

# Conger

The Religious, Political and Cultural journalism of George Conger

## Presiding Bishop ... 'Jesus is not the only way to God': CEN 4.17.09 p 7    *April 17, 2009*

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Posted by geoconger in [Church of England Newspaper](#), [Syncretism](#), [The Episcopal Church](#).  
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JESUS is a way, but not the only way to salvation, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, the Most Rev Katharine Jefferts Schori has told members of the Diocese of Quincy.

At a special convention called by the Presiding Bishop to reconstitute the diocese around the four congregations that did not secede to the Province of the Southern Cone last year, on April 4 Bishop Jefferts Schori spoke of her own theological views at a question-and-answer session.

Approximately 300 people gave the presiding bishop a “rousing greeting on her first visit to Peoria and the Diocese of Quincy. In stark contrast to the previous synod meeting, at which she was vilified as the chief architect of what former leaders claimed was the Episcopal Church’s departure from traditional Christian beliefs, [Bishop] Jefferts Schori received a warm and jubilant welcome,” Episcopal News Service reported.

In response to a question from the audience about her personal beliefs, the presiding bishop said that to insist Jesus is the only way to God is to “limit God.” She said that God was at work in the lives of other faiths. “God is, at the very least, a mystery,” Bishop Jefferts Schori said.

“God’s intention is for a restored relationship with all humanity. My job is to proclaim the good news of Jesus, but I cannot deny God is not at work in other ways,” she said, according to ENS.

While the presiding bishop’s views on the uniqueness of Christ are considered by evangelicals outside the mainstream, they have their antecedents in Bishop John AT Robinson’s *Honest to God*. In the preface to his 1963 book, Bishop Robinson stated that “it is going to become increasingly difficult to know what the true defence of Christian truth requires.”

While some sought to seek a “firm reiteration, in fresh and contemporary language, of ‘the faith once delivered to the saints,’” others felt “a more radical recasting” was demanded wherein the “most fundamental categories of our theology — of God, of the supernatural, and of religion itself — must go into the melting.”

The way forward for Bishop Robinson was an end to Christian Theism, replacing it with a modern form of Modified Monism, which called for a rejection of Christian exclusivism, seeing behind all religions a Monistic oneness.

In an Oct 18, 2006 radio interview Bishop Jefferts Schori stated, "Christians understand that Jesus is the route to God. That is not to say that Muslims, or Sikhs, or Jains, come to God in a radically different way. They come to God through human experience – through human experience of the divine."

"We who practice the Christian tradition understand him as our vehicle to the divine," the presiding bishop told *Time* magazine in its July 10, 2006 issue. "But for us to assume that God could not act in other ways is, I think, to put God in an awfully small box."

Protestant and Catholic Church leaders have largely rejected these views, from the Council of Florence's 1438 declaration that there was "no salvation outside the church" to the 1974 Lausanne Declaration by evangelicals that there was "no salvation outside a personal and explicit confession of faith in Jesus Christ."

In 1994 evangelical scholar JI Packer defended the exclusive role of Jesus in *Jesus Christ the Only Saviour*, while Cardinal Ratzinger, the current Pope Benedict XVI, in 1996 called interreligious relativism "the fundamental problem of faith in our time."

In 2000, the Roman Catholic Church in *Dominus Iesus* stated "the thesis that the revelation of Jesus Christ is of a limited, incomplete, and imperfect character, and must be completed by the revelation present in other religions, is contrary to the faith of the Church.... This position radically contradicts the affirmations of faith according to which the full and complete revelation of the salvific mystery of God is given in Jesus Christ."

"If Billy Graham or Pope Benedict" were asked the questions the presiding bishop were asked, they would respond that "Jesus is the way, the truth and light," South Carolina theologian Canon Kendall Harmon said. In a time of doctrinal confusion, "good leadership claims its particular identity from the stability of its historical faith," he argued.

"It's the leadership of this church giving up the unique claims of Christianity," Canon Harmon said. "They act like it's Baskin-Robbins. You just choose a different flavour and everyone gets in the store."

## Comments

### 1. Gill Frierson - [April 17, 2009](#)

If she does not believe in the truth of the Bible she needs to step down as a leader in the TEC. She is CRAZY!!!! That is all I have to say about that.

