. Love God and 2. Love Thy Neighbor. Thy neighbor is basically everyone else in the world... the wife, your kids, co-workers, etc...even others people who don't follow the 2 tenants. If you love your neighbor you don't abuse them, steal from them, pollute thier land, kill thier people. etc... These 2 principles are my guiding force in life not the structure religous organizations. good luck to Ann, hope she does not forget the love the lord brought to her life. God bless her and everyone one else in this forum.

July 30, 2010 at 1:25 pm | | [Reply](#)

Gigi

Church is nothing more than a way to control the masses and make money. You can believe in Christ and not go to church. It's her belief and her choice and I applaud her for it. If going to church makes you feel good, then go, it's all up to the individual person. I read the Bible everyday but I don't go to church. That's my choice.

July 30, 2010 at 1:26 pm | | [Reply](#)

weallgotone

Catholicism.

July 30, 2010 at 1:26 pm | | [Reply](#)

Richard-Missouri

Wow! Anne Rice is truly 'Queen of the Damned!' With the value system she describes, she is not a Christian. Christ's followers follow the teachings of the Bible. Thus, if Ms. Rice disagrees with other Christians, whose value system is based on the Bible, she is saying Christ is NOT the center of her life. Logic 101. Personally, I think Democrat and Christian are oxymorons. I'm just not sure how one can say they are Christian, yet support the value system of the typical Democrat (e.g. – most Dems are pro-abortion. they call it 'pro-choice'. Christ would NOT be pro-death!). It cracks me up how a Dem like Hillary Clinton can say that "as Christians, we have a 'moral obligation' to help those in need" yet she and other Dems are pro-abortion. Dems also typically pull this 'separation of church and state' garbage, making it sound like we should have freedom from religion, versus freedom of religion. Big difference. The founding fathers were ALL religious. They meant for us to be able to practice whatever religion we want, without the government being able to step all over it.

July 30, 2010 at 1:27 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Anne runs, to Christ, from people like you.

July 30, 2010 at 1:28 pm | |

CONGUERO

At first I thought "how very sad for this woman...she must not have really known the Lord in the first place to turn her back on Him, because to know Him is to love Him" – but that's not what she is saying at all, as the article goes on to state. The Bible says "Let God be found true, though every man be found a liar." Ro 3:4. ...and also "there is no one who does good, not even one" Ps 14:3. I could go on... but the point is, you don't base your faith on a person or people, they will always let you down. But the Lord will not. I totally get what my sister in the Lord is saying here. However, the Lord will show her how to love all people, regardless if they're far-left or far-right or whatever. I totally get how she is against someone who is "against everything." Look at Jesus, he hung out with sinners and won them over by his actions and words. He came to save and heal the sick, not the ones who thought they were well.

July 30, 2010 at 1:28 pm | | [Reply](#)

Darren

God said love me, have faith in me, and I will comfort and guide you. Man, created religion; his own interpretation of what god meant. Man has failed, not God. I completely believe in God. I choose to believe in Jesus Christ as this is what I was taught growing up. However, I can not align myself with any form of religion – period – but I still consider myself a christian. And I could care less what anybody else thinks about my relationship with my God.

July 30, 2010 at 1:28 pm | | [Reply](#)

Vixil

What church did Jesus attend?

July 30, 2010 at 1:31 pm | |

BOB

Who really cares what this self indulged woman is doing. Tell it to God. I think she should take the thousands per year she spends on hair and fashion and give it to charity. What kind of car does she drive?

July 30, 2010 at 1:28 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Interesting, Bob. I wonder: what offends you more? Anne Rice, a presumably wealthy Christian seeking out a means of spiritual practice which suits her, or the countless preachers and clergy who choke the airwaves while wearing gold watches and driving Cadillacs? I'm attacking nor defending neither. I'm just curious as to where you'd stand.

July 30, 2010 at 1:31 pm | |

asrael

Perhaps Bob should ask God what kind of car Anne drives...

July 30, 2010 at 2:02 pm | |

diesel2u

oh boy...now I can sleep

July 30, 2010 at 1:28 pm | | [Reply](#)

Greg

Atheist Christians? Now that is a lost group of people if I've ever heard of one. I'm white, but sometimes I wish I were were darker, like a Filipino. That would be like an Agnostic Christian. But if I'm white and I want to be black, then I could be an Atheist Christian.

July 30, 2010 at 1:28 pm | | [Reply](#)

The Left Reverend

Depressingly understandable. Jesus had a fairly simple message of love, truth, & responsibility. It's astounding how many supposed followers can use it to justify hate, ignorance, & even mass murder – 'Christians' burned other 'Christians' at the stake for the wrong answer to: "How many angels fit on the head of a pin?" Now so many ostracize 'outsiders'. We need some more MLKs, Dietrich Bonhoeffers, & Bill Coffins. Maybe this headline will help.

July 30, 2010 at 1:29 pm | | [Reply](#)

Danny

Oh look, she's left her organized cult of morons to go be a moron all by her lonesome. Big news.

July 30, 2010 at 1:29 pm | | [Reply](#)

Fc7711

I agree. Gods are for primitive dummies. How stupid do you have to be to believe in this stuff. Jesus came back from the dead and floated off to heaven ? Yeah right. The Creator of the Universe had a son and sent him to be killed so he could forgive humans ? Please, how ridiculous. People who believe in Spirits, Souls, the Afterlife, etc are just plain CRAZY.

Religion is for CRAZY PEOPLE !

July 30, 2010 at 2:36 pm | |

JennyTX

Please, Jesus, save me from your followers.

July 30, 2010 at 1:29 pm | | [Reply](#)

Rob

If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. 1 John 4:20

July 30, 2010 at 1:29 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

To whom do you refer, Rob? Anne, who has come to distrust and dislike the church? Or the church's members, here in force, who have come to distrust and dislike her?

July 30, 2010 at 1:32 pm | |

Ed the Oregonite

Rob, Are you saying that Ms. Rice, if she claimed to be a Christian, should be loving her brother Christians...even if they don't share the same political or cultural views? I would agree with that. Instead it appears that she has abandoned her spiritual brothers and sisters. I'd say she took the easy way out. Your bible passage refers to people of faith and the relationships between them. It seems like many of the people who post here are more willing to condemn Christians than love them. Of course, we would expect that of the world (as Jesus predicted), however, as Believers, we are still called to love our fellow believers if Christ...even if they are bigots, or racists, or even, gasp, Republicans! Jesus and his apostles didn't take the easy way out...neither should we.

July 30, 2010 at 1:47 pm | |

AnnBChrist

She is breaking all of the Idols and shedding her burden to clasp the Hand of God, no better Friend, no Mightier Protector. And if the consensus is that He is not around, you all have not been paying close attention.

July 30, 2010 at 1:29 pm | | [Reply](#)

Bill

Richard, how much do you charge for trolling lessons? because that was pretty good

July 30, 2010 at 1:29 pm | | [Reply](#)

Richard-Missouri

I'm glad you like it (lol). All I'm pointing out is the obvious: a Christian is, by definition, a follower of Christ. Anne Rice is purporting to be Christian, yet she says she does not want to be grouped with other followers of Christ – all of who purport to follow Christ's teachings from the Bible. Many Dems do the same. They purport to be Christians, but their beliefs are anything but Christian. Sorry, but the truth hurts! I still feel you can't be Dem and be a Christian (unless of course you deny the many un-Christian beliefs of a typical Dem, like being pro-death / pro-abortion!). Look... Dems even try to soft pedal abort by calling it pro-choice. Call it what it is: pro-death! Calling it a 'choice' does not sound too bad. Calling it 'pro-I-want-to-abort-a-living-fetus' does not sound so good. What we got here is a failure to communicate. Some people you just can't reach...

July 30, 2010 at 1:40 pm | |

george wheeldon

And then there is "christian" ken jones of Dove World Outreach showing his "christian" love by burning the Quran to show true christian love and how everyone ought to bow to one persons religion. I thought this country was founded in part on freedom of religion, but why do christians have to make fools of themselves by the actions they commit.

July 30, 2010 at 1:30 pm | | [Reply](#)

table

Wisdom is a great gift from God and the majority on this post fails to understand it or what being a Christian is about. Jesus Christ will not uphold sin in any form. The lady failed to follow Jesus Christ and she seems to be following people and not the gospel. Wisdom teaches me that you'll not be confused by the wisdom of this world because when you follow the true wisdom from above you know the difference and have the peace of God in your heart. Jesus Christ hates sin and not people just as a Christian should hate sin. Let me inform all of you sin will never enter heaven. I'll not judge mankind but I'll not uphold sin for a person to be my friend. You can make an excuse for sin now but when you come before the creator at the Day of Judgment, it'll be too late for your soul. Knowledge and wisdom from a spirit specter is hard for a sinner to comprehend or have the comprehension about true wisdom or knowledge from above. We need the spirit of Christ living in our heart to understand or have the comprehension.

July 30, 2010 at 1:30 pm | | [Reply](#)

Pablo

reminds me of a saying, "I have no problem with god, its his fanclub I cant stand"

July 30, 2010 at 1:30 pm | | [Reply](#)

Don

There are many religions with different names that have God and Christ as the focal point. However, the fact that we have different religions and everyone that clings to a specific religion believes that they are right and everyone else is wrong. Nothing could be further from the truth. I cannot see a divine creator singling out a specific group of people among his own creations to be more right or just than the others. The fact that we have so many different religions is not of design by a creator. Religions and their fanatics are the product of a specific ideal and belief that they have figured out God and know exactly what he wants from them. The bible is not the end-all be-all of human existence. It is a simple tool that God gave his followers in order for us to do what he wants us to do. That's all folks. He is in control whether you believe in him or not. I don't put much stock in religion because it is MAN MADE!!! The spiritual relationship that you have with your creator is something completely different.

July 30, 2010 at 1:30 pm | | [Reply](#)

Bert

To be a Christian is to follow Christ. If you disagree with His word then you need to choose – be transformed by or reject His Truth. For those who claim to be former Christians or to being an Atheists, here is the simple truth: you hate Him because He is holy and you are not – that is why you hate Him – you fail to understand the reality of grace – it is not about you, it is about Him. He offers you life or death – choose this day – only the way of the cross leads home. The only real question is: Is it true? To disbelieve is to believe the lie. He is holy and you hate Him for it.

July 30, 2010 at 1:30 pm | | [Reply](#)

automagic

You can't hate someone that doesn't exist. And you're rather presumptuous into thinking that atheists hate the idea of god YOU believe in. There are a lot of alleged gods that you don't believe in. By your own logic, you must hate those gods.

July 30, 2010 at 1:57 pm | |

Scott Heath

Haha, you guys believe in invisible sky wizards. LOL.

July 30, 2010 at 1:30 pm | | [Reply](#)

Billy

Sky wizards? I WISH religion was so cool.

Sadly, it's amazingly boring considering it's all made up.

July 30, 2010 at 1:32 pm | |

Kay

I would suggest that you check out Anne Rice's website to read what she really said. She has written some incredible fictional books about the life of Christ. The books reveal her deep love of Christ and attention to research which she is well known for.

July 30, 2010 at 1:30 pm | | [Reply](#)

Belly Button Lint

I like cupcakes.

July 30, 2010 at 1:31 pm | | [Reply](#)

Les6

I've met and know several Jews and atheists who are better "Christians" than so-called "good Christians." When somebody says "I am/we are good Christians" get a crucifix and some garlic and run away. "Good Christian" is code for intolerant, ignorant bigot.

July 30, 2010 at 1:31 pm | | [Reply](#)

LaDiva

I find it interesting that the very ppl saying Christians are hypocrites and judgemental ppl are doing the very thing they have accused Christians of doing. I am a proud Christian. Never will I deny my faith. But the moment I declare that I am a Christian, all the anti-Christians of the world are ready to persecute me and accuse me of being judgemental. Since when does being a Christian mean that I am perfect? Now I say to myself, who in actuality are the real hypocrites?

July 30, 2010 at 1:31 pm | | [Reply](#)

REV

I think this woman has no idea what being a true Christian means. Being a Christian means being Christ-like, not following man-made doctrines. There are things in the word of GOD that tell us that God is against. Do I think God is anti-GAY YES I DO. But that does not mean he does not love the gay person, because Jesus is a God of love.

There are standards in anything we do are how we live, but we do not stop living because we do not agree with having to do one of those standards. Do people stop going to work because they have to be there at a certain time. NO

I do not know what type of church she belonged to, but not sure how you stop going to church, when the word tells us not to forsake the assembling of your selves together. It does not matter where you like what the pastor's message you go because God's word tells you to. And you want to please him and be around people of like faith

Besides how does she consider her self a Christian when she can not love her fellow Christians. When you love Jesus by loving others.. That's all I have to say about that

July 30, 2010 at 1:31 pm | | [Reply](#)

Lance

Everyone has a different experience I guess. I grew up in an evangelical fundamentalist Christian faith in rural Mississippi. It was so ultra conservative and Bible-literal that we condemned most of nominal American Christianity as being deceived by Satan. Of course we were "right" beyond the shadow of a doubt because in that type of belief structure all you have to do is say that "thus saith the Lord according to the Word" and it's sealed. Anyway – I went from 25 years of living a pessimistic, depressed existence driven by dogma, rules, hell-fire sermons and authoritarian church discipline to a world of optimistic, atheism that has allowed me to exercise a joyous freedom of living and a moral code that far transcends Christian constraints that so often seem to allow immorality under the guise of Biblical morality.

