

Part 2 - Religious and a Hater

Life of Paul Series

Galatians 1:13,14.

Saul Ravaged the church.

Profited in Judaism above others.

Ladder climber. Exceeded his peers.

Zealous.

Persecuting the church enabled Saul's promotion and personal objectives. He saw his enemy as a way to prosper in his own circle.

Zealous of his father's traditions. Christianity was a threat to Judaism. Christians taught a person over the law. That person was not Abraham or Moses. It is Jesus Christ.

Galatians 1:16. You can be very religious and lost. John R. Rice. You can be religious and hate Jesus and his followers. You can be religious and seek to cause havoc to the church.

Christians should seek the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Religious people with Ph.D's or those who wear a collar may not be true followers of Jesus Christ.

Religion finds solace in tradition.

Religion aspires to reason in education.

Religion seeks stability in structure.

Religion offers service to humanity.

Religion without Christ ends in Hell.

John 14:1-3. Christ is the only way. An encounter with Jesus is the only way to get to Jesus.

Paul had everything but Christ. He counted it all but dung.

Philippians 3:18. Paul reflects on his accomplishments before and after his conversion. Before conversion, it looked like he had it all. After conversion, these accomplishments were worthless or “dung.”

Paul wants his reader's to understand knowing Christ is far more purposeful than any earthly accomplishment. Without Christ, life has no eternal value. With Christ, it will be worth it all.

Hymn “In Christ Alone.”

In Christ alone, my hope is found

He is my light, my strength, my song

This Cornerstone, this solid ground

Firm through the fiercest drought and storm

**What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand**

**In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Til on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live, I live**

**There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory**

**Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand**

Source: Musixmatch

Songwriters: Traditional / Keith Getty / Stuart Townend