

## Why I Left Atheism

John N. Clayton

*Supper time came and I was sitting there. My roommate came in and said, "Are you ready to eat?" I said, "No, I'm not hungry." He said, "Are you sick?" I said, "Yes, I'm sick of me!!! I'm sick of being selfish, I'm sick of using people, I'm sick of being dishonest, I'm sick...." I was still telling him what I was sick about as he left for supper. At the time, I did not understand what was happening, but I do now! That is what repentance is all about--to get sick of a selfish, egotistical, destructive life and turn to God's way--to turn to a life that has value, meaning, and direction. My roommate went on to eat and I just sat there determined that I had to do something. I could no longer sit back and be dishonest and continue to refuse to accept the obvious evidence that was available to me. About 6:30, I got up and started walking toward the building where the Church of Christ met on Wednesday nights.*

*The invitation was extended at the Church of Christ that evening for anyone who wished to accept Christ and come forward. I went forward, understanding that I now believed totally and completely in God. I recognized that I needed to start a new life and be willing to tell people that I accepted the existence of God and believed that Jesus is His Son. I also realized that I was totally and completely lost in my sins and that I needed to be baptized to have forgiveness (as the Bible commanded). I started down the aisle that night and Raymond Muncy went into a mild state of shock. I remember the expression on his face. I do not think he believed that the power of God could ever reach a man as divorced as I was from anything good, decent, and godly. I was baptized into Christ that evening for the remission of my sins, as I understood the Bible to teach. To show you how far I was from God, I called this girl, I had been dating for some six years at that time.*

*I said, "Phyllis, I've become a Christian!" She said, "I don't believe you. You quit lying to me." I had to have the preacher's wife talk to her to convince her that I had, in fact, become a Christian. There are people today who still do not believe it--that the power of God could change a man that was as divorced and alienated from God as I was--but I want to tell you that in many respects, this is just the beginning of this story. God promised His help to those who are His followers. Having a close personal relationship to God and to other followers enable us to conquer enormous problems and do things we could not possibly do on our own (see Philip-pians 4:13). I had a lot to overcome. I could not talk without swearing. You could not go to the preacher's house and say pass the @\$%& potatoes. I had to learn a new way of talking, a new way of living, a new set of values, and a new morality, because I had lived in opposition to God. I asked God's*

*help in these things and I found I was able to overcome things I had never been able to overcome before. I have a whole new set of problems--a whole new set of things that I have to work on--but the problems I have today are nothing like the problems I had in the past. If anyone had told me twenty years ago that I would be openly using my limited abilities to publicly convict disbelievers of God's reality, I would have thought they were insane. Nonetheless, God has blessed my feeble efforts in spectacular ways--totally beyond anything I could have ever done.*

*I want to close this lesson by asking you a very simple question--a question that you need to answer for yourself and that each person needs to answer I suppose nearly every day. Are you an atheist (not perhaps as man would define it, but as God defines it)? Are you an atheist? Oh, I realize you may not be the kind of atheist that I was. Perhaps you are not immoral or hurting people or dishonest or doing the kinds of things that I did. I am thankful that you are not, but do you realize the way Jesus views an atheist? Matthew 12:30 says, "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad." What is He saying? He is saying that you are either for God or you are against God. You are either an atheist or a Christian; you cannot be both. I can understand how a man can be an atheist.*

*I have been an atheist a good part of my life. As an atheist, I believed (and still believe) that my life was consistent, reasonable, and defensible. For a few years now, I have been trying to live what I understand to be the Christian way of life. Once again, I believe my life is consistent, reasonable, and defensible with what I believe, but I will never understand (and if you understand, I wish you would explain it to me) how a man or a woman or a boy or a girl can say, "Yes, I believe in God."*

**CONTACT ADDRESS**

Church Of Christ, Delhi,  
Rz-2008/25, House No.13,S.F.  
Tuglakabad Extension, New Delhi-110019

Phone No. : 9953968807  
email: khriissuangphum@gmail.com

'KHRIS' SUANGPHUM, A WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR THE MEMBERS  
OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, DELHI, ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK'

Enkaitu: Jamson Guite | Panpihtu: Kham Minthang | Jangthang

**BIBLE CLASS**

Class	Teacher
Adult	: Jamson
Senior	: L. James Guite
Junior	: Biaknem
Primary	: Rosely
Beginner	: Mary,