July 30, 2010 at 1:31 pm | | [Reply](#)

JennyTX

Nice. Glad you came around like so many of us.

July 30, 2010 at 1:37 pm | |

Atheist

Too many Christians... too few lions



July 30, 2010 at 1:32 pm | | [Reply](#)

God

Now even I have to admit that was funny. ...heh heh... too few lions...(chuckles into his mighty hands)

July 30, 2010 at 1:53 pm | |

John

She should have just started attending a progressive Christian church. No, she has to be a drama queen and label the entire religion as unenlightened. She's a flake and she is probably just sore that all her Christian books did not sell like her Vampire books did.

July 30, 2010 at 1:32 pm | | [Reply](#)

Imbecile

Her books were better when she was an atheist.

July 30, 2010 at 1:33 pm | | [Reply](#)

God

Well... I can't win em all... sigh. (leans in close) listen... don't tell any of these guys (hooks his thumb back over his shoulder at some very senior looking angels) but I agree with you. She did write better when she was an atheist. Maybe we'll get lucky and we'll start getting some good Ann Rice stories again. (looks over his shoulder at the angels again) but I'm afraid she may announce she's turning into a Buddhist or something. That's usually how these things turn out. First she has to get everyone's attention, then it's the big announcement in a few days, followed by some media deal. (indicates the angels again) those guys have it planned out nine ways to Sunday. Believe me.

July 30, 2010 at 1:48 pm | |

God

err... I mean 'Believe IN me" sorry.

July 30, 2010 at 1:56 pm | |

CHRISEZ

LaDiiva - see the explanation right ahead of you (Les6). Maybe now you can understand.

les6 - THANK YOU. A perfect answer.

July 30, 2010 at 1:34 pm | | [Reply](#)

jeannie4209

Ms. Rice's move away from conservative Christianity is completely understandable. It breaks my heart to see what this organization has done to the name of Jesus Christ. They may be winning a political war, but they are losing the war of winning souls for Christ. Too often they are willing to put politics ahead of their faith; too often they have walked away from their teaching to support a fellow political figure. This is all so sad, and our country is paying for it.

July 30, 2010 at 1:34 pm | | [Reply](#)

Greg

Right on. It's sad to see that people try to co-opt Christianity for political and personal gain. To those that understand the church is the place where sinners are welcome, it comes as no surprise that a few find positions of leadership. Fallible and human, even church leaders lose their way. Sadly, when that happens, Christians that rely on the teaching of people, and have not yet learned to follow Christ, lose their way as well. We should pray for our church leaders, and those that place their trust in them, that all of them will find their way to Christ, the bible, and truth.

July 30, 2010 at 1:47 pm | |

jody

Thank you Anne. You said it beautifully.

Thank you Jesus!!

July 30, 2010 at 1:34 pm | | [Reply](#)

dog

there is no god, there was no christ. this is all bull.

July 30, 2010 at 1:35 pm | | [Reply](#)

Thugliest

Amen!

July 30, 2010 at 1:36 pm | |

David of Bethleham

Psalm 14:1

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."

They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds,

there is none who does good.

July 30, 2010 at 2:01 pm | |

God

Watch it, or I will smite thee (strikes a theatrical Zeus-throwing-the-thunderbolt pose)
 Just kidding. You know I love all you pooches. (pats dog on the head and gives him a biscuit)
 Did you know your ancestors were actually wolves? The blueprints say you're technically 'a wolf'.
 I marvel how man's clever domestication techniques made
 all you different varieties of mutant wolves, aka 'dogs'
 But, we all know I had a hand in it somewhere.... and we all know how many times we've heard the
 'god spelled backwards is dog' thing.
 So I'll apply a variation of that now: I believe in you, poochy.
 July 30, 2010 at 2:09 pm | |

Rob

The word of God says that if somebody claims to know and love the Lord Jesus, but doesn't love his brother (ie., "followers" or other Christians), his claim is false. He doesn't really know or love God at all, but is self-deceived and hasn't truly repented or been born again yet.
 July 30, 2010 at 1:35 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Rob, does your message apply equally to the many self-described Christians here who preach "good riddance" to Anne Rice?
 It would seem self-evident to me that the Christian message you relay—loving one's brothers and sisters—doesn't equate to placing perfect stock and value in all facets of human society, even Christian society. I'd wager that there are forms of Christian churches, sects, sermons and practices you'd reject, yourself, as false or misguided.
 Anne Rice has done just that. You have no justification for declaring that she's "rejected love," simply because she's disillusioned with the church community. She's simply gone in search of new friends.
 July 30, 2010 at 1:39 pm | |

Greg

Mikel, you seem to have a mistaken view that Christians are supposed to be perfect. In fact, the entry point to Christianity is reaching a point of surrender when we come to understand that we are not perfect, far from perfect, and lost. So if you should hear a Christian something that doesn't sound Christian, next time just remember that the only difference between you and the Christian is he/she is at least trying to get better.
 July 30, 2010 at 1:58 pm | |

Bobo

Regardless, of how we all feel about her belief in Christ, only Ann can answer for herself which she has done. Whether we create Christ in our own image or not the biblical record has stood for 2,000 years. It's our choice to accept it or not. It appears she accepts the record but not modernity's interpretation and implementation. I agree with her on being forced to choose sides on any issue because of my personal belief that someone else defines differently. Most of these comments demonstrate that there are many of us who believe in Christ but not today's Christian church or its message.
 July 30, 2010 at 1:35 pm | | [Reply](#)

Margaret

I knew she was too bright to stick with the bigots much longer. Bravo baby.
 July 30, 2010 at 1:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

Bill

The reason "anti-Christians" attack you is because the socially conservative Christian majority in the United States is what's holding back social and intellectual progress. Not too long ago, it was legal to require the teaching of the pseudoscience creationism in place of the entirely accepted, virtually proven modern evolutionary synthesis. This is an example of only one of the many that stem from the suppression of intellect.
 July 30, 2010 at 1:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

LaDiva

@ /CHRISEZ
 Lol and then u wonder why ppl are bigots to christians... The truth is that we are all sinners and none of us are perfect. But by God's grace are we forgiven. This does not mean that I will be perfect. The world however will always remind u of your imperfections...Lol that is what I call hypocrites... And I know many non-believers like that too. Lol
 July 30, 2010 at 1:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

Vixil

In my humble opinion, the Bible is two things.
 1) The outline or description of your inheritance, and how to keep it.
 2) Chronos
 July 30, 2010 at 1:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

Maggie

If she means she left a Christian church but still maintains her belief in God and Christ, many of us have done the same thing.
 So why the big deal? I just stopped going to church, did not feel it was a big deal. It was between God and myself, not me and the public.
 Does she have a political agenda perhaps? She felt it necessary to mention some really political things. If this is her purpose, then she is as guilty as the people she is criticizing.
 July 30, 2010 at 1:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Hold the phone, Maggie. All Anne Rice has done is make a FACEBOOK posting about her personal changes in direction. She hasn't introduced legislation to destroy the church.
 July 30, 2010 at 1:41 pm | |

BrwnRepublican

Amen!
 July 30, 2010 at 1:47 pm | |

yazoobelle

As Oprah once said, I don't think Christ came to earth to start Christianity the religion and I agree. I applaud her ability to

stand up against those who seems to me to be hypocrites and judgmental in their faith when Christ's message was supposed to be about love.

July 30, 2010 at 1:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

DrFood

I was about to be upset...until I read the article. I really hope Anne Rice is serious about her feelings (loving Jesus but disliking the hypocrisy she claims to see in His followers). If she is, I believe that she is doing exactly what Jesus would have done. In that case, we all need to learn a bit from Anne Rice's example.

July 30, 2010 at 1:39 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jesus

Hmmmmmm.....try the Catholic church.

July 30, 2010 at 1:39 pm | | [Reply](#)

damjana

i also quit christianity but i still follow christ.i believe in god more than those church goers.without my faith i will be lost.kindness is what matters.

July 30, 2010 at 1:39 pm | | [Reply](#)

Vixil

Thank you Ann. Any catalyst for looking inward is valuable.

Even if it is just another vehicle for shameless self promotion.

Cheers.

July 30, 2010 at 1:40 pm | | [Reply](#)

JakeC

Does anyboby really care what faith Anne Rice follows. She writes author – She writes fiction. Save your own soul first worry about Anne's beliefs second!

July 30, 2010 at 1:40 pm | | [Reply](#)

elgeevez

It has long seem to me that Christians could be divided into two more or less discrete groups: 1) those who adhere to the theology of the apostle Paul, and 2) those in a much smaller group who follow the teachings of Jesus.

July 30, 2010 at 1:40 pm | | [Reply](#)

LaDiva

Revised...

@ CHRIZEZ

Lol and then u wonder why ppl are bigots to christians... The truth is that we are all sinners and none of us are perfect.

But by God's grace we are forgiven. This does not mean that I will be perfect. The world however will always remind u of your imperfections...Lol that is what I call hypocrites... And I know many non-believers like that too. Lol so the irony of it all will always fall on deaf ears to those who are non-christian.

July 30, 2010 at 1:41 pm | | [Reply](#)

Kari

The hypocrisy I am referring to is those who are more concerned with the actions and not a personal relationship with Christ. I fully admit I have a long way to go with this on myself, but as someone who was raised in the deep south it seemed typically seemed to me that "appearing" to be Christians by going to church and doing things like not cussing was far more important than loving your neighbor as yourself. Obviously not all Christians behave that way, but as someone who has felt judged and deeply wounded by the church because I wasn't perfect left me with alot of unjust guilt and a warped view on what Christianity was actually supposed to be about. But I also do believe we are all hypocrites to some degree, Christians and non Christians. But I don't think that even Christ himself would have a problem with many of the groups that call themselves Christians today simply for the fact that we are trying to do it all on our own, by works, and not really relying on him. Since we are all sinners, in that we will always fail.

July 30, 2010 at 2:46 pm | |

Good book

Read Lost Symbol...

July 30, 2010 at 1:41 pm | | [Reply](#)

David

Good for you Ann! It is so hard to make this kind of stand! Religion wants us to live in fear of punishment and death. Fear is a control mechanism. Granted fear of something is needed since most humans still behave very badly. Until we reach a point in our evolution that we can all respect each other and live in peace then a fear of consequences for bad behavior is needed. Jesus was a great teacher and we should all live by is words and actions. Those who truly understand know what he was and his importance.

July 30, 2010 at 1:41 pm | | [Reply](#)

BrwnRepublican

Just another person who wants publicity!!!

July 30, 2010 at 1:41 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

The lady made a post to her FACEBOOK page, is all. Grow up.

July 30, 2010 at 1:42 pm | |

nonGrata

Rice is a buffoon.

July 30, 2010 at 1:41 pm | | [Reply](#)

asrael

No: a buffoon is one who posts in four words or less and still manages to call names...

July 30, 2010 at 1:45 pm | |

JB

Good for her. Such courage and wisdom are not very common. It is always funny how the the most devout christians are the ones to support bombing countries and killing thousands of civilians, to support torture, against any welfare for the poor, against the healthcare plan that would help the poor. Yeah, that's what Jesus would do.

July 30, 2010 at 1:41 pm | | [Reply](#)

Daisy

I worked in an all female, radical feminist organization. I thought I was a feminist, until I realized they are some of the most hypocritical, judgemental people I have ever come across. Talk about militant...if you don't believe everything they are selling, then they have no use for you.

July 30, 2010 at 1:42 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Daisy: you've made, of course, the salient point of the day without knowing it. Whether the ideology is feminism, liberalism, conservatism, environmentalism or Christianity, it's a belief system subject to all sorts of application. While you, yourself, find value in the underlying principles and goals of feminism (for example), you found many of the movement's leaders distasteful, difficult, self-serving and hostile.

Anne Rice has simply done the same. She's found truth and inspiration in Christian ideology, but has found the community of the church disappointing. She plans to strike out a bit and find new friends, all in service to her faith. Isn't that a good and valid thing?

July 30, 2010 at 1:46 pm | |

Greg

Both of you make good points. Whenever you have a group of people, you have a group of hypocrites. It's the human condition. The very nature of people is that we do what we ought not do. All the time. Over and over. It's fine to walk away from hypocrites because you no longer like that batch of hypocrites and what they believe. When you move on, you'll find another batch of hypocrites. When you come to the point of realizing that people don't have the answers, you're getting closer to knowing that people don't have the answers.

