

## **Breaking Religious Blindness**

### **John 9:39**

**John 9:39 (ESV) — Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”**

**John 9:40–41 (NLT) — Some Pharisees who were standing nearby heard him and asked, “Are you saying we’re blind?” “If you were blind, you wouldn’t be guilty,” Jesus replied. “But you remain guilty because you claim you can see.”**

**Religion is the default response in fallen humanity’s quest for God.**

## **Recognize your longing for God**

**Colossians 1:16 (ESV) — For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.**

### **Ten Realities regarding Religion**

**1. Religion appeared in the Fall of Mankind**

**2. Religion appeals to man’s longing for control**

**3. Religion attempts to appease and please the god/gods being served**

**4. Religion adheres to manmade interpretations of truth**

**5. Religion accepts manmade rituals and traditions over truth**

**6. Religion assumes to be keepers and protectors of truth**

**7. Religion attaches to the hearts and minds of its followers**

**8. Religion accumulates arguments to support its truth claim**

**9. Religion attacks every potential threat or rival**

**10. Religion advances the schemes of Satan through the prideful heart of man**

## **Admit your blindness toward God**

**John 9:39 (ESV) — Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”**

## **Receive your forgiveness in Jesus**

**John 9:35–38 (NLT) — When Jesus heard what had happened, he found the man and asked, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” The man answered, “Who is he, sir? I want to believe in him.” “You have seen him,” Jesus said, “and he is speaking to you!” “Yes, Lord, I believe!” the man said. And he worshiped Jesus.**

**but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a person’s enemies will be those of his own household.**

### **Live in dependence upon the Spirit**

**John 9:39 (ESV) — Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that **those who do not see may see**, and those who see may become blind.”**

**Mark 7:6–7 (NLT) — “You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you, for he wrote, ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship is a farce, for they teach man-made ideas as commands from God.’**

**Mark 7:13 (NLT) — And so you cancel the word of God in order to hand down your own tradition. And this is only one example among many others.”**

**In the same way the religious leaders rejected Jesus while He was on earth, American evangelicals have rejected the Holy Spirit today.**

**Matthew 10:34–36 (ESV) — Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace,**