

I Want To Believe...But
Too Many Rules
April 15, 2018

Mark 9:24 ...I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!

Bad News Vs Good News:

- ✓ Religion focuses on the external duty; Relationship focuses on the internal delight.
Jesus dealt with Religion...

Matthew 23:1-4; 25-26. Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, “The teachers of religious law and the Pharisees are the official interpreters of the law of Moses. So practice and obey whatever they tell you, but don’t follow their example. For they don’t practice what they teach. They crush people with unbearable religious demands and never lift a finger to ease the burden... What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy—full of greed and self-indulgence! You blind Pharisee! First wash the inside of the cup and the dish, and then the outside will become clean, too.

1 John 5:3, 12 This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

- ✓ Religion focuses on what you do; Relationship focuses on what Jesus has done.

John 5:39-40 You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.”

- ✓ Religion focuses on getting God’s approval; Relationship focuses on receiving God’s love.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

1 John 4:19 We love because He first loved us.

Romans 3:20-22 For **no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands**. The law simply shows us how **sinful we are**. Christ took our punishment but now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. **We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ**. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.

Three walk aways:

1. Start building a relationship with Jesus.

John 14:15 If you love me, you will obey what I command.

2. Don’t allow condemnation.

Romans 8:1-2 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

3. Being right with God comes by faith in Christ alone.

Romans 3:22 We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.