

Holy Deconstruction

Presented by: Preston Ulmer

What is deconstruction?
Who is doing it?
Why are they doing it?
What we can do about it?

What is deconstruction?

We are using the same _____ with a different _____.

More important than a proper definition is a proper _____. It is pointless to argue against a movement that is beneficial to Christians and non-Christians alike.

From over 65 interviews with celebrity deconstructionists and everyday doubters, an agreed upon definition is:

Deconstruction: the taking apart of an idea, practice, tradition, belief, or system into smaller components in order to examine their foundation, truthfulness, usefulness, and impact.

Deconstruction will ultimately become an _____ issue. Agreeing upon Jesus' core _____ and _____ will control the narrative of the movement. Jesus is the baseline _____ norm.

Deconstruction will challenge the Christians authority as well. It will sweep Western Christianity into _____ _____.

Who is doing it?

From interviews and research, roughly 65% of Millennials who grew up in Christian households will admit to deconstructing their faith:

- 33% have changed theologically but remain Christians.
- 32% wouldn't consider themselves Christians anymore.

Millennials and Gen Z are not deconstructing on the basis of _____ claims. They are deconstructing on the basis of _____ and the _____ of love.

The main factor for starting someone's journey through deconstruction is _____ of Christian institutions.

Why are they doing it?

Internal reasons:

- Hunger for spiritual and practical _____ is high.
- There is an incredible tolerance for _____. (Cognitive dissonance)
- _____ is better than _____.
- Seeking a higher _____, not a higher power.

Theological reasons: (in order)

- LGBTQ+
- The doctrine of Hell
- Politics
- Inerrancy of Scripture

What we can do about it?

Christian _____, anchored in Jesus, is the middle ground.

Alan Watts (1915–1973), a British philosopher, put it this way: “The truth that religion, to be of any use, must be mystical has always been denied by the seemingly large number of people, including theologians, who do not know what mysticism is. . . . Its essence is the consciousness of union with God.”

Light the FUSE.

F- Find the specific

U- Understand why it is what it is

S- Share the impact

E- Engage with the remains