

## The Good, the Bad, the Ugly and the Unexpected

These four talks weigh up the good, the bad, the ugly – and the unexpected about Christianity around the world today, and encourage Christians to have a clear-eyed, humble but confident view of the contributions their faith has made and continues to make to the flourishing of both individuals and societies.

### Session 1: How the West Was Won

Christopher Hitchens claims, “Religion poisons everything”. What *has* Christianity really done for the West? Are the Western values that people are still proud of – human rights, democracy, the rule of law, care for the vulnerable and marginalised, the scientific outlook, the value of art and culture – a legacy of Christianity, or a result of moving away from it?

### Session 2: Blind Spots

Christians are persecuted in 139 nations around the world; it's estimated that up to four out of five acts of religious discrimination worldwide are directed against them. So why don't we hear more about the global persecution of Christians? Why is the Western media so often silent on what's happening to Christians in communist, post-communist, Muslim, and South Asian countries? Why don't we care more? And what might all this mean for the future of Christianity in the West?

### Session 3: Does Religion Poison Everything?

From the Crusades and the inquisitions to witch-hunts, censorship, and the child abuse scandal, sometimes it seems like the Christopher Hitchens' of the world have a point. How bad have Christians been, really? And how should we respond to failures like these? This session aims at an honest assessment of where Christians have departed from the core of their faith.

### Session 4: Mythbusting

So the perceptions people (including Christians) often have about our faith, past and present, can be wildly inaccurate. What can we do about that?

# Super Saturday Seminar

CHRISTIANITY: THE GOOD, THE BAD,  
THE UGLY AND THE UNEXPECTED

With Dr Natasha Moore

3pm – 9pm  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September



[stjohnsasquith.org.au](http://stjohnsasquith.org.au)



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## Introducing Dr Natasha Moore

Natasha is a Research Fellow at the Centre for Public Christianity for 2014-15.

She has a PhD in English Literature from the University of Cambridge and has held a number of short-term research fellowships at universities in Australia and the US.

She previously worked in Learning and Teaching at the University of New South Wales, Sydney.



## The Programme

3.00	Arrive & rego
3.15	<b>Session 1: How The West Was Won</b>
4.15	Afternoon tea
4.35	<b>Session 2: Blind Spots</b>
5.35	Dinner
6.50	<b>Session 3: Does Religion Poison Everything?</b>
7.45	Break
8.00	<b>Session 4: Mythbusting</b>
9.00	Close

## Registration Details

Register on the St John's Asquith website or by submitting the attached registration form to the office. All registrations close Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September.

Cost: \$25 per person (this includes afternoon tea and dinner).

Childminding for 3 to 12 year olds will be available for sessions 1 and 2 only. There will be no cost involved; however, there will be a charge of \$5 for each child who stays for dinner.

## Registration Form

Register online or using this form. Registration closes Monday 7th September.

### Personal Details

#### Delegate 1

Title: ..... Given name: .....

Family name: .....

Phone: ..... Email: .....

#### Delegate 2 (if applicable)

Title: ..... Given name: .....

Family name: .....

Phone: ..... Email: .....

### Cost

Please tick one in the first column and one in the second column if applicable

☐ Single registration \$25

☐ Dinner for 2 children \$10

☐ Double registration \$50

☐ Dinner for 3 children \$15

☐ Dinner for 1 child \$5

☐ Dinner for 4 or more children \$20

Total cost: \$ .....

### Payment

Please tick one

☐ I have made a direct internet transfer

Account name: Asquith Parish General Fund

BSB: 062-106 Account number: 00900612

Please put 'SuperSat' and your family name in the reference field

☐ I have enclosed a cheque payable to 'St John's Asquith'

☐ I have enclosed cash

### Childminding

I require childminding for ..... children during sessions 1 and 2

Children's names and ages.....

### Dietary Requirements

Please list any special dietary requirements: .....