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Faith Bible Church
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<http://www.fbcweb.org/Doctrines/ReligionvsChristianity.pdf>

DAILY DOCTRINE
Religion vs. Christianity

A. Religion.

1. Religion is the worst thing in this world.

a. John 8:44 "You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*; for he is a liar, and the father of lies.

b. Exodus 32:4 And he took *this* from their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, and made it into a molten calf; and they said, "This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt."

c. Consider all of the religious activity in the Old Testament of the nations around Israel and Israel herself; how religious people persecuted Christ and early Christianity.

2. Religion is man seeing to gain the approbation of God by human works, either in phase 1 (salvation) or phase 2 (spiritual life).

3. Religion is the greatest opposition to (antithesis of) truth. Religion is RITUAL WITHOUT REALITY.

4. Religion is the Satanic counterfeit of true relationship with God.

5. Nothing Satan has even devised has been so successful as religion in blinding men's minds to the truth.

6. Any system of religion which is anthropocentric (man seeking to solve man's problems) is satanic in nature and basically becomes a worship of Satan, as Satan is the author of "do-goodism" (human good, good apart from God or natural law).

7. All religion is designed to get the person to worship Satan.

8. Religion appeals to the lust pattern of the OSHGEN (old sin human good evil nature in every person) or to the emotions. It revolves around a desire to get into the glamour of the ritual.

9. Religion is often the great killer, the great persecutor; destroyer of human freedom as well as human bodies.

10. Religion is money-minded (pledges, dues, etc.) and always concerned with the number of people in church rather than Truth.

11. Religion ends up making a church or religious organization into a business.

B. Christianity.

1. Christianity is the best thing in this world.

2. Christianity is God doing something for man through His grace, and God getting the glory both at salvation and in the spiritual life—phase 1 and phase 2.

3. Regeneration is the basis for Christianity. “Do-goodism” (human good) is the basis for Religion.

4. Christianity recognizes the freedom of the individual and this freedom cannot exist unless there is separation of church and state. The church should never run the state; and the state should never interfere with the church. Separation of church and state should never be used by the state to enforce freedom FROM the church where the church cannot express herself in the state.