### 2. Gene Sutherland - [April 17, 2009](#)

You can't find a more clear statement than what Jesus said Himself, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Way. No man comes to the Father except thorough Me.

### 3. Gary Bookhammer - [April 17, 2009](#)

So ... "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the Father but by me", is no longer applicable? And this woman is the Presiding Bishop of ECUSA! No wonder that sick, dying entity is on the road to oblivion!

#### 4. **John Doe - April 17, 2009**

"It's the leadership of this church giving up the unique claims of Christianity," Canon Harmon said. "They act like it's Baskin-Robbins. You just choose a different flavour and everyone gets in the store."

This is an apt analogy, but a poorly stated one. In the Baskin-Robbins scenario, God is ice cream, not a particular flavor. Everyone of course thinks that their flavor is the best and can't imagine how someone could possibly prefer butter pecan over chocolate—chocolate is the greatest ice cream. But ultimately, both are eating ice cream.

#### 5. **Ronald D. Morrison - April 17, 2009**

It is sad that The Episcopal Church has left the Church of Jesus Christ as evidenced by the above statement of its Presiding Bishop..

My concern as an orthodox believer who attends an Episcopal Church—Will the orthodox believers still affiliated with The Episcopal Church suffer the wrath of God along with The Episcopal Church even though they adhere to the teachings of the Church of Jesus Christ?

#### 6. **hfreeman17 - April 17, 2009**

To John Doe: If God is the ice cream in Baskin-Robbins, then Jesus Christ is the only scoop in the store.

#### 7. **Doug Himes - April 17, 2009**

As an orthodox Anglican and former Episcopalian, I continue to pray for the souls of my brothers and sisters who remain in communion with a denomination led by someone widely mocked as the "Presiding Heretic" and "Our Lady of Litigation." I fear that most of them are unaware of the ultimate cost of sharing eternity with her in a place much too hot for ice cream.

#### 8. **Terry Cairns - April 18, 2009**

When left the church of our childhood for the Anglican church, we asked the folks we left behind "Are you not concerned what your children are hearing: the dilution of the Truth of the Scriptures? Such things as another way to the Father than Jesus Christ? Marriage other than a man and a woman?" They looked sad but said, "Yes, but, we were baptized, confirmed, and married here. How can we leave?" Their CHILDREN didn't matter!!! What sadness. What a an utter betrayal of the young! Another couple, as they left, told the priest, "We might as well go to the country club, if you aren't going to offer the Truth. At least they have a swimming pool!"

#### 9. **M C Isaacs - April 18, 2009**

John 14.6

Jesus answered, " I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except by me." In light of Schori's teaching concerning ways to spend eternity in heaven with Jesus, I wonder where she and other clergy who are redefining and/or rewriting scripture will be spending eternity.

#### 10. **Shlomo Alkabetz - April 18, 2009**

2 John 10

#### 11. **Jane Liddy - April 19, 2009**

I DREAMED A DREAM OF LONG AGO WHEN MY CHRISTIAN LIFE WAS LOVE AND NOT CONFUSION.

WHEN THE WORD OF GOD WAS CONSIDERED INSPIRED AND NOT DELUSION. I SHALL HAVE TO REMOVE CERTAIN BOOKS OF THE BIBLE SO I AM NOT IN CONFLICT WITH THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH FOR ME TO COMPLETE MY JOURNEY WITH GOD. I AM APPALLED THAT WE HAVE ALLOWED THE WORLD TO BECOME OUR BIBLE!

## 12. Alden - April 19, 2009

Surely My. Himes you are not saying that those of us still witnessing in the Episcopal Church are rendered the same fate in eternity as that which awaits to heretics within our church.