July 30, 2010 at 2:04 pm | |

Thomas Slaughter

It sounds like you have had your eyes on man and not Jesus. You see, the Bible says that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever. He NEVER changes. Keep your eyes on Him and His word. Don't give up. Many people are praying for you and no matter what you do, Jesus will always love you and you can not stop that. Keep the faith sister....

July 30, 2010 at 1:42 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Thomas, Anne Rice agrees with you. She's found man disappointing, and wants to seek a closer relationship with Jesus.

July 30, 2010 at 1:47 pm | |

Marie

More people have died violently in the name of religion than for any other reason. I think that pretty much sums it up. Just show me in the bible where it says "Hate & kill in my name" saith the lord...

July 30, 2010 at 1:42 pm | | [Reply](#)

Yawn!

More than disease and pestilence? Stop drinking the celebrity/lib Kool Aid sweets....and stop relying on anecdotal data put out by Bill Maher!

July 30, 2010 at 1:48 pm | |

Just a Simple Guy in my Simple World

I'm no Bible scholar, but didn't God command the Jews to ruthlessly kill the non-believers a bunch of times in the old testament in his name? Didn't the Moabites get their butts kicked a few times? How about when God let Joshua unleash a can of wupass when they took the promised land? Weren't they waist deep in blood and guts as God commanded them?

July 30, 2010 at 1:59 pm | |

Greg

Marie, you're so totally correct. So many people have killed other people in the name of religion. People have also killed other people in the name of democracy, socialism, and "today I woke up in a bad mood." The point is that people behave like people. We all do what we ought not do, Christian or otherwise. That doesn't mean Christianity is wrong – it means that people have sinned. Becoming Christian does not somehow cause sudden transformation to become pure and holy. The number of people that have been "converted" or otherwise forced into "Christianity" often have not even had the benefit of finding and accepting Christ – which is the whole point. So is it any wonder that a bunch of sinners could get together and go out killing and say they did it for Christ? Absolutely. Welcome to the world. There are people in it, and as long as people are in charge, there will be killing for all kinds of stupid reasons.

July 30, 2010 at 2:14 pm | |

Diana Horel

My husband and I often say we don't want to be associated with what most people consider Christians. Fortunately, the church I'm a part of teaches that God loves ALL of us. I'm sorry she couldn't find such a place. They are getting harder and harder to find.

July 30, 2010 at 1:43 pm | | [Reply](#)

Bill

Sounds like she is just a politically/culturally liberal christian (which is not at all uncommon). I know she was catholic, so maybe she is leaving their tradition. I hope this doesn't derail her Christ the Lord series, which I have thoroughly enjoyed so far.

July 30, 2010 at 1:43 pm | | [Reply](#)

DGW

Anne Rice is a luney tune. Always has been. Always will be.

July 30, 2010 at 1:44 pm | | [Reply](#)

Lola

Agreed.

July 30, 2010 at 1:49 pm | |

Mikel

Christ, I'm told, was also fond of calling others "luney tunes" if he felt they needed guidance.

July 30, 2010 at 2:23 pm | |

Your Average Joe

God DOES NOT care if you are white,black,yellow, red,gay, tall, short,fat...ALL God cares about, is that you follow TEN simple rules.As I tell my wife when I see it or hear it on TV, when a sports player says "first I must think God for this goal/win/homerun/knockout/etc etc ...God DOES NOT CARE if a team wins the game, loses the game or even if they play the game all God cares about is that you have him in his heart, you attempt to follow his rules, and ive the same love his Son gave to the world.

The churces (ALL OF THEM) have taken what used to be a simple faith, and have turned it into not only a business, but a DO AS WE SAY, not as WE DO, way of life. The church has ALWAYS used peoples faith, to manipulate them to do what the church needs, not what the believer needs.

No need to go to church to find God, because if you get right down to it, YOU are God, you have him in you, he is around you, he is always with you.

July 30, 2010 at 1:44 pm | | [Reply](#)

MikeMazzla

Nice to know you have a direct line to god lol

July 30, 2010 at 1:52 pm | |

automagic

I'm curious why she follows Christ. Why doesn't she follow Muhammad, who is allegedly a more recent prophet of the same god? Throughout human history, there have been thousands of alleged gods. How does she know she's worshiping the right one, or if any of them are real? Does she believe Hindus worship fake gods? Jesus himself gave advice on beating slaves. In following Christ, does Anne Rice support slavery?

July 30, 2010 at 1:45 pm | | [Reply](#)

Denise

Christians do get things wrong sometimes—we are all humans, not perfect beings. But please don't lump everyone into being "anti" everything!

July 30, 2010 at 1:45 pm | | [Reply](#)

MikeMazzla

Well its a step in the right direction because the Catholic Church is a joke..now the next step is for her to admit there is no God and if there was a dude named Jesus he wasnt the so of any god.. wake up people.

July 30, 2010 at 1:45 pm | | [Reply](#)

Lucy

Mike ... Jesus is NOT the Catholic Church. In fact, He talked against it. ("Don't repeat the same prayers over and over like the heathen" and "Don't call any man down here Father because only God in heaven is your Father") And I'm sorry that you've never met Jesus but you can't say that He doesn't exist just because you haven't. Many Christians can attest to His existence, and not just from hearsay.

July 30, 2010 at 2:05 pm | |

Greg

You know Mike, I once believed as you do. At a certain point in my life, finding that I didn't have the answers and that nobody else I knew did, I took a chance. I thought, "what if I'm wrong, and there is something about this guy, Christ, that I should know? Before I go on further, wouldn't it make sense to at least learn about it? I haven't even been open to the idea my whole life. How could I possibly know?" So I researched. What I found changed my life. I suggest researching one thing that cannot be refuted, and see if you can explain why it's true. How is it that the Bible has been, since its creation, the #1 selling book in every language, every year? How is it that the story of Jesus Christ was written down and spread throughout the world faster than any other story ever, by far, and shows no sign of slowing down? What is special about this story? Just an idea. I decided that I had to quit being a hypocrite that claimed knowledge that Christ did not exist. Isn't it hypocritical to claim knowledge of something you have never studied? Blessings to you.

July 30, 2010 at 2:23 pm | |

Lola

I did not realize a person could not be a Democrat and a church-going Christian at the same time. I deeply resent how she throws all Christians (other than herself, of course) under the bus. I do not currently attend church, but I don't disparage the people who do. She is self-centered and not at all like Christ.

July 30, 2010 at 1:46 pm | | [Reply](#)

Wang Yu

Jesus, peace be upon him, never claimed to be God or literally the son of God as Christians claim. Jesus never called what he was teaching 'Christianity'. That was a word invented long after he died. In fact, his early followers were called 'Nazarenes'.

1st commandment is "GOD IS ONE". So why more followers of Jesus don't practice this is beyond me.

The purest form of monotheism practiced today is the Islamic faith.

Whatever prejudices you may have against Islam and Muslims, you cannot disagree that Islam is uncompromising when it comes to belief in ONE GOD. Jesus, Moses, Abraham, Lot, Muhammad, etc., are all considered Prophets and/or Messengers of God and nothing more.

All teh Prophets/Messengers preached the same message, i.e., belief in ONE GOD and that we are all HIS vicegerents on earth. GOD is Most Compassionate, Most Merciful, Most Gracious, etc.

Read the Holy Qur'an with an open mind and you will find The Truth.

July 30, 2010 at 1:47 pm | | [Reply](#)

Lucy

Oh, please, where do you get this stuff from? The evil Allah who is Satan, or his possessed messenger, Mohammed??

Jesus did say He was God, He accepted worship, and I'm sorry that your brain is too small to wrap around the concept of the Trinity - ONE GOD in three personalities. There are plenty of nature forms that display this fact.

July 30, 2010 at 2:13 pm | |

Michael

Talk about going from the frying pan to the fire....I don't think I care to read anything that instructs anyone to "kill Infidels"...thanks for playin!

July 30, 2010 at 2:29 pm | |

Critical Thinker

Ann Rice isn't "quitting" Christianity. She can't, because she was never there to begin with. She called herself a Christian, but she never accepted what Christianity stands for. All that is happening here is that she's finally ending the duplicity.

July 30, 2010 at 1:47 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

And neither, perhaps, have you, with so defensive, exclusive and rejectionist a perspective on your fellow man.

July 30, 2010 at 1:49 pm | |

LaDiva

@ Denise

Exactly. Thank u.

July 30, 2010 at 1:47 pm | | [Reply](#)

Wendy

ya know...sometimes I find that people who claim to believe in God but dont believe in Religion, just dont want to put in the work that it takes. It is not easy giving up your every sunday (an hour or so) to go to church....I guess when something stops being convenient, people stop believing.....then try to rationalize their decision and give you reasons as to why they dont go to church anymore.....the only one you owe your explanations to is God....so truly if that is how you feel, then why the press release? You got a new book coming out soon? Last one not do so hot? People prefer Harry Potter?

July 30, 2010 at 1:48 pm | | [Reply](#)

Lisa

It all depends on what church you belong to. The church we attend has its hypocrites, sure, but we'll take them, as sinners, just like we'll take "anybody" because we are all sinners and in need of God's grace. The best place to plant yourself, as a Christ follower, is where you're needed the most. She's missing an opportunity to help change the things she's offended by in "the church" ... she's abandoning the people who probably need her the most, the ones who present the biggest challenge to her. That's unfortunate. I wish she could come to Iowa and come to church with me and my crazy blended family.

July 30, 2010 at 1:48 pm | | [Reply](#)

Lynne

Your voice should be heard - Christianity needs to advocate for justice and equality and compassion. There needs to be increased awareness that God and science are not opposed, that God's love is for all people and that God loves us as we are, whatever that may be. Church is wonderful...the only problem is that there are people there! :) It is very difficult to live in community, even on occasion, even once or twice a week especially when we all think and behave so differently. There is, however, something sacred about gathering. The church is alive throughout the whole world - you have much ground to cover (e.g., have lunch with Jim Wallis of Sojourners magazine). Keep caring, keep voting, keep looking without and within...never quit...amen.

July 30, 2010 at 1:48 pm | | [Reply](#)

AnnBChrist

Jesus was neither a Christian nor a Jew, but a Man of God like Noah, and Abraham, David, and Solomon, Moses, Elijah and Muhammed and everyone else who does as Anne did by choosing to walk away from the trappings of hypocrisy and Turn to God.

July 30, 2010 at 1:48 pm | | [Reply](#)

HuH?

It's sad that someone who's apparently so intelligent could be so dumb. If still believes in Christ, she would be a Christian. There's no way around that. However, I agree...if she wants to distance herself from the "mainstream" men and women who do evil and try to use the church to give themselves legitimacy, MORE POWER TO HER!

July 30, 2010 at 1:49 pm | | [Reply](#)

Andy

I am sorry some of those here, those in Christianity and out, are often harsh in their words to each other. It is ok for a Christian and a believing atheist to think the other is wrong, to offer personal proof and experience, but not helpful to hate. I don't know which group- atheists or Christians- is more judgemental of people who choose to live a religious life and fall short. There are many religious who are quietly living a peaceful life, as well as agnostic, atheist. I like the quote above:

"The only thing worse that a smugly self-righteous christian is a smugly self-satisfied atheist." We all have a lot to learn from each other, and could be a lot kinder in our listening.

To counteract Ann's quote, I don't think being atheist, or just upset with religious folks means you are necessarily anti-Christian, anti-homemakers, anti-any political group, or anti-monogamous. Not saying Ann is any of these, but that is similar how she is describing Christians, making generalizations from some extreme groups.

I personally am a Christian, of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. But I do not fit the stereotype of those who are disgusted with or condemn religious people. I feel empowered and supported in my dreams and goals as a woman. I have a Biology degree and think Evolution is very plausible. I am loving towards those who have different lifestyles than a monogamous one, although I have strong convictions on the issue. I am not a Republican, but not a Democrat.

Choice, respect, and love are key. I think, from personal spiritual experience and learning, we are brothers and sisters of an actual Heavenly Father. We like kids quarrel, we mess up. a lot. I think He tried to give us His Church and gospel in Jesus Christ's teachings, and we disregarded it, so we need further direction today. I have my freedom to choose to listen to our Father or not, and to be kind and patient to this earthly family or not. I think that after we die we will all live again, believer and nonbeliever, and will have different states of existence as chosen in this part of our journey.

From reading the news, it would be clear that if there is a god in heaven, he doesn't angrily force people to listen to him. I hope that the readers here, as well as the author, find peace in patiently loving and diligently following one's convictions.

Thanks for reading all of this.

July 30, 2010 at 1:49 pm | | [Reply](#)

Constance

Thanks for writing it, Andy.

July 30, 2010 at 2:29 pm | |

She Wasn't A Christian

1 John 2:19 "They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us."

July 30, 2010 at 1:49 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Yes, she was, and is still. I firmly believe that Jesus finds your exclusive, unwelcoming and rejectionist perspective on a fellow being offensive.

July 30, 2010 at 1:52 pm | |

She Wasn't A Christian

Read the scripture that I posted. The BIBLE says that, not me.