**TUNI BIAKKHAWMNA PROGRAMME**

Thumna Hun-uk : Sianno  
Lapitu : Lambiaksang  
Thilpiak : Lamsuanmung  
Theihgigena : Khenpi  
Thuhilhtu : Jamson

Last Sunday (08/01/12)

Offerings - Rs. 8956 /-

...Continue from page 1

*Yes, I understand that the Bible is God's Word," and then not do everything and anything within their power to make sure their lives conform to what that God teaches. That is not consistent, not reasonable, and not defendable, yet I am sure there are many people who know that their life is not consistent with God's way of living. Jesus said, "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad." Are you for Christ? Are you working for Christ?*

*Is your life radiating the kind of living that Jesus taught? Are you really a Christian or are you an atheist? There is no middle ground. It is my hope that by revealing to you the kind of person I have been and the mistakes I have made, you have realized that God is the only way. It is my prayer that you have realized that there is nothing that can be a part of your life that God cannot help you overcome and that you also realize that there is no better time than right now to begin the Christian way of living. Will you not give yourself to God and live Christ's Way? If you do not know a person or group of people in your community following the Lord, write me and I will try to help you.*

**THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**

A PATHIAN LEH PA AA DIING A, LALGAMTE LEH SIAMPUTE HI DIING A  
HON BAWLPA, JESU KHRIS AH THUPINA LEH THILHIHTHEIHNA TAANG-  
TAWN TAANGTAWN IN OM HEN! AMEN. (KILAKNA 1:6)

**THU TUAMTUAM****HONGTUNG:**

-Kal paita seppatni in Lamka lam a honna zinkhiak san unaunu Biaknem bang tan hiam huailam a ava om nung in damtak in Delhi hongtung kiknawnta hi.

-Apa damlounhna toh kisai a Lamka lam a zin unaunu Chingngaihulun leng kal paita nigan in damtak in Delhi hongtung kiknawnta hi.

**KIKNAWNTA:**

-Tuma lam a suti zang diing a Dehradun akipan a hong zin unaunpa Tunkhanlun in zan kiginni in a siamsinna maban sunzom diing in Dehradun zuan in honna pai kiksian nawnta hi.

-Huchi mahbang in unaunu Ngaihvgung in leng zan kiginni in Delhi a kum khat vel a om nung in Lamka lam zuan in honna paisan hi. Amah ahihleh hong kiknawnlou diing hi in kigen hi.

**HONG BAANG ZUAL :**

-Unaupa Lalthansang leng a sepna Goa lam zuan a pai diing Delhi ah hong baang zual a, aman zan kiginni in a sepna Goa zuan in honna paisanta hi. Unaupa'n a pa ittak suun ahihna ah unaute'n i thumna te uah phawk ni.

-Unaupa Thanglianmung leng a sepna Kashmir zuan a pai diing Delhi ah hong baang in kal khat vel a om nung in zan in a sepnan lam ah honna paisan hi.

**KALNAWN BIAKKHAWMNA PROGRAMME**

Thumna Hun-uk : Janglet  
Lapitu : Lianminthang  
Thilpiak : Jolkhojang  
Theihgigena : Thongginlian  
Thuhilhtu : Jamson

**SUUNPIHNA HUN ZANG:**

-A pianna pa sihna toh kisai a Lamka lam a pai unaunu Ngaihulun nilaini a Delhi a hong tunkik toh kiton in huaini mah in saptuam te'n lusuunpihna a tenna inn uah kinei hi. Hiai hun ah unau phatuamngai bangzah hiam ki paikhawm a, hasotna leh thumsakna hun kizang hi. Maban a leng i thumna te uh ngaina gige uh ahih dan uh unaute'n a gen mahbang un i thumnate uah phawk tou zel ni hang.

**BIBLE CLASS OMLOU PHOT DIING:**

-Sunday school lamte akipan thu kingah dan in tu January kha sung Bible class leh sunday school omlou phot diing hihtuak hi. Thudang omnawn masiah khol hiphot tadih diing hi. Biakkhawmna pen dak 2:30 pm a neih hi diing hi.

*"The Roman Empire was held in awe for about six centuries until it fell because of corruption within. But the kingdom of God, which started in the time of the Romans, continues to be alive and well because it is an everlasting kingdom."*

*-E. Claude Gardner,  
on his article 'The Roman  
Empire and the Church.'*