## 13. Shlomo Alkabetz - April 19, 2009

PS

Saw this in a letter in the Apr 26 The Living Church, someone should teach it to Oberbahnguppenfuhrer Schori:

Oh Buddha

Lyrics

Verse:

Well, ole Buddha was a man and I'm sure that he meant well  
But I pray for his disciples, lest they wind up in Hell  
And I'm sure that ole Mohammed thought he knew the way  
But it won't be Hare Krishna we stand before on Judgment Day

Chorus:

No, it won't be ole Buddha, that's sittin' on the throne  
And it won't be ole Mohammed, that's callin us home  
And it won't be Hare Krishna, that plays that trumpet tune  
And we're goin' to see the Son, not Reverend Moon

Verse:

Well, I don't hate anybody, so, please don't take me wrong  
But there really is a message in this simple song  
You see, there's only one way, Jesus, if eternal life is your goal  
And meditation of the mind, it won't save your soul

Chorus:

Verse:

Well, you can call yourself a Baptist, and not be born again  
A Presbyterian or a Methodist, and still die in your sin  
You can even be Charismatic, shout and dance and jump a pew  
But if you hate your brother, you won't be one of the chosen few

Chorus:

Cause it won't be a Baptist, that's sittin' on the throne  
A Presbyterian or a Methodist, that's callin' us home

And it won't be Charismatic, that plays that trumpet tune  
So, lets all just live for Jesus, because He's coming back real soon

(key change)  
Repeat 1st Chorus:

Tag:  
Yes, we're goin' to see the Son not Reverend Moon!

(& found a site with it):  
<http://www.bensonsound.com/lyrics/0737.htm>

#### 14. **Captain Democracy - April 19, 2009**

The facts of "truth" is very simple. The Roman Catholic church is the "true" church of Jesus Christ. In America there are many quote, "Christian churches" but in reality they are none other then, "Cafeteria religion" that doesn't add up. In the case of female Bishops thats a, "Farce" and abomination to the true church of Jesus Christ and that is, " The Roman Catholic church" is and always will be the universal church of Jesus Christ

(Read your Bible in Hebrew or Ancient Greek.)

<http://www.CaptainDemocracy.wordpress.com>  
"Captain Democracy" North Beach, S.F. Ca.

#### **Sparton Augustin - August 20, 2010**

By the Church of God.. or Church of Jesus Christ.. it doesn't mean the material church that you talking about... In Bible it is says.. People take a decision by looking outward.. but God looks inside...

So mate.. if some one or some group claims that The Roman Catholic Church is the true Church. I am sorry to say that won't be the saying of the Lord...

Coz where in the world is Roman Catholic Church following any of the commandments...

So please look into it and say...

and for you.. Taste Jesus in the right way and repent... and dont look into Roman Catholic Church and Repent..

Read Bible.

#### 15. **fabianheinze - April 19, 2009**

It is so sad, how humanism becomes more and more mixed with religion. It sounds so wise when people said: Could God reveal himself through only one religion? But my request is: Is the almighty God so stupid, that he can't reveal himself clearly?

#### 16. **stushie - April 19, 2009**

This is heresy and the Episcopal Chruuch needs to oust this heretic. Acts 4:12 makes it perfectly clear who Christ is:

Acts 4:12

12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

NIV

This is what happens when a theologian who is more concerned about a world view, rather than a scriptural one, presides. If the Episcopal Church does not remove her from office, then the American church will diminish and die.

#### 17. [Top Posts « WordPress.com - April 20, 2009](#)

[...] Presiding Bishop ... 'Jesus is not the only way to God': CEN 4.17.09 p 7 JESUS is a way, but not the only way to salvation, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, the Most Rev Katharine [...] [...]

#### 18. [Bill Bloom - April 20, 2009](#)

"Jesus is just one way, not the only way..." I wonder if any of the apostles used this approach? Gene Robinson at the inauguration used a prayer that didn't mention Jesus because "he didn't want to be offensive". Likewise, I wonder if any of the apostles used that method to spread the word.

In both cases, you have to assume, probably not.

#### 19. [Felecia Townsend - April 20, 2009](#)

Thank God for Rev Katharine Jefferts Schori and others like her who are spreading the True gospel. I'll leave the dissecting of scripture to those who have studied it for a lifetime, much like I leave my doctor to do his work on my aging body. People like Rev Schori, John Shelby Spong, John A.T. Robinson and others are, I believe, people who don't wear God as fashion or flair to control or manipulate. In fact, they are of the minority at such a time in our history. They have nothing to gain and everything, material, to lose by preaching and teaching from their hearts, life experiences, and conversations with God. Their words are kind and all inclusive. And those who believe they are different, special, or somehow better in the eyes of their God are probably the ones who are offended. However, we love you, nonetheless. A few of us have reached the mountain top. We have seen the Light, the Truth, and we are living the Life. And because we are filled with love and not fear, we just want to shout it out to the world for those who have ears to hear and for those who have seen and have been touched by God, and want only to walk side by side with you in this beautiful land of abundance. Rev Katharine Jefferts Schori is where she's meant to be and, I believe, at the right time and at the right moment in history.

#### 20. [Bo - April 20, 2009](#)

If Jesus ain't the only way, He should have skipped the cross.

He didn't skip the cross, was dead, buried and rose again, I'm inclined to think the presiding heretic is the one who should be placed in a small box....

#### 21. [Janet Aldrich - April 21, 2009](#)

Felecia:

(Galatians 1:6-9)

"I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a

gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed."

You already had the True Gospel. What "Rev." Schori preached is condemned by Scripture. If you \*are\* a Christian, you should be aware of Scripture — not leaving it to "those who studied it for a lifetime".

May the Lord Jesus Christ, true God and true Man, and the ONLY way to heaven, have mercy on you.

## 22. **jesusblogger - April 21, 2009**

Jesus is not just a way. He is the way, the truth and the life!

## 23. **Dave - May 6, 2009**

This message is a bit late: Felicia, with all due respect, last I checked Bishop Spong was still a member in good standing in TEC, despite his bald-faced deconstruction of Christian doctrine. I believe he's drawing a comfortable pension from his church and continues to write a blog with more of his deconstruction. The people who "have everything to lose" are those in TEC who are trying to defend orthodoxy. Do a little searching, and you'll find plenty of examples of such people who have tried and were driven out of TEC.

## 24. **Jim Potthoff - May 9, 2009**

It is so obvious that Jesus Christ's words are His words and that's exactly what I will and do continue to follow to the best of my ability regardless of the words of man.

I find it strange that man tries to skew and change what He gave us.

## 25. **Pastor B - May 12, 2009**

Let us stick to the scriptures & not follow the charismatic ideas of men. It matters not what we feel is correct. It matters not what sounds like the right thing. What matters is what God has already spoken through His Word (the Bible). I admonish "Felicia" & all others who receive what men say because it sounds right to get in the Bible that God has provided & find truth. God is the source of truth. Again, Jesus said I am the way, THE TRUTH, and the life. Remember, everything that sounds good is not correct. There is an absolute. Consider this passage: 2 Timothy 4:3

"For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear."

## **Felicia Townsend - October 25, 2009**

...as Socrates would say, continue the conversation my friends... thank you for sharing and please think for yourself, not just by some dogma or creed 😊

## 26. **Doug Himes - October 26, 2009**

Felicia, thank you for making the orthodox case. Thinking for ourselves is precisely what got us thrown out of the Garden. The serpent still speaks, and we still listen. Jesus did not say: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life, unless you think you have a better idea." Article of Religion VI and the corresponding ordinal vow taken by every priest do not state: "Holy Scripture contains all things necessary to salvation, but feel free to interpret it any way you wish." Mrs. Schori has demonstrated repeatedly that she is a universalist, not a Christian. She has therefore broken apostolic succession, which means that, in a hierarchical Church like TEC in which episcopal and priestly authority come

