

Religious People Who Had To Change

Churches teach different things, but since 2+2 can't equal both 4 and 5, they all can't be practicing the truth (John 8:31-32)

Some today might be like Paul who are very, very loyal to their religion, but are way off track –

- Acts 26:5 Which knew me from the beginning ... that after the most straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.
- Acts 9:1-2 And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, ... that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.
- Acts 23:1 And Paul ... said, Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.
- Acts 22:16 ... arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

Some today might be like Cornelius who are devout religious people, but have not actually obeyed the gospel –

- Acts 10:1-6 There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band, A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway. He saw in a vision ... an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius ... Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God. And now send men to Joppa, and call for one ... Peter: He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.
- Acts 11:13-14 And he shewed us how he had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Joppa, and call for ... Peter; Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved.

Some today are like Apollos who are very, very close to the truth, but just need a little gentle correction –

- Acts 18:24-26 And a certain Jew named Apollos, ... an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John. And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.

Some today are like those who were possibly taught by Apollos, and so had been baptized unscripturally –

- Acts 19:1-5 ... Paul ... came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
- Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Some today may be worshipping God, but not worshipping God according to His instructions –

- Lev 10:1-2 And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the Lord, which he commanded them not. And there went out fire from the Lord, and devoured them, and they died before the Lord.
- John 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Some today are doing things they think God would have them to do, but things that actually run contrary to God's word –

- I Chron 13:7-10 And they carried the ark of God in a new cart ... and Uzza ... drove the cart. ... And when they came unto the threshingfloor of Chidon, Uzza put forth his hand to hold the ark; for the oxen stumbled. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzza, and he smote him, because he put his hand to the ark: & there he died before God.
- Prov 14:12 There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Some today are religious but are not really obeying God –

- Matt 7:21-23 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

A lot of believers today are not actually abiding in the doctrine/teaching of Christ –

- II John 9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

And some today are remaining in churches which are not abiding in the doctrine/teaching of Christ –

- II John 10-11 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.

What do the above have in common? All were religious, but not following God's truth (John 8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free), and therefore lost. I Pet 1:22a "ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth"