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Gillespie Greetings – Summer 2023

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# BOB AND LOIS GILLESPIE

a ministry of apologetics  
reaching the lost and equipping believers  
"Be ready always..." - I Peter 3:15



## Upcoming Schedule

July 16

[Cameron Baptist  
Church  
Cameron, WV](#)

July 23

[Jesup Bible  
Fellowship  
Jesup, IA](#)

August 6

[First Baptist Church  
Stryker, OH](#)

August 13

[Tripoint Church of  
God  
Mio, MI](#)

August 27

[Calvary Baptist  
Church  
Massillon, OH](#)

## I Am an Apologists Encouraging Nonconformity

Romans 12:2 tells us not to be conformed to this world, but we know that nonconformity has always been frowned upon by those who are in charge. Daniel was thrown to the lions; Christians in the Roman Empire suffered the same fate. The Middle Ages in Europe is known for persecuting those who would not conform. When the ungodly are in charge, they will always demand conformity.

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.  
Romans 12:2

Then out of the Middle Ages in Europe came heroes of the faith who would not conform. Eventually the nonconformists' voices became so strong the world could not silence them. Biblical ideas like individual freedom and limited government could not be held down for ever. The United States was birthed out of this European revolution of thought called the Protestant Reformation. America had found the recipe for a successful nation--individual freedom tempered by moral character--and America became a shining light of freedom and opportunity.



However, from the birth of our nation there has always been the human tendency to oppress and enslave others. The old idea that those in charge must have absolute authority kept rising to the surface. Thankfully, our constitution was written in such a way as to keep this destructive and oppressive view at bay--until now. What has happened to America?

Unfortunately, because of the acceptance of evolution, many Americans now believe the Bible is not only scientifically inaccurate, but also oppressive and detrimental to human progress. Today the prevailing thought is that everyone must conform and rejoice in rejecting the God of the Bible. In this celebration of evil, we find ourselves living in a crazy world. Much of the blame for this can be directed at the church in America. Many churches went down that slippery slope of compromise on the book of Genesis to eventually rejecting the authority of the whole book. These churches have conformed to the world and are no longer a beacon of truth. Now our nation is praising evil and criminalizing that which is good.

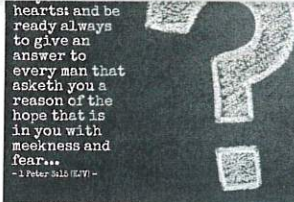
Where did the church go wrong? Certainly, a good number of churches have turned to a new type of gospel. Salvation is found in cleaning up society and curing the evils of society. The rest of the church has stayed true to the gospel, teaching children to believe in

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growing in their midst. Children were taught what to believe without telling them why they can believe it and how to defend it against attacks. We didn't help them find a reason for the hope that is in them.

This is the ministry of apologetics into which God has called me: to combat the cancer of skepticism, compromise and disbelief that has invaded many of the churches in our nation. The gospel is easy to reject when people think, "If you can't believe the first part of the Bible, why would you believe the rest of it?" There is much work to be done. We need a generation who will stand against the pressure of the world. What we need is modern day nonconformists who are prepared for the battle and the persecution that inevitably will come.

To Schedule, call:  
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