

## WHY RELIGION CAN'T SAVE YOU

Romans 2: 17-29

**Religion:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*And Isaiah boldly says, "I was found by those who did not seek me; I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me." Romans 10:20 (NIV)*

### EIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF RELIGIOUS PEOPLE:

1. Depend on a \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 17a)  
*Now you, if you call yourself a Jew; Romans 2:17 (NIV)*  
*She conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son she said, "This time I will praise the Lord." So she named him Judah. Genesis 29:35*
2. Rely on \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 17b)  
*...if you rely on the law Romans 2:17 (NIV)*
3. Think they have \_\_\_\_\_ with God (v. 17c)  
*...and brag about your relationship to God; Romans 2:17 (NIV)*
4. Claim to have \_\_\_\_\_ to God (v. 18a)  
*...if you know his will Romans 2:18 (NIV)*
5. Maintain a \_\_\_\_\_ standard (v. 18b)  
*...and approve of what is superior because you are instructed by the law; Romans 2:18 (NIV)*  
*...you are aware of moral distinctions...Romans 2:18 (NEB)*
6. Have a \_\_\_\_\_ toward others (vv. 19, 20)  
*...if you are convinced that you are a guide for the blind, a light for those who are in the dark, an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of infants, because you have in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth— Romans 2:19,20*

7. Don't always \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 21-23)

*...you, then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You who preach against stealing, do you steal? You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? You who brag about the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law? Romans 2:21-23 (NIV)*

(v.23) rob temples- hierosuleo- to be a temple-robber

8. Rely on \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 25-29)  
*Circumcision has value if you observe the law, but if you break the law, you have become as though you had not been circumcised. If those who are not circumcised keep the law's requirements, will they not be regarded as though they were circumcised? The one who is not circumcised physically and yet obeys the law will condemn you who, even though you have the written code and circumcision, are a lawbreaker. Romans 2:25-27 (NIV)*

**The Result of Religion:** \_\_\_\_\_ (v.24)  
*As it is written: "God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you." Romans 2:24 (NIV)*

### Two Statements to Remember:

1. It's not my duty to make \_\_\_\_\_, my duty is to \_\_\_\_\_
2. Never expect an \_\_\_\_\_ to act like a \_\_\_\_\_ until he is one