

Bible doesn't make the whole book great. Denial that the book has contradictions and inherent sexism. Most of what exists is flawed in some way and that includes a book. God doesn't erase writers' free will for the sake of dogma when free will is *sacred* to God. God would not strike down people who made errors in that book.

10. Vicious arguments, prejudice and being judgmental on the part of Christians. Contempt for other people. War, misogyny and child abuse. A lack of unconditional love for others. God is/has unconditional love for us. All of us should strive to achieve that in ourselves.

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TOP TEN.

*Reasons People Leave
(or are driven away from)
The Christian Church*

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People don't seem to really believe that God is good....

1. "Where do babies go when they die?" This is pointless, ignorant and/or foolish intellectualizing of God and love. People hurt others with this kind of mental masturbation.... Babies go to Heaven. End of story. Period.
2. Christian history with the Crusades, the Inquisition and witch burnings. Need I really say more? People that deny this stuff or write it off as the acts of "non-Christians who called themselves Christians" are denying the incredible destructive power of the church. These things were *backed by* the church - white men in particular.
3. The romanticizing of evil. The devil is not some attractive roguish gambling type of being. He didn't merely defy God - he orchestrates rape, racism and misogyny. He wants us all tortured and dead. Women cannot "have sex" with the devil - he rapes! The devil is not in charge of anything, including Hell. Hell is not full of torturing

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and violence. Demons have NO legal grounds at all - they just do whatever the hell they want to with or without permission. God does not like hearing people scream.

4. Consensual sex when there is love involved is a sin, but rape is not???? Conjugal rights do not exist in God's world. There is a lot of demonization of nature and sainting of violent men like Peter and Paul. Demonizing women's bodies and blaming them for men's lust.... Women are not responsible for men's physical responses to their bodies.
5. "You are all going to Hell but me!" "I'm right, you're wrong." Control freakishness.....
6. Pollution. I know the Bible doesn't say much about not polluting the earth, but it does have a few suggestions against it. Nature, animals and the ozone are God's creation too. We do not have the right to abuse our authority over God's creatures and world.
7. God "didn't talk" to anyone but the scribes in the Bible??? C'mon. There is a rampant

lack of belief in the fact that there is one God only and that God is inside everyone who doesn't turn their back on Him. People who believe in other gods are either calling God by a different name or are simply delusional. People who do not follow the church, dogma or call God by His "right" name still talk to Him in their heads. I firmly believe He talks back and is not going to get all bent out of shape over the wrong name.

8. Fundamentalist ~~gibberish~~. The belief in a primarily punishing and vengeful Creator. God is against domestic violence of any stripe and does not hurt women as a general rule. God does not like to hear people screaming and has a long history of sticking up for the oppressed. Refusing to believe that God *can* be female if S/He wants to be.
9. Worshipping a flawed book and denial of any hard evidence that proves it. Just because some things are wrong in the Bible doesn't make the whole book a bad book.