

The Problem with Religion is...

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_____ ¹ has reduced the _____ ² to a joke; a set of useless,
_____ ³ masquerading as God's plan.

Religion is nothing more than _____ ⁴ on God's _____ ⁵.

The phone, created for the _____ ⁶ of verbally communicating, is no longer as it _____ ⁷. The same argument can be made against man and the _____ ⁸ he has applied to God's original message – the instructions that allow us to _____ ⁹ and _____ ¹⁰ with Him.

God left His instructions for us and made it _____ ¹¹, but man, in his effort to make better what needed no improvement, has _____ ¹² the purpose and function of the _____ ¹³ as intended.

The _____ ¹⁴ of God's preserved wishes and instructions for His creation _____ ¹⁵.

Luke 11:1-4 (HCSB)

¹ He was praying in a certain place, and when He finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also taught his disciples."

² He said to them, "Whenever you pray, say: Father, Your name be honored as holy. Your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves also forgive everyone in debt to us. And do not bring us into temptation."

John 19:25-28 (HCSB)

²⁵ Standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother, His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple He loved standing there, He said to His mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷ Then He said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home. ²⁸ After this, when Jesus knew that everything was now accomplished that the Scripture might be fulfilled, He said, "I'm thirsty!"

Acts 1:9-14 (HCSB)

⁹ After He had said this, He was taken up as they were watching, and a cloud took Him out of their sight.

¹⁰ While He was going, they were gazing into heaven, and suddenly two men in white clothes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up into heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come in the same way that you have seen Him going into heaven.”
¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called the Mount of Olives, which is near Jerusalem—a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they arrived, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴ All these were continually united in prayer, along with the women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and His brothers.

The event of the Creator of the Universe coming to sacrifice Himself to rescue His creation had nothing to do with Mary... it has everything to do with Jesus.

2 Corinthians 4:3-6 (HCSB)

³ But if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.
⁴ In their case, the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers so they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
⁵ For we are not proclaiming ourselves but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your slaves because of Jesus.
⁶ For God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of God’s glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

Acts 5:40-42 (HCSB)

⁴⁰ After they called in the apostles and had them flogged, they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them.
⁴¹ Then they went out from the presence of the Sanhedrin, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to be dishonored on behalf of the Name.
⁴² Every day in the temple complex, and in various homes, they continued teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.

God created us for the purpose of _____¹⁶ with us _____¹⁷ – but _____¹⁸ of relationship.

Religion... loves the _____¹⁹ and the _____²⁰, but knows nothing of _____²¹.

Religion... resounds with reports of _____²² but religion, in its colorful, gadget-driven presentation to the lost of the world, mentions nothing of _____, _____ or _____²³.

Religion... understands nothing about _____²⁴ in prayer.

Religion... doesn’t have the _____²⁵ what His _____²⁶ sounds like.

Religion... makes plans and then _____²⁷ God into those plans.

Religion... knows nothing of _____²⁸ getting connected to _____²⁹, doing whatever it takes to _____³⁰ without compromise until, according to _____³¹ it is completed.

Jesus' sacrifice... the _____³²... from the _____³³... on behalf of the _____³⁴... for nothing in return but _____³⁵... the only sacrifice capable of covering the otherwise _____³⁶, by He who had no obligation, for that which was _____³⁷ of rescuing itself.

Religion has _____³⁸ that was paid on their behalf and, as a result, no longer has any _____³⁹ for the gift.

Religion... is just a role-play, a _____⁴⁰ passed down from generation to generation, picking up new apps along the way under the premise they will _____⁴¹. But the truth is, all the additional upgrades have neither _____⁴² the path for the _____⁴³, nor made the _____⁴⁴.

Religion... has _____⁴⁵ with rules, rites and rituals giving the _____⁴⁶ of connection.

Religion... is a joke, a _____⁴⁷, a giant lack of _____⁴⁸.

It's no big mystery why _____⁴⁹ and why _____⁵⁰ will not even entertain the idea of trying.

The problem with _____⁵¹... it _____⁵² of relationship.

The God who created you _____⁵³ with you. He extends an _____⁵⁴ - a loving Father with His child - not a requirement to _____⁵⁵.

Answers:

1. Religion
2. relationship
3. inauthentic motions
4. man's wrapping
5. message
6. specific purpose
7. originally was intended
8. religious wrapping
9. live in harmony
10. in relationship
11. pretty simple
12. complicated and distorted
13. original item
14. focus
15. has been lost
16. interacting
17. in relationship
18. religion knows nothing
19. fanfare
20. production
21. humility
22. missionary activity
23. submission, obedience or following
24. attentive listening
25. slightest idea
26. voice
27. dutifully prays
28. submission
29. God's plans
30. hold the line
31. God's timing
32. incalculable
33. infallible
34. incapable
35. loyalty
36. un-payable debt
37. incapable
38. forgotten the price
39. true appreciation
40. façade
41. make things better
42. improved
43. journey
44. destination more desirable
45. replaced relationship
46. appearance
47. vacuum
48. relational interaction
49. so many leave
50. so many more
51. religion
52. knows nothing
53. desires to interact
54. invitation to exchange
55. labor without feedback