The problem here is that she isn't affiliating with a genuine Independant, Fundamental, Bible believing Church. She was involved with a religion. If she is genuinely a believer in Jesus she will be affiliated with a Church. Jesus died for the Church. We are called to assemble ourselves and worship Him. Hebrews 10:25 "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

July 30, 2010 at 2:01 pm | |

Mikel

How do you get off defining church so narrowly?

What makes you so certain God won't smile on her new form of worship? Perhaps she'll simply gather with a few friends, sit in the backyard, and discuss God, the Bible, and life in that way. Perhaps she'll migrate from small group to small group, discussing and sharing ideas along the way.

Why so self-righteous in your own view?

July 30, 2010 at 2:07 pm | |

She Wasn't a Christian

First. It's not about me at all. It's about what does the Bible say? We are called to preach the Gospel. The Bible says in Luke 14:23 "And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled." That my HOUSE may be FILLED.

Proverbs 14:12 "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

I think what happens is all too often, and in the case of Ms. Rice, we look at the people instead of the one we should be looking at, which is Jesus. If someone leaves a Church because of the people, they were there for the wrong reasons.

We aren't called to follow Church members, we are called to follow Christ. You go to Church to hear God's Word being preached. To be edified; to grow; to worship. We are all hypocrites. That's why Jesus had to come and die for our sins. Because all of our hearts are desperately wicked. So to sit around and talk so negatively about Christians is futile because we KNOW we are hypocrites, that's one more reason why we go to Church...the hospital, if you will, for hypocrites.

July 30, 2010 at 2:26 pm | |

Polar

Jesus came for one reason and that was to die. He had to die for me because he knew that although I try to live a morally good life (by loving others around me, taking opportunity to be helpful, giving of myself and my money and working hard to be the person he would have me to be), that I could still not prevent my sinful nature. The biggest problem with Christians and non-Christians is that we believe that we are good. We are not. I thank Jesus for taking care of my sin for me.

July 30, 2010 at 1:49 pm | | [Reply](#)

Lucy

AMEN! And nobody else has paid the price for our sin, nor rose from the dead to show us the way of eternal life ... NOT Mohammed, not Abraham, not Buddha, not Ghandi Only Jesus!

July 30, 2010 at 2:10 pm | |

Truth

MATTHEW 13:18 – 24

July 30, 2010 at 1:49 pm | | [Reply](#)

Juana Maria

Excellent decision Ann. This is the 21st. Century and enough is enough with the intolerance and hate.

July 30, 2010 at 1:50 pm | | [Reply](#)

Lucy

The 21st Century is an exciting time because we are living in the last days. Intolerance and hate, you say? Or are you just rebellious to not want to repent of sin?? "Broad is the way that leads to destruction and narrow is the way that leads to life."

July 30, 2010 at 1:58 pm | |

Gretchen

So, I guess the people she wants to embrace now are the "true" loving people? There are no hypocrite atheists or non believers? I guess the feminists who feel it is ok to end the life of a child in the womb have something over Christians?

They are more tolerable to be around? That those who have no need for traditional values for upbringing children are the people who truly are superior? We are called as followers of Christ to love all men. Christians and non Christians. If one thinks that by leaving Christians behind they will be a more "pure" follower of Christ, they are mistaken. This world hates those who want to follow Christ. They hate His name and His followers. Yes, believers aren't perfect, and I have been hurt by them. BUT, in that...I learned who I am really to follow, Jesus Christ alone. We are all growing in our relationship with Him. Thank God for Christians. In my 27 year journey to know Christ deeper, they have been my encouragement, my spiritual sharpener, my prayer partners, my friends.

July 30, 2010 at 1:50 pm | | [Reply](#)

russ

some of the comments here about Christians are nothing but generalizations and simply not true. we're not all hypocrites and finger-pointers.

July 30, 2010 at 1:50 pm | | [Reply](#)

Veronica13

Pity she didn't learn her religion before she began judging it.

July 30, 2010 at 1:51 pm | | [Reply](#)

nina

so, like many believers, Rice doesn't know what an atheist is.
atheists are not believers in Christ who don't belong to a church.
atheists do not accept any claim for any deity as being real because there's no evidence.

<http://ntrygg.wordpress.com>

July 30, 2010 at 1:51 pm | | [Reply](#)

Larry

I fully agreed with her until the last paragraph... too bad she didn't entirely come to her senses.

July 30, 2010 at 1:51 pm | | [Reply](#)

matt

Will you people grow up already and accept the fact that we're just another species living on a planet with thousands of other species? Also, stop fearing death and just accept that it will happen. We need to drop religion for the sake of our future. Religion has killed enough people.

July 30, 2010 at 1:52 pm | | [Reply](#)

Lucy

And Christ has saved millions of people with eternal life. I'm not afraid of death because Jesus showed me that there is life afterwards. This earthly life is dust in the wind but eternity, well, will last forever!

July 30, 2010 at 1:56 pm | |

James

I can totally understand. Faith in Christ is not a prerequisite for certain political views. I have seen those who have hated me and my church and claimed I am not a "Christian" simply because I do not think exactly how they think. Christ would not support such hate or "classes" that disparage individuals or groups that do not fall in line with their particular political or specific religious views. I call myself a Christian, because I believe in Christ; however, what is sometimes labeled as "Christian" is far from the love and hope Christ taught.

July 30, 2010 at 1:52 pm | | [Reply](#)

VS

Christ was and still simple "God" and his 12 disciples were simple people, none of them was Catholic and orthodoxetc. Now there are hundreds of dominations and teachings, all these are human addition which he will judge us for these additions. I am a Coptic Christian, our church is a traditional church, never added or changed any teachings of Christ for 2000 years. Jesus said I am the only way to the kingdom of God and his way is full of suffering. Our relationship with God is like a test, if you don't study hard you won't pass it. She said in her first statement "I can not be anti-gay, anti....etc. and his immediate followers were very clear in their message, why we have to modify the message to accommodate our way of life?

She can not take part and leave the other and that is what happened through the centuries; add or delete and make your own church to accommodate people's lifestyle. I am wondering what will happen 1000 years from now!!!!!!!

July 30, 2010 at 1:52 pm | | [Reply](#)

Terry

Right on Anne....I made the same decision many years ago. It is heartbreaking to know that now for thousands of years all of the war, greed, discrimination and untold injustice and suffering instilled upon mankind is the product of organized religion...whether that be Christianity, Judaism, Muslim and those humans that guide the teachings and dogmas of those religions.

July 30, 2010 at 1:52 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jesus

Feed my children that have no food.

July 30, 2010 at 1:52 pm | | [Reply](#)

Lucy

She's dead wrong about Christianity being anti-science, as every piece of scientific research has actually supported the Bible. Also dead wrong about being anti-feminist - males and females are the same, just with different functions (Duh!) And she just doesn't get that Christians love the sinners but hate the sin. Being gay IS a sin, along with much of what each of us do every day. That's why we need a Savior.

July 30, 2010 at 1:53 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Lucy, please keep up.

Anne didn't accuse the Bible of being anti-science or anti-feminist; she accused the contemporary Christian community of being those things.

July 30, 2010 at 2:10 pm | |

Bruce

Jesus had criticism for only one segment of society, the "brood of vipers", the religious...outwardly one thing, inwardly another thing. Anne Rice has seen what Christ saw. How she reacts is her business. Buildings and doctrine is not Christianity, the love of Christ is the foundation, what we build upon it is also our own business.

July 30, 2010 at 1:53 pm | | [Reply](#)

cornkits

"I am a happy atheist and all those hostile, divisive Christians could go to hell..."

Hostility and divisiveness, anyone?

July 30, 2010 at 1:53 pm | | [Reply](#)

CONGUERO

Richard-Missouri says: "Wow! Anne Rice is truly 'Queen of the Damned!'"

That's exactly what she is talking about in this article!! Anyone who says something like that-I would question their relationship with the Lord. Here Anne is, one for whom Christ died ... she says she puts her trust in Him ...and you're gonna take it upon YOURSELF to pass down judgement about where she will spend eternity?!?!? "Even Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce against him a

railing judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!" Yet, you're going to pass judgement on a fellow believer? It makes no sense. Jesus said "Many will say to me 'did we not do this and that in your name?' and I will say go away from me you evildoers, I never knew you!!!" (paraphrased)

July 30, 2010 at 1:54 pm | [Reply](#)

Critical Thinker

@Jango Davis: Hey OLY, Jesus wasn't a Christian, he was JEW. He had no interest in setting up a separate religion from Judaism. Might want to try reading that bible sometime bub.

Yes, Jesus was born a Jew. What is the basis for your assertion that He "had no interest in setting up a separate religion from Judaism (sic)." Consider Matthew 16:18: "Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church." What church is Jesus building? Not Judaism - it was already established. Jesus is clearly establishing a new Church here.

July 30, 2010 at 1:54 pm | [Reply](#)

Bob

Anne, if you keep your eye on people, traditions, icons and rituals, you're going to be disappointed. I'd encourage you to continue to seek the answers from the Word. It's living, powerful, sharp and knows your heart and thoughts. Keep your eye on Jesus. He's the author and finisher of our faith. Seek His truth through His life.

You also need people in your life who will be there to encourage you and for you to encourage them. Accountability is very important and it's the framework for Christian growth. I will lift you in prayer. God bless you!

July 30, 2010 at 1:55 pm | [Reply](#)

Sweet Jesus

Well, all I can say is this: Obviously she is not a TRUE Christian, so that's fine if she wants to leave Christianity. I hope she enjoys eternal damnation!

HAHAHAHAHAHA!! Just kidding! Christians are stupid! Thank goodness she can think for herself and use her rational mind now.

July 30, 2010 at 1:56 pm | [Reply](#)

scott

pretty funny

July 30, 2010 at 2:02 pm |

Robin

@matt – i agree 100%

July 30, 2010 at 1:56 pm | [Reply](#)

Rod 1148

I've heard it said" the purpose of religion is to make the world a little less sad." When it ceases to do that or adds to the world's sadness it can't be valid.

July 30, 2010 at 1:56 pm | [Reply](#)

Let Down by the Headline Again!

I was excited when I first read the headline,

only to be disappointed when I read the article.

I was hoping she had finally come to her senses

and realized how evil ALL religions really are, along with

money, governments, and all the other power hungry

cravings of humanity!

July 30, 2010 at 1:56 pm | [Reply](#)

Lola

I think it's funny that liberals here agree with Anne leaving the Catholic church, yet they hate Ayaan Hirsi Ali (female author) who renounced Islam. In the case of Ayaan Hirsi Ali, she suffered genital mutilation in the name of her father's religion. The liberals hate her and her assessment of Islam.

July 30, 2010 at 1:58 pm | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Liberals hate Ayaan Hirsi Ali? Funny. I'm a liberal and I had no idea I was supposed to hate this woman.

July 30, 2010 at 1:59 pm |

Rod 1148

I'm a liberal. Don't pain with too broad a brush.

July 30, 2010 at 2:01 pm |

Sweet Jesus

I'm liberal and a fan of her.

July 30, 2010 at 2:05 pm |

JenniferCA

I'm a liberal too and love what she is doing for girls subjected to FGM. I have no problem with her renouncing Islam either since I believe choice of religion (or of none, for the atheists out there) is everyone's right. Lola, it seems you want to make this a political argument instead of a spiritual one. I'll bite and say, too bad you are wrong about liberals. Fortunately there are enough of us working for your civil liberties that you still have the right to spew out fallacies as much as you like.

July 30, 2010 at 2:51 pm |

Zahara

Finally!! Someone who has put into words what I have thought and felt for a long time! I saw this once on a bumper sticker " I love Jesus, its his fan club that I cant stand". I too refuse to be anti gay, anti feminist, anti democrat and anti science. I'm sick of supposed followers of Christ who claim to love all, then turn around and bash people who don't believe exactly what they believe. The key word being "believe".

July 30, 2010 at 1:58 pm | [Reply](#)

LaDiva

@ cornkits

"I am a happy atheist and all those hostile, divisive Christians could go to hell..."

And now who is the one who is being hostile.. Don't choke on your own hypocrisy...lol

July 30, 2010 at 1:58 pm | [Reply](#)

DouRic

Christians are not the only ones that are hypocrites. No one can escape that all the time. You don't have to prove to anyone, other than God, that you are Christian. At least Christians aren't strapping bombs onto their followers and sending them into the streets & markets.

July 30, 2010 at 1:59 pm | | [Reply](#)

Fred L. Fraud

I quit eating egg salad sandwiches.

July 30, 2010 at 1:59 pm | | [Reply](#)

vance

FINALLY! Someone who understands what this is all about! You GO Fred. You da man!

July 30, 2010 at 2:39 pm | |

Scott Robinson

I completely understand what she's saying. She's rejecting organized religion, not Christ. I am proudly democratic, scientific, equal-rights defending, and CHRISTIAN. The rabid right does not speak for me. And they don't speak for God.

July 30, 2010 at 1:59 pm | | [Reply](#)

Truth

John Chapter 6, verses..

66 From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.

67 Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?

68 Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.

I agree with Simon Peter...I'm staying, and I will pray for Ann.

