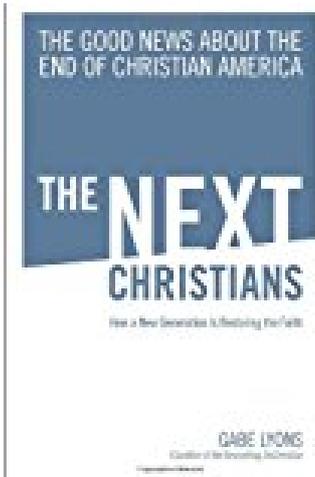


[PDF] The Next Christians: The Good News About The End Of Christian America

Gabe Lyons - pdf download free book



Books Details:

Title: The Next Christians: The Good

Author: Gabe Lyons

Released: 2010-10-05

Language:

Pages: 240

ISBN: 0385529848

ISBN13: 978-0385529846

ASIN: 0385529848

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Description:

From Publishers Weekly Lyons (un Christian: What a New Generation Really Thinks About Christianity and Why It Matters) garnered attention in 2007 with fresh research quantifying evangelical Christianity's image problem among American youth. His newest book aims to "restore" U.S. evangelicalism by elevating a generation of leaders marked by six traits suitable for a postmodern, pluralistic, post-Christian America. Evangelicals will need to be "provoked, not offended; creators, not critics; called, not employed; grounded, not distracted; in community, not alone; and countercultural, not relevant." Lyons surrounds his argument with engaging personal stories; he also draws

on the successful community model of William Wilberforce's Clapham Hill group, the theology of N.T. Wright and Dallas Willard, and--surprisingly--the sociopolitical strategy of gay rights activists to demonstrate where this youthful evangelicalism is rooted and what effective cultural engagement might look like. It's possible to fault Lyons for his almost exclusively male and predominantly white role models. They don't represent future U.S. generations--evangelical or otherwise. However, for those following what church growth expert C. Peter Wagner called the "new apostolic reformation," this is an important book for the shelf. (Oct.) (c)
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Review Praise for *The Next Christians* and Gabe Lyons

"Gabe Lyons leads an important group of younger Christians who are seeking to avoid both the triumphalism as well as the cultural withdrawal of former generations of believers. We all have a long way to go as we think out how Christ relates to culture in our day. As we do so, we would do well to consider many of the significant insights that Gabe offers in this book."

—Tim Keller, Redeemer Presbyterian Church, New York City

"*The Next Christians* is a revolution tightly packaged within a book. As a pastor, it was game changing for me and the people of my church...every person should read it. This is the future!"

—John Ortberg, best-selling author and pastor of Menlo Park Presbyterian Church

"Gabe Lyons is one of the brightest young Christian leaders I've worked with and mentored. I've challenged his thinking; he has challenged mine—as he does again with his latest book, *The Next Christians*. I recommend this book, which will give you great insight into the hopes and aspirations of the next generation of Christian leaders."

—Chuck Colson, founder of Prison Fellowship and the Colson Center for Christian Worldview

"If I had to pick one leader for the next generation for Christians, it would be Gabe Lyons. If I had to pick one chapter from this book, it would be 'Relearning Restoration.' If I had to pick one sentence it would be this one: Christ didn't come only to save us 'from something. He wanted to save Christians to something.' Gabe Lyons gets it: restoration is the vision for the Next Christians, and I'm cheering them on."

—Scot McKnight, New Testament scholar and author of *The Jesus Creed*

"*The Next Christians* is the best book you'll read this year. Filled with stories of hope and grace, it's a passionate call to join followers of Jesus everywhere in restoring the faith. You can't afford to miss it!"

—Margaret Feinberg, author of *Scouting the Divine* and *The Organic God*

"At a time when a central challenge to faith is to be both faithful and fresh, Gabe Lyons's is a voice I always listen to and benefit from enormously."

—Os Guinness, cultural historian and author of *The Last Christian on Earth*

"It seems an impossible task: restore a 2,000-year-old religion so that it no longer rejects, no longer chases, but actually leads a modern, pluralistic culture running at the speed of Twitter. Gabe Lyons offers hope for Christianity's next one hundred years by profiling the next set of Christians transcending this epic challenge. I found his preview of Christian innovators inspiring post-Christian America persuasive and one of the most encouraging views of Christian faith in recent years."

—Kevin Kelly, cofounder of *Wired* magazine

"*The Next Christians* is a must-read for anyone seeking to engage a broken world with the healing power of the Gospel. Provocative, yet massively optimistic, Gabe Lyons's message challenges the 'Christianity vs. Culture' paradigm of the recent past with the hopeful template of 'Christ as restorer of humanity,' worked out through a new breed of Jesus followers, who are unashamedly running into the darkness—broken-yet-loved ambassadors for the One who makes all things new."

—**Louie Giglio, pastor of Passion City Church and founder of the Passion Movement**

"What Lyons gives us here, in spades and with proof texts, is the good news about the state of the Good News in tomorrow's America. Those who have despaired that even the label 'Christian' might be tarnished beyond credibility, much less affection and influence, will find a thousand reasons to rejoice here. Chock-full of examples and stories, Lyons's work also is full of brilliant insights and piercing applications of traditional verbiage to new ways of being in this world."

—**Phyllis Tickle, founding religion editor, *Publishers Weekly***

"We're in an important time in Christianity. Leaders are considering the Gospel, its implications, and how we might live faithfully in the world we find ourselves. Gabe Lyons is an important voice in that conversation. In *The Next Christians*, he sets out a vision for Christians making a difference in the world. You should read this book and wrestle with his ideas as we consider together how we might be faithful to the Gospel in today's world."

