

Joy in Conflict

¹ Finally, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things again is no trouble for me, and it is a safeguard for you.

² Watch out for those dogs, those evildoers, those mutilators of the flesh. For it is we who are the circumcision, we who serve God by his Spirit, who boast in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh.

The religious mindset is a weapon of the enemy; designed to distance us from the heart of God.

Some things are too important to let go by.

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Jesus people vs. Religious people

Religion

- An organized system of beliefs, ceremonies, and rules used to please God or a group of Gods.
- Things we can do to make God happy.
- Renders joy in tribulation impossible!
- Trust in own efforts vs. Trust in Jesus

Religion is not about what you do, but why you do it!





4 though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

⁷ But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8 What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ...

Religion



You can't fully trust Christ and trust you too!

⁹ ...and be found in him, not having a righteousness **of my own** that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that **comes from God** on the basis of faith.

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 64:6
- "For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it." - James 2:10

There is no such thing as a religious joyride!

¹⁰ I want to know Christ–yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

Religion vs. Christianity