July 30, 2010 at 2:00 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mary, an Ohio Mom

I completely relate to how she feels. I was born and raised a Catholic (pre and post Vatican II) but I haven't set one foot inside a CC in over 5 years now. By choice. Yes I'm liberal, a Democrat. Conservatives ask me – oh you're pro-abortion. I am just stunned when they make this statement! Who in the world is pro-abortion I ask? I am pro-choice! I firmly believe I don't have the right to tell others how they should vote, which religion they should join, whom they should marry (yes I'm pro-gay rights), if they should obtain an abortion or not.

Everyone is so consumed with telling others how to live their lives right now, that they forget to live their own with honesty, respect for others, humility, kindness, decent human nature, etc.

July 30, 2010 at 2:00 pm | | [Reply](#)

Joey

Anne sounds comfortable having others follow HER, buying her books and all that, but she seems irritated following anyone else. I DO understand her contempt for superficial (and super-financial) religion though.

July 30, 2010 at 2:00 pm | | [Reply](#)

TexInVA

She should leave it altogether and accept science, logic and reason instead of 2000 year old myths and superstitious nonsense.

July 30, 2010 at 2:01 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jesus

I was not teaching politics or religion (the religious leaders killed me). I was teaching love, kindness and compassion.

Please try to be nicer to each other.

July 30, 2010 at 2:01 pm | | [Reply](#)

Reuter

Don't enter the tunnel, don't follow the bright light!!

Is that you mom??

July 30, 2010 at 2:05 pm | |

God

attaboy.

July 30, 2010 at 2:11 pm | |

the REAL Jesus

I can't believe your pretending to be me!

You imposter!

July 30, 2010 at 2:13 pm | |

Fasted 7403

Dear Anne Rice.

Many of the posts I've read here reflect the truth in some way or another – many do not. You will not be leaving Christianity. At least not the Theology of Christianity. You will be leaving the Theocracy of Christianity and the short-lived religion with their name-plate on Christianity. As is said, "Man's faith is justified by faith alone. Faith is the true Shibboleth." Keep your faith. Hold it dear to your breast. Or wear it like a badge of honor and shield. It makes no difference. You have accepted into your heart, the belief in God, in Christ and the hope of life everlasting. You will never leave those behind on your journey through life.

Be well.

July 30, 2010 at 2:01 pm | | [Reply](#)

jr

Kind of hard to be as intellectual as Rice and be Christian a

July 30, 2010 at 2:02 pm | | [Reply](#)

Dimslie

You're an idiot. You probably think Sean Penn is an intellectual.

July 30, 2010 at 2:10 pm | |

Athiest4Jesus

Well said Anne. Reminds me of Ghandi when he was asked what he thought of Christianity. He replied:

"I like your Christ, I do not like your Christians. Your Christians are so unlike your Christ."

July 30, 2010 at 2:02 pm | | [Reply](#)

Baltazar

Yet another opportunity for popular culture + media to bash Christianity as a false religion.

CNN + relativist followers are all too happy to oblige. Bravo!

July 30, 2010 at 2:03 pm | | [Reply](#)

Danny

I've wondered if Jesus wasn't just the Albert Einstein of his day and saw that the greatest thing he could do for a world so divided by religions that you could be killed for your beliefs, was to introduce a new morality that would trump religious leaders that made people slaves in the name of a perceived deity.

He did claim to be the son of god, but also proclaimed EVERYONE who walked the earth were children of god. I do not know of any place in the bible (a book that is basically a 150-2000 year game of "telephone") where he claimed he was any more important than any of his "siblings". His message boiled down to "What goes around comes around, and, "if everyone treated each other the way they would like to be treated all problems would disappear". He didn't say Gays, non-believers and liberals should be cast out. He said the opposite. Forgive all.

What's REALLY HILARIOUS is I bet you cannot name ONE SINGLE PERSON in the HISTORY OF MANKIND that would have been considered a BIGGER LIBERAL relative to the what would have been considered "liberal" in thier day, than JESUS. Ultimately, he was killed because he was REALLY GOOD and making others LIBERAL like himself. He is to Liberalism what Ron Hubbard was to Scientologoy.

July 30, 2010 at 2:03 pm | | [Reply](#)

JESUS SAVES!!!

Edmond passes to Hawk, Hawk back to Edmond shoots!!.....

JESUS SAVES!!!

July 30, 2010 at 2:04 pm | | [Reply](#)

LaDiva

I would love for someone to show me anywhere in the world where it says that being a christian means u are perfect and free from sin... Lol sit down as that will take a long time...

July 30, 2010 at 2:05 pm | | [Reply](#)

Ken

The church is made up of sinners without a doubt. Which is why it's here for us after all.

July 30, 2010 at 2:10 pm | |

Prodigal

"Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God..."

July 30, 2010 at 2:06 pm | | [Reply](#)

Ken

She said ""following Christ does not mean following His followers." ,,,, . I can appreciate some of what she is trying to say.

Some folks do get a bit strong in their statements about others. But they do not necessarily reflect the whole church. nor it's teachings,,,Following Christ is the most important thing.

July 30, 2010 at 2:06 pm | | [Reply](#)

Smellie

::eye-roll:: ::golf clap::

for a marginally clever stunt to garner some undeserved attention for yourself, so you can share your current enlightened POV with the rest of us. What ever will you do the next time you reach another grand realization that we should hear about?

July 30, 2010 at 2:07 pm | | [Reply](#)

Dimslie

She endorses the killing of babies and men finding "love" in other men's rectums. She's right. She's not a Christian.

July 30, 2010 at 2:08 pm | | [Reply](#)

d

I have been a Christian for a long time and nothing about it is "anti-gay," "anti-feminist," "anti-science" and "anti-Democrat unless you TWIST it into being so. The real problem is people like her, liberals, their philosophy is quite simple: Turn everyone against the modern family, church, morals and turn society into lazy, dumbed down individuals who are dependent upon the government to live and breathe – it's a perfect system, perfect for fools.

July 30, 2010 at 2:08 pm | | [Reply](#)

Mikel

Isn't it simpler than that, D? Isn't it simply that she, in her own pursuit of a relationship with Christ, has found her personal distaste for the Christian community a distraction? Wouldn't you support anyone's courageous quest to seek out a form of worship which suits them and best connects them to Jesus?

July 30, 2010 at 2:14 pm | |

Jedah

I think you're mistaking liberals for Jesus, D. He said so himself that he came here to divide, to set son against father, daughter against mother. Read your book before you start shooting off at the mouth about something you know nothing about.

July 30, 2010 at 2:16 pm | |

Cassman

Good for you Ann, what a smart, smart woman. I was at church a few years ago and the preacher was droning on and I thought, "you know, I just can't agree with what he is saying and he really doesn't know what he is talking about", about that time he said, "and if you don't agree with me, then THAT IS SATAN IN YOUR HEAD" and I left and haven't been back.

July 30, 2010 at 2:09 pm | | [Reply](#)

Elisa

Anytime you focus on MAN you will be disappointed because man is a fallen creature... We need to focus on GOD instead...Christianity is a personal choice. Reading HIS word molds and shapes us, NOT other people...

"Christian" means "Christ follower" so if Anne Rice still believes in Christ she is still a Christian...

Christ was the most loving, compassionate person there ever was. As Christians we are called to emulate him. We are NOT to hate gays, feminists, etc. Christ himself associated himself with the outcasts as an example...I too hate some aspects of "organized" religion however, I now attend a church led by Chip Ingram who is the most intelligent and warm teacher. He keeps telling us that being a Christian does NOT mean you "leave your brains" at the door...

July 30, 2010 at 2:09 pm | | [Reply](#)

NativeTX

This woman is in a deperate search for something that makes her feel good and is easy to follow. Unfortunately for her, I guess, Christianity is not easy and it is not for whimps. It appears that she's let some hypocrites taint her beliefs and its too bad that she can't articulate those in a way that doesn't indict an entire group of people. There are people everywhere who subscribe to a belief but don't actually live it, Christians are no exception. But the vast majority of charity in the U.S. comes from, you guessed, it Christians. I pray she finds what she's looking for and that it is in the grace and ever-lasting life given to us by our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

July 30, 2010 at 2:09 pm | | [Reply](#)

bkdoube

dude leave out the our savior part. – cloth diapered baby jesus is your savior not ours

July 30, 2010 at 2:15 pm | |

Monica

Bravo!

July 30, 2010 at 2:10 pm | | [Reply](#)

ED

Christ is a fairy tale. She is harboring illusions and living in a dream whether or not she belongs to any church as are any humans that believe in super-natural beings.

July 30, 2010 at 2:10 pm | | [Reply](#)

jack

Wow, what A CONFUSED WOMAN.

July 30, 2010 at 2:10 pm | | [Reply](#)

CC

Who are you referring to as the "confused woman"? ED?

July 30, 2010 at 2:14 pm | |

bkdoube

The only hope for the continued population of the planet earth is to rid the world of these foolish beliefs. Once they may have calmed the brooding beast but should have been dropped off at the stone/bronze age transition. In 2010 we have no time for the rabid stupidity that is organized religion – all of them – not just christianity – need to go! There are no burning bushes or walking on water. The pope is just a man. All the living gods are gone.

July 30, 2010 at 2:12 pm | | [Reply](#)

Chip

Amen!!! She is not quitting her faith just the Church! A breath of fresh air indeed.

July 30, 2010 at 2:13 pm | | [Reply](#)

TJ

I don't care if she starts worshipping green m&ms and bermuda grass as long as she picks back up in the Witch and Vampire series where she left off.

July 30, 2010 at 2:13 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jedah

She should just leave the whole religion behind. It's pure madness plain and simple. She was such a good writer but with all that christian crap she's been writing.....it's sad to see talent go to waste. It's not just christians who are hypocritical, that whole book is. How can you claim to be a loving and compassionate god when you plan to send everyone who won't bow down to you into a flaming pit to suffer for eternity? Sounds more like the devil to me.

July 30, 2010 at 2:13 pm | | [Reply](#)

Rev. Jessie Jackson

My brothers from another mother:

What Miss Rice has done is an abomination and is deserving of condemnation leading to her ultimate humiliation! She should be castized, criticised, and possibly crucified! How dare she say these things against the black man? Power to my black brothers! It is time for us to ahh, what?....She didn't say anything about the black man? Huh? The Church. Christianity? Jesus Christ almighty, who gave me these note?!? Can't a brother get break? Umm., yeah, so, um, down with the KKK!

July 30, 2010 at 2:14 pm | | [Reply](#)

Waiting

When does football season start?

July 30, 2010 at 2:14 pm | | [Reply](#)

Wigt

She's just getting old and is worried about death. We'd all rather live forever. Her initial move to join Xtianity was a bridge too far, and now that she's gotten a good taste of stupid, religious people, she's backing off a notch. She's still unwilling to give up the fantasy completely, though, so she's Christian, but not a churchgoer. Very well. It's normal to be afraid of the future, and of death.

July 30, 2010 at 2:14 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jedah

I have always felt that was why she did it. It seems the older people get the more fearful of the reaper they become so they turn to religion because it offers some hope...false hope, but hope none the less.

July 30, 2010 at 2:19 pm | |

Ray Levac

Good for her as a kid I was rasied as roman cath. and forced into it but I don't go to church but I still have my own faith and that what counts what you beleive in your hart and not the church.

July 30, 2010 at 2:16 pm | | [Reply](#)

Peter

There is great difference between the religion of Christ and the religion about Christ

July 30, 2010 at 2:16 pm | | [Reply](#)

Brent Sage

While you're at it, also say goodbye to peace, exaltation and destiny. Say hello to the throng of empty "single and solitary" humanists.

July 30, 2010 at 2:16 pm | | [Reply](#)

asrael

And goodbye to self-satisfied posts...?

July 30, 2010 at 2:46 pm | |

Jesus

If you practice love, kindness and compassion you will find joy. Please be nice to one another and don't forget about the hungry and homeless.

July 30, 2010 at 2:16 pm | | [Reply](#)

God

Medammit, son. The line is "don't forget about FEEDING the hungry and homeless". (mutters to himself) when is this kid gonna get it right... two thousand years already.

July 30, 2010 at 2:24 pm | |

The Janitor

You aren't Jesus. You cite works. Works are good. Anyone can do works but works alone do not save you. Your first 'work' has to be internal. To borrow an evangelistic analogy- in an emergency on an airliner the oxygen masks drop down. You are instructed to put them on yourself first then attend to others. Faith without works is useless, as in Anne's case, but works without reconnecting with Christ through regular prayer and reading of scripture and corporate worship with other Christians is the Devil's playground. Such is Anne Rice. A pity. Repentance from being lost in your sins from birth and asking Christ to save you is the oxygen mask.

July 30, 2010 at 2:33 pm | |

CQCQ

I don't like labeling myself as Baptist, Methodist or any other religion, each one seems to think they are the only ones that are right, and not to mention, the only ones going to Heaven...How crazy is that? The most important thing is, you have YOUR OWN relationship with God and His Son, Christ.. end of story.