—**Ed Stetzer, president of LifeWay Research; coauthor of *Transformational Church***

"*The Next Christians* is not about rehashing stale debates or reliving the culture wars. It is not about empty ideologies or even about branding a movement—it is about reading the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other and listening to God say, 'Come change the world with me.' "

—**Shane Claiborne, author, activist, and recovering sinner**

"Gabe Lyons articulates a fresh and inspiring vision for bringing Christian faith forward in the new cultural paradigm of 21st-century America. May this become the predominant expression of Christianity for an up-and-coming generation of 'next Christians' and those of us who are counting on them."

—**Tom Krattenmaker, USA Today's Board of Contributors and author of *Onward Christian Athletes***

"Gabe Lyons is a contemporary innovator who possesses relevant insight and profound foresight relative to Christ, culture, and the next generation of Christians. This must read book will inspire you and guide you to a new place of purposeful passion!"

—**Charles Jenkins, senior pastor, Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church**

"The prophet Isaiah declared that God would do a new thing. In *The Next Christians*, Gabe Lyons frames the narrative of a new Christian movement emerging in our lifetime. While addressing the challenges before us, Gabe presents the facilitative platform for the followers of Jesus to reconcile righteousness with justice under a canopy of compassion and love. This book will challenge us to embrace change as we welcome a fresh move of God's Spirit."

—**Sam Rodriguez, president of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference**

"The Lord has given a great mind and incredible wisdom to Gabe Lyons to be able to

Speak with such clarity and such understanding of the times. You will be greatly blessed and will desire to turn the next page, only to come to the end and then wish to pass this book along to a good friend so that others can be as informed as you are.”

—**Pastor Johnny Hunt, president of the Southern Baptist Convention**

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In this way, the end of Christian America becomes good news for Christians. In *THE NEXT CHRISTIANS*, Lyons disarms readers by speaking as a candid observer rather than cultural crusader. Where other people shout, Lyons speaks in a measured tone offering helpful analysis of our current reality while casting a vision for how to be a Christian in a world disenchanted with the faith. Both a celebration and a reckoning, *THE NEXT CHRISTIANS* combines current day models and relevant research with stories of a new generation of Christian leaders. If you are worried by what you see transpiring around you 37 Full PDF related to this paper. *THE NEXT CHRISTIANS: THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT THE END OF CHRISTIAN AMERICA* by G Lyons, Review. Download. *THE NEXT CHRISTIANS: THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT THE END OF CHRISTIAN AMERICA* by G Lyons, Review. Geoff W Sutton. However, while the book contains a thinking about Christians who are engaged in few helpful nuggets it fails to advance the pro- restoring society. First, they are provoked but fessional discourse either in respect to the prac- not offended. They are keenly aware of people tice of integration or the role of the Christian with serious needs such as addiction and other contemplation in professional practice. lifestyles often characterized as sinful. It is good for Christianity, too, in that many Christians are rediscovering the virtues of a separation of church and state that protects what Roger Williams, who founded Rhode Island as a haven for religious dissenters, called "the garden of the church" from "the wilderness of the world." As crucial as religion has been and is to the life of the nation, America's unifying force has never been a specific faith, but a commitment to freedom not least freedom of conscience. The decline and fall of the modern religious right's notion of a Christian America creates a calmer political environment and, for many believers, may help open the way for a more theologically serious religious life. Worldly success tends to mark the beginning of the end for the overtly religious in politics.

White Christian American in the 2010s ended as people abandoned Christianity and demographics changed. When I first identified this shift mid-decade in my 2016 book "The End of White Christian America," I noted that the percentage of white Christians in the general population had dropped from 53 percent to 47 percent between 2010 and 2014 alone. Now, at the end of the decade, only 42 percent of Americans identify as white and Christian, representing a drop of 11 percentage points. In the world of demographic measurement, where changes typically occur at a glacial pace, this drop in self-identified white Christians, averaging 1.1 percentage points a year, is remarkable. It is good for Christianity, too, in that many Christians are rediscovering the virtues of a separation of church and state that protects what Roger Williams, who founded Rhode Island as a haven for religious dissenters, called "the garden of the church" from "the wilderness of the world." As crucial as religion has been and is to the life of the nation, America's unifying force has never been a specific faith, but a commitment to freedom—not least freedom of conscience. The decline and fall of the modern religious right's notion of a Christian America creates a calmer political environment and, for many believers, may help open the way for a more theologically serious religious life. Worldly success tends to mark the beginning of the end for the overtly religious in politics. In this way, the end of Christian America becomes good news for Christians. In *THE NEXT CHRISTIANS*, Lyons disarms readers by speaking as a candid observer rather than cultural crusader. Where other people shout, Lyons speaks in a measured tone offering helpful analysis of our current reality while casting a vision for how to be a Christian in a world disenchanted with the faith. Both a celebration and a reckoning, *THE NEXT CHRISTIANS* combines current day models and relevant research with stories of a new generation of Christian leaders. If you are worried by what you see transpiring around you America is still a "Christian nation," if the term simply means a majority of the population will claim the label when a pollster calls. But, as a new Pew Research report unsparingly explains, the decline of Christianity in the United States "continues at a rapid pace." A bare 65 percent of Americans now say they're Christians, down from 78 percent as recently as 2007. In broad strokes, this decline keeps the U.S. trailing Western Europe's religious and political evolution: the end of Christianity as a default faith and a move toward left/right politics that can be roughly characterized as socialism against nationalist populism. Yet Europe can hardly provide a clear window to our future, not least because many European states have both multi-party parliamentary systems and state churches.