

# The Importance of Icons

**April 24, 2017**

Big Ben, Parliament, Westminster, Buckingham Palace, Tower of London, Tower Bridge, the London Eye. Today will be familiar territory for you, not necessarily because you've physically been here before, but because the images of these icons are so essential to what we know about England, they are unforgettable. They are time-honored. They are universally identifiable. They are precious to the people who own them.

But none are indestructible.

At some point in history, they will crumble either because they were constructed with degradable materials or because the enemies of those icons will destroy them. Either way, they are coming down.

Christianity has its own icons. They are the doctrines, the truths of our faith that define what we believe and the very person of God. These icons are the eternity of the Godhead, the work of Christ on the cross because of the wickedness of all who would believe, the Resurrection which gave eternal victory over death, justification, sanctification, the inerrancy of scripture, the return of Christ. These are universally distinguishable from every other worldview and religion. They are staples and creeds of the Truth and they are precious to those who own them.



The difference is...*they* are indestructible. No matter what enemy – even THE enemy – what length of time, what faithless and frail material we are made of... these icons are eternal. They always have been – they always will be - Because they flow from the Source – the Eternal One.

As your eyes soak in the architecture, and your ears hear the history, as your appreciation for the richness of the British infrastructure grows today, make the spiritual connection to our own icons. Delight in them, have confidence in them, but take it to another level....

Live the truth of them. We are walking icons of our faith. Allow the lost world to look at you, have a clear understanding of Who you represent, stand in awe of our God and then repent, embrace the cross and enjoy...

That's what we call..." go and make disciples".

Read the following verses:

He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it. Titus 1:9

But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. Titus 2:1

Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. 2 Timothy 4:2-4

Name any of the foundational truths or doctrines of your Christian faith. \_\_\_\_\_

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Which ones are most important to you? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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What happens when believers are not conversant on these truths? \_\_\_\_\_

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