July 30, 2010 at 2:17 pm | | [Reply](#)

In agreement

The word "Christian" came into usage long after Jesus' death. Jesus himself never used the word. Better to pay attention to what he actually taught, something that seems to have nothing to do with the belief and behaviors of most modern day people who apply the word Christianity to themselves. I have no desire for the word to be associated with me and I doubt Jesus would be pleased with the religion that has come to be associated with his name. When one argues about who is and isn't a real Christian one is arguing about something that is not about Jesus. Even the concept of the god/man/king who dies for the sins of the people (and is reborn/resurrected/comes again) is of non-Judeo-Christian origins, pre-dates Jesus and was blended into the religion created after Jesus' death that we know as Christianity. Jesus was a thought-provoking teaching of morality. Christianity is a religion he would not recognize as having anything to do with him.

July 30, 2010 at 2:18 pm | | [Reply](#)

John

Science flies you to the moon,
Religion flies you into a building!

July 30, 2010 at 2:18 pm | | [Reply](#)

Pete

Christ is a lousy god anyway. I get enough fear from politicians I don't need someone telling me about going to hell. I hope she finds peace and a system that works for her.

July 30, 2010 at 2:19 pm | | [Reply](#)

Joe

"If ye love Me, keep my commandments."

John 14:15

July 30, 2010 at 2:19 pm | | [Reply](#)

Felix

I think she is just being a baby Christian and not yet matured. She needs to buckle up else she may lose faith completely in God

July 30, 2010 at 2:19 pm | | [Reply](#)

Fran

Congratulations, Ms. Rice. I understand completely, and I agree with you 100%. I left organized religion decades ago, and I am a better person and my relationship with God is much better - vibrant, growing - since I left.

July 30, 2010 at 2:19 pm | | [Reply](#)

Tom in the Great NW

Christians are the most destructive and homicidal group in world history: the Crusades, the Inquisition, Napoleon's Christian armies, Hitler's Christian armies, the Czars' Christian armies – they are the greatest killers the world has ever seen. And the commandments? Is it ever OK to steal – no; is it ever OK to commit adultery –no; what about being gay – no; is it ever OK to covet – no. But is it ever OK to kill (this should be their most uncompromising tenet!) – yes, yes, and yes!

July 30, 2010 at 2:20 pm | | [Reply](#)

Roy

As usual, the mainstream media doesn't have a clue how to write about religion. She is NOT QUITTING CHRISTIANITY. She is quitting organized religion.

Big difference.

I'm a Christian and I go to church because it is critical according to the Bible to do so to grow in the faith.

However, some days I can understand her decision. The church is full of hypocrites. The ones that know they are and look to God to better are not the problem. It's the real snakes in the midst that are.

July 30, 2010 at 2:20 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jesus Himself

Shame on all of you for even discussing this online. You should be at the nearest church giving me your money.

July 30, 2010 at 2:20 pm | | [Reply](#)

Satan Himself

I told Jesus Himself to say this. We all know that Jesus has no need for your money, since he already owns all of creation.

I just do what I can to seduce people like "Jesus Himself" to bring the discussion down to things of this world (money), where I can prey on them. I love it when people become attached to money. That means I'm winning. So listen to "Jesus Himself." He's very smart. I taught him well.

July 30, 2010 at 2:33 pm | |

Warren Lewis

I can empathize with Ms Rice's feelings but I don't think God is the radical individualist she imagines Him to be. Humans are social creatures and a saved person, all alone, is missing an element of his humanity. The church, God bless it, is Christ's body on earth. Family is always embarrassing but you can't get away from it. She cannot be fully Christian without the church. I'm not talking about her salvation here, but her sanctification.

July 30, 2010 at 2:20 pm | | [Reply](#)

LaDiva

@ Pete

No, u need someone to tell u about your spelling...lol

July 30, 2010 at 2:21 pm | | [Reply](#)

Scott

Amen! I was brought up to believe in a loving and forgiving God. As an adult, I have only seen hate, hypocrisy, and intolerance in the Church (Catholic). I believe in Christ but also feel like an outsider.

July 30, 2010 at 2:22 pm | | [Reply](#)

Greg

We are not of this world.

July 30, 2010 at 2:34 pm | |

bkdoube

It is a well known fact that the cloth diapered baby Jesus had immaculate sh!t – it did not smell!!!

July 30, 2010 at 2:22 pm | | [Reply](#)

Prodigal

Being a Christian does not mean you are free from sin...it means that you believe in the only begotten Son of The Father, namely our Lord Jesus Christ, that he was born of a virgin, preached the gospel unto the world for three years, that he was slain bearing the weight of the sins of the world for all time upon his battered and bloody frame and that he arose in absolute victory over sin and death on the third day for all time. He admonished all who believed in Him to follow Him. To be specific Jesus said in St Luke Chap 9 vs 23 ""If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." By doing this we are striving to do the exact things that He did and live the exact way he did. Jesus loved, he cared for everyone, he healed, he cleansed, he taught all those who would listen and learn, he died for the sins of all mankind, and rose in triumphant victory as we will on that great and glorious day...oh if we would only learn that life on this earth is not about ruling parties religious or otherwise but about repenting day by day, working towards our perfection by allowing the conversion of our spirit through Gods holy spirit until that day of our great and final redemption for Paul has said that we shall not all sleep but some will in a moment in a twinkling of an eye...shall be changed...we then shall be like him and will look upon Him our Lord, and then we will understand all having gained all for eternity....Anne Rice, everyone...I will pray for you today and everyday....that you keep your eyes on the Lord Jesus for your redemption draws nigh and our current age is indeed drawing short and will soon close...and I dont mean 2012 either but if I and many others are reading the signs of the times correctly....it wont be all that much longer indeed. Come Lord Jesus. May God the Father and our Lord and savior Jesus Christ bless and keep and open the hearts and minds of all who believe unto that faithful day of the Lord.

July 30, 2010 at 2:23 pm | | [Reply](#)

bkdoube

Thank you. You have given us a classic example of a psychotic christian wack-job. and no I am not afraid of being smoted

July 30, 2010 at 2:26 pm | |

asrael

Vainly seeking ...one ...original thought in Prodigal's post...

July 30, 2010 at 2:34 pm | |

justme

Cathy

Why should we go to church to show our love for God and Jesus? Rarely is it mentioned that Christ went "Church" or "House of Worship" except when he was 3 and when he through out the tax collectors. Christ's church was out and about going from country to country. Our churches today are full of hypocrites, politicians and pedophiles. I quit going to church a long time ago and my walk with God is much stronger now. I don't think you have to go to church to know God, you go to church to know God through someone else's eyes. Matthew 18:20 "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

July 30, 2010 at 2:23 pm | | [Reply](#)

LaDiva

@ Tom in the Great NW

I would say non-christians were the most destructive. The moment u wanted to preach the word of Christ they were ready to throw wood and fire on you...

July 30, 2010 at 2:23 pm | | [Reply](#)

Bruce

It's hard to believe Anne or many of the posters here when you generalize and stereotype Christianity. Religion is a beautiful thing, but it needs virtuous followers to maintain it. That's not easy in this selfish culture of stereotypes and self serving. I read the comments here and it paints an ugly picture of ignorance.

July 30, 2010 at 2:23 pm | | [Reply](#)

scott

No offense, Bruce, but "religion" doesn't need anything. Religion is just a word. It seems that you need religion, not vice versa.

July 30, 2010 at 2:27 pm | |

Suz

My respect for Anne Rice just went up about a thousand points.

July 30, 2010 at 2:23 pm | | [Reply](#)

ligaya143

And Christ said unto Peter, "And you Simon BarJonah are Peter (Rock in Greek) and on this Rock I will build My Church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it. Whatever you bind on earth will be bounded on heaven and whatever you set loose on earth will be loosen in heaven" Imagine the authority that Jesus Christ Himself gave to His Church. Yes its true the Church is not entirely made of saints but sinners as well but in the entire history of mankind its only the Catholic Church that stood the test of times . Empires come and go, kingdoms come and go , inspite of trials, persecutions, martyrdoms, scandals the Catholic Church is still here for more than 2000 years and the Church will still be here for another thousand years because Jesus Christ founded the Church and as promised by Jesus "I will be with you until the end of time" Jesus is faithful to His promises and 100% sure He is keeping His promise on this one. This is one sign that Jesus is with teh Church.

July 30, 2010 at 2:24 pm | | [Reply](#)

Martin Luther

I felt the same way about the church 500 years ago. So I created my own!

July 30, 2010 at 2:24 pm | | [Reply](#)

scott

How many people have died in the name of religion (i.e. the crusades)?

How many people have died in the name of atheism or personal choice (belief in God, but not organized religion)?

July 30, 2010 at 2:25 pm | | [Reply](#)

april

Sounds like a christian who stopped identifying with other christians. me too.

July 30, 2010 at 2:25 pm | | [Reply](#)

asrael

And how did that work out, Martin...?

July 30, 2010 at 2:27 pm | | [Reply](#)

guest

"Everyday people leave the church and go back to God" – Lenny Bruce

July 30, 2010 at 2:27 pm | | [Reply](#)

guest

"Every day people leave the church and go back to God" – Lenny Bruce

July 30, 2010 at 2:27 pm | | [Reply](#)

Tom in the Great NW

Isaac Newton had it right – he said the only 'religion' that you need is to love God and love your neighbor. No mitred hats, no celebrate priests, no rickety dogma, no plate passed around, and no gods in the form of Beck, Cheney, Rove, Reagan, Nixon, or Bush!!

July 30, 2010 at 2:28 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jersey George

Wise decision Anne, because organized religion is corrupt, hypocritical, and tyrannical. Look no further than the catholic priests and evangelical creeps who molest innocent children in their charge, and then are shuffled to different parishes to cover up their disgusting behavior. If the pope and other religious leaders who violate their sacred vows were moral people they would have resigned their posts long ago and accepted punishment for their crimes. But no, the fools and tools of religion find it easy to alibi for and forgive the religious hierarchy of their immoral acts. One does not have to have religion in order to be "decent, good, and moral".

July 30, 2010 at 2:28 pm | | [Reply](#)

Vic

What a coward.... Christians are not perfect and it is amazing how they are supposed to be perfect... I question Ms. Rice and these self righteous bloggers ...when was the last time you sinned? You will never find the perfect church because it is filled with humans who sin on a daily basis. Sorry Rice you bailed out.

July 30, 2010 at 2:28 pm | | [Reply](#)

scott

According to your beliefs, you were born a sinner.

According to me, I've never sinned (that's a religious term), I just make morally incorrect decisions on occasion.

July 30, 2010 at 2:32 pm | |

Nateman

I hope Rice is merely rejecting the hypocrisy of certain so-called Christians, but to me it sounds like she's lumping all Christians together. While agree that many Christians are hypocrits (I grew up in a very hypocritical denomination, so I know), I would argue that most are not. Most Christians are genuine followers of Christ who sincerely care about people. Unfortunately, it sounds like Rice is having a difficult time reconciling Christian doctrine with her liberal ideology. To be a true follower of Christ, one's personal ideology must fall in line with Biblical principles. The truth of the Bible is unwavering, and as followers of Christ we are not afforded the luxury of picking and choosing which truths we want to believe and which we want to reject.

Had Rice stated that she disagreed with the bigotted Christians from that hateful Baptist Church (the one that has made a name for itself not by how much it helps people or brings the Gospel of Christ to the hurting but by demonstrating against those same people for whom Jesus died), then I could understand where she's coming from and agree with her; however, she makes it sound like she is rejecting Biblical doctrine in favor of her liberal ideology, and in the same breathe rejecting all Christians who do not agree with her liberal ideology. In that case, really her statement has nothing to do with rejecting Christianity or Christians, it is about rejecting those who don't agree with her ideology and trying to paint them as "anti-gay," "anti-feminist," "anti-science" and "anti-Democrat."

Rice needs to set aside her ideology and pick up her Bible.

July 30, 2010 at 2:28 pm | | [Reply](#)

Scurge of Hades

Who cares?Really?Like this is even worth new coverage?Although I am not a Christian I clearly see that it has become "pc" and fashionable to be anti-Christian serving a political purpose only with such a venom that dare not be shown to other religons such as Islam or Judism by the left-wing for fear of driving away their very minority base.As for being anti-science most Christian with the exception of a few "cultists" embrace and debate science.As for anti-Democrat?More like anti-Marxist get it right...most so called Democrats don't even know the history of their own party.

July 30, 2010 at 2:28 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jesus

I told you not to judge each other. There seems to be too much of that here. And please don't covet your neighbors stuff. That leads to greed which leads to housing bubbles which leads to crashes which leads to high unemployment which leads to poverty. Please care for each other.

July 30, 2010 at 2:28 pm | | [Reply](#)

Sandra

Really Anne Rice! This flip flopping with religion at your age is just ridiculous. You are how old?! And you didn't know that Christianity is anti-gay, anti-feminist, and anti-science? Jeez!