solely from above, she cannot confer Christian sacramental authority on any TEC bishop, and no TEC bishop can confer Christian sacramental authority on any TEC priest. This raises serious doubt as to whether any TEC parishioner is actually receiving the Christian sacraments; because, despite what they mouth in recitation of the Nicene Creed, they are no longer connected to the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. Furthermore, it is not coincidental that roughly two-thirds of the global Anglican Communion and more than half of mainline Christendom declared broken or impaired communion with ECUSA following Gene Robinson's ordination. They understand the risk of remaining in full communion with heresy, embracing what Bishop Mark Lawrence has aptly termed the "false Gospel of Indiscriminate Inclusivity." The Bride of Christ was never intended to be a harlot, and that is precisely what TEC has become in lying down and allowing herself to be violated by secular humanism and in selling out to a post-modern social agenda, willfully discarding millennia of sound Christology and blithely ignoring the scriptural imperative that the Church's commission is to transform the world, rather than the other way round. Remaining in The Episcopal Church in the illusion that one can separate oneself from the heresy amounts to moving one's deck chair to the opposite side of the Titanic to get away from a group of fellow passengers with whom one disagrees in the naïve conviction that only their side of the deck will sink. Moreover, anyone who contributes financially to a parish in TEC supports not only the dissemination of TEC's heresy but also the vicious persecution of orthodox clergy and laity that TEC is currently pursuing across the country. Staffing at the TEC national office has been cut by 30 percent, and the denomination's evangelism budget has been reduced to zero, while its national litigation budget has been increased by 112 percent to more than \$7 million. Does that imbalance fulfill in any way the Great Commission? What of the Gospel is being upheld in the systematic destruction of those faithful lives? In Jesus' Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus, Abraham's words are particularly applicable to the current crisis: "between you and us a great chasm has been fixed." (Luke 16:26) TEC may still be able to glimpse Abraham over the chasm that it has created, but it can no longer reach him; and that chasm widens daily.

#### 27. **Felecia - October 28, 2009**

Reality is an Interpretation, Doug. And thank you for sharing your view of the world and what you have chosen to believe. Regardless of whether or not I agree with you and your scripture references, you are my spiritual brother and for that, I am happy!

#### 28. **Doug Himes - October 28, 2009**

That is the essence of the breach. Your assertion that "reality is an interpretation" is a defining characteristic of both Original Sin and revisionist theology. We're back to what got us thrown out of the Garden. The late John Claypool described God's intended balance between Creator and created thus: "Reality was ours to discover, not ours to create." It was our losing sight of that role differentiation between Creator and created that opened the door to sin; and it is our persistent blurring of that distinction that compels us, in Dr. Claypool's words, "to take life apart and put it back together in ways that don't work, instead of coming home to the world the way God created it." The ancient Hebrews understood the world (i.e., reality) in sharp division between the Uncreate (God) and the created (everything else). We continue to blur that line at our own peril. While I freely acknowledge the popularity of subjectivism in the zeitgeist, absolute truth does exist; and the existence of absolute truth invalidates the admittedly more comfortable position from which one can pick and choose what one believes and either reinterpret or dismiss as mere opinion those truths that one finds uncomfortable to accept. As expressed by one contemporary theologian: "We have traded the truth of relativity for the falsehood of relativism." Jesus was a master of absolute truth and typically taught in clear distinctions, for example: "Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters" (Matt 12:30), obviously what is happening in the massive



exodus from TEC. Revisionist theology is one of the principal contributing factors in The Episcopal Church's becoming one of the most precipitously declining denominations in all of Christendom. As a former Episcopalian sadly observing this accelerating implosion, I have to wonder: "How is that working for you?"

### 29. Felecia - October 31, 2009

Doug, allow me to share with you some of what I have discovered as Truth. And keep in my mind that we humans don't create anything ... we only discover what has already been there but has probably been hidden from our vision. I recognize that we are speaking a somewhat different language to one another but nonetheless, I want to express to you that the language of the heart is absolute truth. We can go round and round with biblical scripture and claiming that the other is lost and separated from God but at the end of the day, really ... the message is in the heart, not in the head or the rhetoric we can throw back and forth. I'm not trying to convince you that I'm right and your wrong just because we hold opposing ideas but rather that I believe God gave us the freedom to choose how we want to believe. And when those beliefs are in direct opposition to the freedoms and the life affirming realities of others, whether it be mentally and or physically, i.e., he who hates, judges, blames, ostracizes, discriminate against, harms, belittle, etc., That person separates her/himself from the reality of God. God has never thrown any of us out of anybody's garden. God doesn't have to play such childish mind games. God knows our hearts. God is the Original Creator. It is you and me who only have to uncover or discover ourselves inside of Her or Him ... however you choose to think of It. And once again, thank you for the discourse. I live for this stuff!

### 30. Doug Himes - November 2, 2009

Abraham was right.

