
❖SERMON NOTES❖

Sunday, February 10, 2013

“HOW TO BE A CHRISTIAN WITHOUT BEING RELIGIOUS”

(Matthew 6:1-8, 16-18)

Today we rejoin the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus taught what it meant to be His disciple, His follower. Most Americans say they like Jesus but don't care for religion. Jesus wasn't a fan of religion either. How can we live as Christians without being religious?

1. Christians who aren't religious are in

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“The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God” (Romans 8:16, NASB).

2. Christians who aren't religious

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“If you love me, you will obey what I command” (John 14:15, NIV).

3. Christians who aren't religious

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“Obviously, I'm not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ's servant” (Galatians 1:10, NLT).

4. Christians who aren't religious

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“Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast” (Psalm 139:7-10, NIV).

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(Matthew 6:1-8, 16-18)

“In a word, what I’m saying is, Grow up. You’re kingdom subjects. Now live like it. Live out your God-created identity. Live generously and graciously toward others, the way God lives toward you” (Matthew 5:48, The Message).

“Unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 5:20, NASB).

1. Christians who aren’t religious are in relationship to God.

“Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven” (Matthew 5:16, NASB).

“The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God” (Romans 8:16, NASB).

2. Christians who aren’t religious perform acts of obedience.

“Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching” (Hebrews 10:25, NIV).

“If you love me, you will obey what I command” (John 14:15, NIV).

3. Christians who aren’t religious seek to please God not self.

“I hate all your show and pretense—the hypocrisy of your religious festivals and solemn assemblies. I will not accept your burnt offerings and grain offerings. I won’t even notice all your choice peace offerings. Away with your noisy hymns of praise! I will not listen to the music of your harps. Instead, I want to see a mighty flood of justice, an endless river of righteous living” (Amos 5:21-24, NLT).

“Obviously, I’m not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ’s servant” (Galatians 1:10, NLT).

4. Christians who aren’t religious recognize the constant presence of God.

“Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast” (Psalm 139:7-10, NIV).

“Beware of false prophets who come disguised as harmless sheep but are really vicious wolves. You can identify them by their fruit, that is, by the way they act. Can you pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles?” (Matthew 7:15-16, NLT).

“Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control” (Galatians 5:22-23, NASB).