July 30, 2010 at 2:29 pm | | [Reply](#)

Greg

Tragically she appears to be a false convert if she doesn't have a love for the brethren as John writes in his first epistle...I'm not real sure from her comments that she knows what a Christian is...a real Christian is someone who sees their depravity against the backdrop of a Holy God who must punish sin (lying, stealing, taking God's name in vain, lust which is adultery of the heart, etc) and throwing yourself upon Christ who was the sacrifice and offering made for our sin. Repentance and faith in Christ alone makes someone a Christian Anne, I pray God removes the scales that have blinded.

July 30, 2010 at 2:29 pm | | [Reply](#)

SABOTH

You are the very reason she left church, and why I won't be going. Holier than though, pompous, and not very bright.

July 30, 2010 at 2:40 pm | |

Greg

You forgot fornicator, idolator, thief, and liar. Saved by the grace of God.

July 30, 2010 at 2:50 pm | |

cliff

Just be glad "Mike in DALLAS" is not your spiritual advisor.

He is espousing the old "Baptist Doctrine" of once saved...always saved.

God know the intent of our heart. This "lady" didn't have to drop out. By what she says she was never "in" but was a "appearing to be" a type of Christian. God will spit people like that out of His mouth.

Will be many surprises on the day of judgment...especially for those who have a "form" of Godliness but deny the power thereof.

July 30, 2010 at 2:29 pm | | [Reply](#)

Michael

I'm just glad YOU are not my spiritual or any other type of adviser, I prefer to use proper grammar while communicating.

July 30, 2010 at 2:32 pm | |

Duane

Anyone who understands what it means to be a Christian knows how ridiculous a notion it is that Anne Rice "quit" being a Christian. Quite obviously, she never was one despite what she may claim or truly believe. Sadly, there are many who claim to be followers of Christ but they do so by placing conditions on their beliefs. In short, they take the position that Christ must accept them and their beliefs in order for them to follow Him. It's like saying "I love you Lord but you are wrong when it comes to the following issues so I will simply reject what I don't agree with and accept what I do."

July 30, 2010 at 2:30 pm | | [Reply](#)

Daniel

I understand what she means. I too beleive in God but I do not go to chruuch. Chruuch (Catholic, Christian, Mosque, Temple, etc.) has become a place not to worship anymore but tell people the follow "their" agenda. Their agenda has become to hate others not like them. I cannot subscribe to that. I was part of the church once but when they are telling me to vote for someone I don't agree with ... or else, or to dislike people because they associate with others who are not followers, then it's time to leave. I have tried several other chruuches in my area and they seem to be the same. I believe in my heart and that is what counts the most.

July 30, 2010 at 2:31 pm | | [Reply](#)

JLI

Christ was all about helping the sick, the poor, and the persecuted... i. e. the least of all. So many so called Christians today are judgemental and arrogant jerks who think that all Christian should think like them. If Jesus was alive today, he would be very concerned about what the Church has become. I am almost 60 and, after a lifetime in church, didn't know until three years ago that good works do not help you get into Heaven, only belief in Jesus Christ and what He did for us on the cross gives us eternal life. There is more to being a Christian than being anti-abortion and anti-gay. We are to spread the Good News, not tell other people what to do or what to believe.

July 30, 2010 at 2:32 pm | | [Reply](#)

Bert

The pomposity of Rice's announcement is almost as great as her arrogance in assuming that anyone would care what her religious beliefs are on any particular day. Did she not know that the Church is anti-secular-humanist before she rejoined it? "Anti-life?" What does that mean? Perhaps Rice needed a few minutes of fame to make up for her lack of major books recently, but this was not the way to get it.

July 30, 2010 at 2:32 pm | | [Reply](#)

AHHH

I've Got A Lot Of Opinions About A Person I Don't Know!

July 30, 2010 at 2:45 pm | |

robby67

Gandhi- "I like your Christ, I do not like your Christians. Your Christians are so unlike your Christ."

July 30, 2010 at 2:32 pm | | [Reply](#)

Greg

Christ says his bride has made herself ready in Revelation and is adorned with precious jewels...I wouldn't be knocking the Lamb's bride if I were you...Ghandi sir.

July 30, 2010 at 2:38 pm | |

Rusty

I was never indoctrinated with the nonsense in the first place. Sounds like 90% of the conflicted posters here could have benefited from my upbringing.

July 30, 2010 at 2:32 pm | | [Reply](#)

Deutchman

This is hilarious. Look at people 'my chritianity is better than yours'. What kind of religious thought is that. Didn't Jesus say 'render unto Caesar etc'. Just a quick word on the crusades to correct thought. Muslums, christians and jews were slaughtered. It was for money, it is how they paid the armies and the papacy got a hunk of it. Real history is wonderfully enlightening.

July 30, 2010 at 2:32 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jason

Unfortunately, the "church" in America doesn't really follow the Truth. For example, loving thy neighbor (gay, straight, democrat, republican, whatever) as thy self.

July 30, 2010 at 2:33 pm | | [Reply](#)

Max

The greatest bumper sticker I ever saw read "Jesus, protect me from your followers..."

July 30, 2010 at 2:34 pm | | [Reply](#)

LaDiva

@ Jersey George

So if u take away the fact that they are "catholic priests and evangelical creeps who molest innocent children", does that still make it any better?...Lol they would still be molesters and creeps w/o their religion....

And no, one does not have to have religion in order to be 'decent,good and moral'.... Yet the same goes if you are a christian b/c there are plenty who are "decent, good and moral"....

July 30, 2010 at 2:34 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jan

Christ in your heart is not a fairy tale. He is very real. We need to follow HIM, not other people who may be misguided and judgmental and are, as the Bible says, "a stumbling block" to others. It is the personal relationship with Jesus that makes one a Christian, not religion. He did say to forsake not the assembling of ourselves together, but that is for strength and comfort, not for criticizing others. Christ accepts us all if we accept him.

July 30, 2010 at 2:34 pm | | [Reply](#)

CQQCQ

Don't forget....church just isn't a building...it's you.. you are the church..or the temple as it has been put many times over...our bodies are the temple(church) of christ/God. AND if you want to build your faith.. PRAY MORE and BUILD a BETTER relationship with God.. so many times has a preacher left a church to go preach somewhere else and people leave the church to follow that preacher leaving the church STRIPPED of it's congagation...Oh yeah, I forget.. some of you call that followers....HOW STUPID!

July 30, 2010 at 2:34 pm | | [Reply](#)

Christine A Jubic

Recommended Reading; "Whatever You Do STOP Going to Church," by Dan Stockin, who argues "it wasent Gods idea in the first place."

July 30, 2010 at 2:34 pm | | [Reply](#)

Michael

You go, girl. Christians are nothing but a bunch of hypocrites. They are everything she said, plus hateful, spiteful, arrogant, etc... There are hundreds of churches in every major city, and yet, there are people living on the streets. Churches spend their money on nice auditoriums, grand pianos, TV studios, sound systems and such, while people starve the world over. If Christ is real, he has to be ashamed of them.

July 30, 2010 at 2:36 pm | | [Reply](#)

unity.org

I followed Christianity for 51 years and the beliefs of who to exclude and what to believe. I can understand why Anne Rice feels the way she does as I came to the same conclusions recently. May all believers in God unite to worship Him together and take all of the "man-made beliefs" out of our spiritual relationship with the Almighty. Please visit Unity.org to know more.

July 30, 2010 at 2:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

Philip

I don't what churchgoers Rice has been hanging around with, but I've never met a real Christian who gave a darn about your Party Identification. Real Christians have only to persuade you to accept your savior and help you if you are poor and suffering. Everything else portrayed as Christian is politicized BS or merely self-serving. Yeah TEBOW, I'm talking to YOU!

July 30, 2010 at 2:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

Karrie

Well said. By some of these comments she has made she's distorting the message of Christ just as much as she's accusing these other "Christians" of doing... just in a different direction.

July 30, 2010 at 2:43 pm | |

Jesus

Love each other don't judge each other. Did I not make myself clear enough?

July 30, 2010 at 2:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

Greg

I thought you said to repent and believe the gospel in Mark 1?

July 30, 2010 at 2:45 pm | |

Greg

Amen!

July 30, 2010 at 2:46 pm | |

Greg

Greg, just do what Jesus said. Yes, he did say to repent. He said a lot more too.

July 30, 2010 at 2:49 pm | |

Anna

What people fail to realize—or ignore completely—is that the church is NOT immune to corruption. The bible says that one of the first signs that the end of times is near is that Satan will take over the church (which is happening by the way with all the pedos and the like). I'm sitting in my office at the moment with a temporary intermission (lunch hour) and I'm at church. Church is just a building.

Christians are supposed to tell / teach about God. Not beat people with it.

July 30, 2010 at 2:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

Gary Headrick

There is a world of difference between the church described in the Bible and the "church" today. First almost 2000 years of "reinterpretation" of the events of the first century which led to religious division have corrupted the movement from its prestine state. The answer is to go back to that prestine church of the first century and realize that God does not put his approval on religiously divided people. He wants all to be one based on the New Testament. Bigotry, racism, and other such thing do not have anything to do with was was originally set up. These come because people feel the need to tell God and others what he meant by the scriptures. Surely an omnipotent God has the power to write what he means and mean what he wrote. I am sure God is not proud of the many things that have been done in his name by so called Christians.

July 30, 2010 at 2:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

Susan

First, all religions and actually, groups of people, are like that. That's just people. The test of anyone is sticking around and trying to improve things, not throwing up their hands and having a baby tantrum, and taking their marbles and going home. Second, I love many of this woman's books, however she is an extremely self-centered nutcase personally. She really thinks that we should care about her personal struggles with spirituality. Someday she may reach the point emotionally that most of us manage to get to at around 30 years old.

July 30, 2010 at 2:37 pm | | [Reply](#)

Shellee

If you believe in Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior, you are a Christian by definition. You don't have to call yourself one, but you are. Because the word "Christian" has such a negative vibe to it these days I tell people I'm a Follower of Jesus Christ. But that's just another way to say "Christian." It is what it is, folks. Instead of bashing churches and other imperfect believers, focus on spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ, which is that we don't have to die in our sins!

July 30, 2010 at 2:38 pm | | [Reply](#)

LaDiva

@ JLI

".So many so called Christians today are judgemental and arrogant jerks who think that all Christian should think like them".

I would say to your assessment that many atehists think the same way and are extremely judgemental and hostile if u so much as claim u believe in Christ. There is a thing called pot meeting kettle. And yes we are supposed to spread the Good News, but it also says make disciples out of nations which requires u to tell ppl what Jesus believes.

July 30, 2010 at 2:39 pm | | [Reply](#)

fc7711

GOD IS IMAGINARY . C O M

Grow up, there is no god . It's just myths and folk stories that has you deluded and brainwashed.

July 30, 2010 at 2:40 pm | | [Reply](#)

TonyB

Here is a conversation I heard from someone a while ago. Some years ago, a man was going to read a new book about Adolf Hitler and was looking forward to what new revelations would appear in the book. The author had done interviews with four people who personally knew Hitler and witnessed his actions during WWII. The man said to a friend, "You know what is in the book has to be true because all four people say virtually the same thing, and they all knew Hitler They could have been prosecuted for war crimes by revealing what they did, but they believed the truth was so important that they talked anyway, potentially incriminating themselves. They have no reason to lie."

The friend, who knew the man was an atheist, paused for a second and asked, "So you believe this book because it has four independent versions of the same story, told in a time when the men could have been persecuted or killed for telling this?"

"Absolutely" was the reply.

"That's funny, you just described the New Testament."

Forget about the organized religion, but think about the history. You have four versions of roughly the same events,

written at different times an independently of each other. Today that would be enough to prove something beyond a reasonable doubt in a courtroom. Just something to think about.

July 30, 2010 at 2:49 pm | |

Michael

The Steeple Song

I don't care how many buses you own
 Or the size of your sanctuary
 It doesn't matter how steep your steeple is
 If it's sittin' on a cemetery
 I don't care if you pave your parking lot
 Or put pads upon your pews
 What good is picture perfect stage
 If you're missin' all the cues?
 I don't care if your pastor's super-powered
 And your program's always new
 What you need is love and truth
 And men are going to come to you
 It doesn't matter that you know the Bible
 If it's all just in your head
 The thing I need to ask you is
 Have you done the things I said?
 Do you love your wife?
 For her and for your children
 Are you layin' down your life?
 What about the others?
 Are you livin' as a servant to
 Your sisters and your brothers?
 Do you make the poor man beg you for a bone?
 Do the widow and the orphan cry alone?
 I don't care if you pray for miracles
 I don't care if you speak with tongues
 I don't care if you said you love Me
 In every song you've sung
 It doesn't matter that your sacrifice of praise
 Is loud enough to raise the dead
 The thing I need to ask you is
 Have you done the things I said?
 Lord, when were You a prisoner
 That we did not come to You?
 When was it that we saw You sick
 That we didn't follow through
 Every time you turned your head
 And pretended not to see
 When you did it not to the least of these
 You did it not to Me
 Do you love your wife?
 With all you've got inside you
 Are you layin' down your life?
 What about the others?
 Are you living as a servant
 To your sisters and your brothers?
 Do you make the poor man beg you for a bone?
 Do the widow and the orphan cry alone?