### 31. T.Mac - November 13, 2009

For God so loved the world = The Cause of salvation,  
that he gave his only begotten Son = The Cost of Salvation,  
that whosoever believeth in him = The Condition of Salvation  
should not perish, but have everlasting life. = The Consequence of Salvation

### 32. T.Mac - November 13, 2009

Psalm 89:34:

34My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

16All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

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All of you go to this site:

[http://www.faithvisionnetwork.com/faith\\_ondemand/jesseduplantis.asp](http://www.faithvisionnetwork.com/faith_ondemand/jesseduplantis.asp)

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And when you get to that site watch:

"Philosophy: The Vanity of Genetically Altered Christianity – Part 1" through

"Philosophy: The Vanity of Genetically Altered Christianity – Part 4"

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- The views of religion make Christ less than Who He is
  - The anti-christ wants to alter Jesus Christ
  - Christ must be the Source, Substance, and Standard for all religious philosophy

- Lofty intellectualism darkens, pollutes, and weakens faith
- You must receive wisdom from above and not fallacy from a genetically altered Bible

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 Religion never transforms you. It conforms you. Its basis is experience and (common) sense knowledge.

Romans 12:2

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

### 33. **T.Mac - November 14, 2009**

“Why is Christianity better than other religions?”

In all major religions, the followers strive to rid themselves of sin through various practices. They may pray in a prescribed way, do various good works, deny themselves legitimate sexual pleasure, follow dietary restrictions, lie on beds of nails, etc. The uniqueness of Jesus is shown in His statement, “The Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins.” No other religious leader has ever made this claim. Jesus Christ alone can wash away every sin anyone has ever committed, because of what He did on the cross. By paying the penalty for our sin, He can release us from the torture of guilt. We cannot do anything in the way of religious works to wash away our sins. Forgiveness is a free gift of God (Ephesians 2:8,9).

### 34. **T.Mac - November 14, 2009**

“Will people who have never heard the gospel all go to hell because they haven’t heard about Jesus Christ?”

No one will go to hell because they haven’t heard of Jesus Christ. The heathen will go to hell for murder, rape, adultery, lust, theft, lying, etc. Sin is not failing to hear the gospel. Rather, “sin is the transgression of the Law” (1 John 3:4). If we really care about the lost, we will become missionaries and take the good news of God’s forgiveness in Christ to them. See John 16:9 footnote.

### 35. **T.Mac - November 14, 2009**

“It’s intolerant to say that Jesus is the only way to God!”

Jesus is the One who said that He is the only way to the Father. For Christians to say that there are other ways to find peace with God is to bear false testimony. In one sweeping statement, Jesus discards all other religions as a means of finding forgiveness of sins. This agrees with other Scriptures: “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12), and “For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus” (1 Timothy 2:5).

### 36. **Paul Trimmer - December 5, 2009**

One can only wonder how this person managed to pass her canonical examination. It’s such a tragedy that the Episcopal Church, which at one time was known for its educated clergy, has fallen under the leadership of one who is clearly not a Christian, whatever else she may be. At any rate she doesn’t even know the theology of the church she leads. Sad.

### 37. **Spartton Augustin - March 4, 2010**

Its is written in Bible that many will come taking my name and doing the evil at end times and she is one of the best example for that.

There should be people like her in this world then only we can say the biblical words are correct.

It is real pity for a person who says herself as a Christian working and preaching against Christ, then what do we have to tell the hypocrites.

Look into the words of God and Follow Jesus alone.

### 38. **Rhiannon - June 22, 2010**

No one mentions the obvious. Saying Christ is not the only way is denial that Jesus is God. If God is not the only way to God—then what is?

### 39. **L. Anderson - August 15, 2010**

Jesus is not God! To say that “God is the only way to God” is fine. His claim of one will was unity as we might achieve it. Spiritual materialism is the broad road to destruction, or at least destructive and intolerant behaviour. The sin is “missing the mark”. In any case, Ms. Schori makes it clear that you can find salvation within the context of Christianity. Nothing is threatened but obsessively held sentiments. It is not necessary that we ALL profess someone else's denominational leaning; that way lies insecurity and weak faith: Faith precedes form. You can not tell someone else how to leap the abyss. Finally, it is only important that we do what it says we ought to do and that also resonates with our clearest conscience. The proofs are in the acts; or “By their fruits...”. It seems quite ridiculous to contradict the wise words of J. the Christ himself. Have many of you forgotten that he spoke of those who hear and don't understand and those who have never heard and do; about what is written on their hearts? Bless those that remember and those who might come to.

