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Faith Bible Church
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<http://www.fbcweb.org/Doctrines/Religious-man.pdf>

DAILY DOCTRINE
Religious Man

1. Christianity is a relationship with God and not a religion. Christianity is all about glorifying God and enjoying Him forever through His grace.
2. Christianity is all about the grace of God whereas religion is about man's efforts in seeking to be accepted by God based on his own religious activity.
3. The religious man is described in Romans 2:17-29.
4. The religious man has the self-righteousness of the moral man and in addition he observes certain rituals of religion—activities “in the name” of God. He believes by invoking the name of God that somehow God and/or man is impressed.
5. The religious man regards himself as superior to all others because he has done more in order to sustain a relationship with God. This is an illusion.
6. The purpose of the Mosaic Law is to show man he is a sinner. Keeping the Mosaic Law does not save.
7. Religious man says he is saved by keeping the law and yet he cannot keep it.
8. Religious man is condemned by his own teaching. He breaks the Mosaic Law, Rom. 2:21-23.
9. Religious man is guilty of teaching others a way of salvation which he, himself, cannot execute.
10. Religion is inconsistent, Rom. 2:18-23.
11. Religious man observes rituals, but has no reality.
12. PRINCIPLE: RITUAL WITHOUT REALITY IS MEANINGLESS.
13. Reality is more important than ritual. Ritual by itself cannot bring reality. E.g. Water baptism is the ritual that reflects the reality of the baptism of the Holy Spirit and union with Christ. This ritual cannot bring about the reality, it can only reflect and illustrate understanding of the reality.
14. Jesus condemned religion, called the Scribes and Pharisees “whitewashed tombstones,” Matt. 23:27.
15. Every self-righteous person has an area of hypocrisy. “Whitewashing” is his façade.