July 30, 2010 at 2:40 pm | | [Reply](#)

clb97702

Amen. Her words beautifully explain the painful split I have had with the Christian business Machine.

"He's the one who made it possible to have direct contact with God. We don't need a middle man."

~ unknown

July 30, 2010 at 2:40 pm | | [Reply](#)

JenniferCA

Good for her. I hope her decision gives other Christians an opportunity to reflect on the way many of their kindred have taken the true teachings of Christ and contorted them into baser human ideologies to meet their own selfish needs. Christ did not teach us to be hateful or judgmental or arrogant. Yet time and time again, this is what you hear from the church. A prime example comes from another CNN headline: Preacher planning a 9/11 Quran burning. Really? Is this what you think Christ would have done? If this is what you get from people who are supposed to be ordained in the gospel, then it is no wonder so many turn to athiesm and agnosticism. I am not a Christian and will never be, but I believe the words of Christ deserve better than to be uttered by so many of these hypocritical so-called "christians."

July 30, 2010 at 2:40 pm | | [Reply](#)

jimmy

I saw the hypocrisy @ age 13 in youth group..Haven't been to a church service since.But that doesn't mean that I have forsaken God..Just the people that Market him/her.

July 30, 2010 at 2:41 pm | | [Reply](#)

brad1001

Isn't this what twitter is for?

July 30, 2010 at 2:41 pm | | [Reply](#)

TonyB

The "anti-science" view is old and outdated. The modern Church teaches that truth cannot contradict truth. Therefore, if science is truth (which the Church believes is true), then it cannot be in conflict with God. The fact is that the modern Church embraces science as complementary to its beliefs, not contradictory. We have learned much since the days of Galileo.

Yes, there are elements that don't believe this way (the folks who believe the Earth is only 6,000 years old, for example), but that is not the teaching of the Church. As for being anti-Democrat, that is also preposterous, as the Church leans to the Democrat side in many areas (against the Iraq war, against the death penalty are just two off the top of my head). I'm afraid Anne hasn't been listening to the true teaching of the Church. If she had, she would realize her premise of leaving is flawed.

July 30, 2010 at 2:41 pm | | [Reply](#)

Charity

Everyone has to make a choice. She would stand before her maker one day...then she would know if she made the right choice.

July 30, 2010 at 2:42 pm | | [Reply](#)

Morning Star

You cannot leave Christianity. True followers of Jesus are His forever. That is what being a Christian means. Since Jesus began His earthly ministry there were many who started out following Him, but when they understood His teachings they turned away. Jesus asked His twelve disciples, "Will you also go away" and Peter answered, "Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of everlasting life." (John chapter 6) We live in a culture that wants a Jesus who is a Santa Claus just a prayer away... a marshmallow Jesus they can make into a god like themselves. They want to define what sin is... and reject Christ's own teaching. The world hates the true Jesus because He requires forsaking the sins of this world to follow Him.... The true Jesus is the High King of Heaven ... a sovereign ruler who will come again to claim His true followers who have His spirit living inside them ... He will resurrect those who have died and they will live with Him in heaven forever. Heaven is a place where He will be perfectly obeyed. Those who reject Christ, will be rejected forever. Why would Jesus take to heaven those who hate Him and will never accept His reign in their lives. Christians die the world over for the sake of His name. Only His true followers will endure through persecution, false teachers, and false followers. I pray for Ann Rice. She has seen a false religion. I pray for here to find the true Jesus and stay faithful to Him, even if His teachings are not what she wants to hear. "There is none other name under heaven, by which we can be saved and find everlasting life." Acts 4:12

July 30, 2010 at 2:42 pm | | [Reply](#)

LaDiva

@ Michael

"Christians are nothing but a bunch of hypocrites. They are everything she said, plus hateful, spiteful, arrogant"

Lol and the same can definitely be said about non-believers... Lol so u are not one for talking. Hypocrites always show their stripes..

July 30, 2010 at 2:42 pm | | [Reply](#)

thumbscrews

"Lol and the same can definitely be said about non-believers..."

The difference is that non-believers don't make it a habit to start wars over their non-belief and burn people at the stake.

July 30, 2010 at 2:48 pm | |

gd

I am bothered that Anne Rice (along with a lot of people) doesn't seem to know the difference between christianity and the many different denominations of christianity. There are a lot of christian churches that teach that we are not to judge other peoples sins. Only God can judge us. Maybe Anne Rice should find another church to attend. I wonder if all the "anti" groups realize the damage they are doing to christianity.

From the statements that she made, I would consider Anne Rice to be a christian, even if she does not. As a fan of her work and a christian I pray that she will find the proper fellowship to strengthen her walk with christ.

July 30, 2010 at 2:42 pm | | [Reply](#)

j

You're all idiots

July 30, 2010 at 2:43 pm | | [Reply](#)

pmo5010

it's not totally unusual. statistics show that there is a shift with people opting to declare themselves as unaffiliated or nonreligious and it's one of the fastest growing minorities. that doesn't necessarily mean they're atheist although it does include atheists (that percentage is going to be fairly small for quite some time). those who are unaffiliated are people who are believers but they just don't have an interest in making their own spiritual or personal beliefs as some legitimate affiliation or as other people's business (or that they have to go to a religious facility every week). whether christians want to admit it or not, christianity has become a lot more secular. what it was a thousand years ago is not what it is today. the core beliefs are intact (somewhat) but the social, day-to-day practice is pretty much night-and-day by comparison.

July 30, 2010 at 2:43 pm | | [Reply](#)

Edward Waters

I'm sorry to say that I'm afraid I know only too well how she feels. While I do believe I myself am called to continue prayers and efforts to heal-from-within what all too often is indeed the 'quarrelsome, hostile, disputatious, and deservedly infamous group' Rice describes it, I can't say I've ever been completely comfortable there. The 'visible church' has never in all its history been a faithful representative of the Christ it professes to follow, or even of the 'Invisible Church' many of us believe still to be alive and well but scattered throughout it. Jesus warned as much: 'Many will come to Me in that day saying, "Lord, Lord! Didn't we ... etc " And I will declare to them, "I never knew you" Alas, even this warning is most often quoted merely to take cheap shots at some rival faction. Ultimately, I guess I do not give up on the 'church' because, every time I feel like it, God calls my attention to some subtle evidence that, for all its failings, HE has not - at least not yet.

July 30, 2010 at 2:44 pm | | [Reply](#)

LaDiva

@ Michael

Obviously u care enough to spew that rant u call a song. lol smh

July 30, 2010 at 2:44 pm | | [Reply](#)

Morrison

Jesus Christ was not a Christian; if he existed at all, by any and all educated accounts he was a Jewish rabbi. Early Christians were (mostly) martyred Jewish adherents to his teachings. Then came the corrupters, parents of modern Christianity: The early Popes, the Crusaders, the Inquisitors, the Jesuit enslavers, and (may I add) the Bush Republicans. The modern Christian church is, by any reasonable measure, seriously flawed.

July 30, 2010 at 2:45 pm | | [Reply](#)

ABR

I wise old Priest I got to know gave me the following advise. Never get angry a "man made" issues, and don't consue them with the over all message of Christ. Man made issues are just that, made made issues.

July 30, 2010 at 2:45 pm | | [Reply](#)

evhwolf

Let me begin by stating I have not read all the posts, so I apologize if I repeat what has been said. I was raised Quaker and although Quakerism was founded with a protestant-Christian belief, it has taken on a different path in different places. When asked what religion I am I always answer "Quaker" not Christian, probably for some of the same reasons Anne Rice has. My wife was raised in a very conservative Baptist church in Northern Maine...she "found" Christ at the age of 8 after being "scared" into Salvation by videos and "fire insurance" lectures at Bible Camp and Sunday School. She no longer believes in Salvation or that Jesus was a deity. He was simply a man who had a very special connection to his spirituality and taught the people of the world a way to live and to treat each other. I do appreciate every persons individual belief, because that's all I ask in return, but with that being said, to say that once you accept Christ into your heart, hes always there is a bold statement that is one of the very reasons Christianity has such a bad rep now. Who's to say that Christ is not in your heart from the beginning and one chooses to acknowledge it. Whos to say that you must accept Christ to become Christian but if you decide to reject Christ you lose it? Know one knows...we all continue to learn what makes each of us a better person. Your belief is not your neighbors, but you should love them for who they are, not what they are. Do I believe in God, yes and no. Its not a simple answer. It may be to some, because they have faith in the "sky daddy" (I Love that)...to me, god is the energy that surrounds us all...we are all a part of that energy and we can all create and affect that energy. But, that's just my belief and the belief I am comfortable with. Can I change my mind tomorrow, sure...there is no set doctrine. We learn and teach everyday, it didn't stop with Revelation 2000 years ago. (and don't get me started on the bible, the council of Nicaea, and all that fun...)

July 30, 2010 at 2:47 pm | | [Reply](#)

spiritually audacious

I could not have said it better myself, Anne Rice. I plan on citing those words, it is an affirmation of faith and speaks to spiritual audacity.

July 30, 2010 at 2:47 pm | | [Reply](#)

WMesser58

I was with her when she denounced the morons but, to still believe in fairy tales is just sad. At least she's figured out how destructive what everyone else has always known.

July 30, 2010 at 2:47 pm | | [Reply](#)

cornelius

Guys, enough with all the religious propoganda. I totally understand Ms. Rice's frustration. It can be totally disheartening to see those who profess Christ with their mouth, but their hearts are truly far from Him. Ms. Rice declaration is a search for the truth. And that truth can only be found in God's Word (The Holy Bible). "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be given unto you". I am a follower of Christ, but not a Christian. The word christian or christianity is a term used to describe followers of Christ. But Jesus Christ never called Himself a christian. The word Christianity was formed to put the message of Christ in a box and compare His teachings with all the other 'religions' in the world. But Jesus Christ never came to establish a religion. He never came preaching religion or denominations. Throughout the gospels, Jesus Christ preached about the kingdom of God, not religion. That was the crux of His entire message. Yes, He performed miracles. Yes, He healed those who were sick. And yes He delivered those who were possessed and oppressed by the devil. He TAUGHT about love, salvation, having compassion for your fellow man. But all these things can be found in the message He preached: which was the kingdom of God. Christ's mission was to reintroduce humanity to the kingdom of God. Believing in Him, of His death and resurrection, and that He is the Son of God, is only the beginning of salvation. If we as followers of Him would only grasp this truth and begin to seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness as He commanded us, we will begin to discover the truth as to who we are in Him, as well as why we are here. For centuries, the Church has placed way too much emphasis to being lumped in with the other so-called religions out there. But we who have grasped the revelation that we who are in Christ are part of a movement, we are here to represent the kingdom and the will of God on earth, and to exercise our dominion rights as sons and daughters of the King of kings and Lord of lords. We are not here to re-establish a religion; we are here to re-present Christ to a lost world so that by seeing us they would begin to see Him, and hearing us they would begin to embrace His message which is to "repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand".

July 30, 2010 at 2:47 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jesus

Just feed the hungry!

July 30, 2010 at 2:49 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jesus

Feed the hungry!

July 30, 2010 at 2:49 pm | | [Reply](#)

HD Medina

Ms Rice doesn't get it. A Christian never in the beginning of the inception of the community nor now or ever calls themselves that name. It was and remains a pejorative label "little Christ" much like the labeling by many of the intolerant

in this blog. The point – a person is called a Christian because of their Christ-like behavior Acts 11:26 for those of you who are literate, tolerant, and cultured enough to own Bible and find the passage. Sounds like Ms. Rice did not understand discipleship as well.

July 30, 2010 at 2:50 pm | | [Reply](#)

Laurie

I'm with Derek. All religion is nothing but myth. The fact that people still believe this stuff in this day and age is astounding to me. The world would be a much better place without it, especially organized religion which only serves to separate people and create hatred. Can't think of one good thing religion has done for the world. Not one.

July 30, 2010 at 2:50 pm | | [Reply](#)

CM

Her problem is she didn't meet Christ in her 'Christianity' but she met many imperfect people who claimed to be Christians!

July 30, 2010 at 2:50 pm | | [Reply](#)

Glenn Weeks

Ms. Rice may or may not have been Christian. A decision to embrace or leave Christianity is a personal decision and doesn't impact Christianity one way or another. We wish her well.

July 30, 2010 at 2:50 pm | | [Reply](#)

Greg

I have read several of Anne Rice's books and her writing reveals that she is deeply concerned about moral framework and introspective contemplation. The Church has deeply disappointed too many of its followers, myself included. Offenses range from simple hypocrisy to outright criminal deception. It is very difficult for a person with a strong conscience to willingly align oneself with such a troubled organization.

July 30, 2010 at 2:50 pm | | [Reply](#)

Jesus

Look after the poor.

July 30, 2010 at 2:51 pm | | [Reply](#)

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