Comments about Ms. Schori's position in the church as a woman by men are regressive and misogynistic; it is the quaking of the faultlines of old thought in their world view and the last gasp of ego trying to hold on. If by women, a pity. Clip a left arm and leg, forego prosthetics, and try taking a jog. How many a bird could fly with one wing? No, they fail to take flight and flap in an endless circle. It is in the truest spirit of the church as it evolved from the rock of reality that founded it: A true marriage and necessary balance.

May all of us find our personal salvation especially ordained from us by the Eternal, unlimited and ineffable Divine. L.

### **Sparton Augustin - August 20, 2010**

Mate how can you prove that Jesus is not God... Please do study and research in the right manner to know about Jesus and God...

It is written that in the beginning there was Word, and the Word was God and the Word was with GOD....

We know that Jesus is the Word of God and Jesus has told that no one comes to my father other than through me....

So Jesus = Word of God / God.... i.e

God has Spoken in this world using his Word and that word his Jesus...

So... if you want to please God, you need to please Jesus and that is the Word of God...

If you say that I praise God.. you are not doing it... If you are not in the Word of God.. who is Jesus...

For eg. Ur father told you to sit home and study... u disobeyed his word by not doing so and later when some one asks you about this, is it right to say back.. his word is not him.. and you obey him...

Think Logic mate...with the Spirit of God...

#### **L. Anderson - October 18, 2010**

Do you mean formal logic which explains itself from itself like above? That is not a conversation, but a soliloquy or solipsism.

#### **40. Kevin Davis - November 26, 2010**

The Bible is the Holy Word of God – these people obviously do not study the Bible which results in spiritual ignorance. Most people in TEC wouldn't even think of cracking their Bible; they would rather get answers from a backslidden "priest" in a backslidden denomination that will take them to hell. Oh I forgot, we as "civilized" and "intelligent" people know better now; so let's just take God's Word out of our homes, our businesses, our schools, and our churches. This country is in for it. We had better repent, pray, and STUDY!

#### **41. emily - February 28, 2011**

In response to L Anderson. No one mentioned anything about gender when discussing the implications of the words that the Bishop spoke. Please don't take yourself back 60 years with your need to bring gender back into the discussion, because you are the only one doing so. I must also point out the weakness in the belief that a woman may not critique another woman's words and ideas without cutting off a wing, as you put it. It will not cripple the bird to question the way it's flying, but make it stronger when you point out it's inability to fly in the way that is most effective. The bird will become wise, not crippled. If we must not question the ideas presented by our gender, we are weakening ourselves. As a woman, I am seeking strength and truth, and I hope that you are seeking it with me. Be strong enough to challenge other human beings, regardless of gender. If you can not, you are no different than the men you criticize, who make their arguments based on gender and not on the value of truth that can be brought to the table by any human being.

Also, Jesus Christ is God. We may not agree on this point, because I also believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the divine and infallible words of God to man. In these scriptures, God makes a very exclusive claim. Salvation is only found through Jesus Christ. There is no other way to gain access to God. I understand how this claim must sound, especially living in a culture as relativistic and universalistic as the one in which we find ourselves. I see you disagree with me in this claim that Jesus is God, as the scriptures clearly say, and so we must disagree. We can not both be right. If you disagree with me that Jesus is God, then you would say I was mistaken, misinformed, wrong. Even in your eyes, our truth claims can not coexist in harmony. If one is in the right, the other must, by contrast, be in the wrong. Let's just call ourselves exclusivists then and move on with it. I sincerely hope and pray that the truth of the words spoken by Christ would penetrate your heart and that you would believe in him as God and as the only way to eternal life, as simple and unpopular as it must sound, against the fancy words you were using in your previous reply. May all of our eyes be opened to the truth, and may we stand strong against the temptation to make our own truth and reality, with our faults and limited understanding.

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