

How can I tell the true religion of God from false religions?

Answers to Questions Concerning the Restored Gospel from HisWorkmanship.net

Answer prepared by:

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Updated / Formatted March 11, 2012

Question: [How can I tell the true religion of God from false religions?](#)

Answer(s)

The true religion of God is established and prospered by God through the revelation of His Word of Truth (John 1:1-16, 14:6, 17:17). Thus, any religion that is advanced by lies, either passively or actively, is a lie itself and is thus a false religion.

Specifically, a false religion is any religion that fosters, encourages, utilizes, justifies, accommodates, hides behind, or perpetrates lies in any form or fashion. This includes those religions in which lying or deceiving those within and/or without is considered justified for the purpose of protecting, preserving, or prospering the religion. Except its adherents forsake lies through repentance and embracing the truth, meaning God's Word of Truth, a religion so based in or incorporating lies will forever enslave its unsuspecting as well as its suspecting adherents in the darkness cast by *the father of lies*, Satan (II Thessalonians 2:1-12 with John 8:44).

To both recognize and appreciate the uniqueness of the true religion of God, it is instructive to consider why false religions exist in the world. Two related reasons will be discussed here.

The first reason was identified by Jesus Christ when He testified of *the condemnation* that rests upon the world.

*And **this is the condemnation,**
that light is come into the world,
and men love darkness rather than light,
because their deeds are evil.
For every one who doeth evil hateth the light,
neither cometh to the light,
lest his deeds should be reproved.
But he who loveth truth,
cometh to the light,
that his deeds may be made manifest.*

John 3:19-21

Everyone who *loves darkness rather than light* will be drawn to false religions rather than to the true religion of God. Because they love lies over truth, they seek to hide their *evil deeds* under the cover which false religions provide. Such organizations not only accommodate them and their evil intents and deeds; they serve to further their dark aims and objectives. Thus, false religions exist in large part to serve the interests and vain pursuits of their adherents. This includes those religions in which their adherents seek their own wills, whether through seemingly innocent endeavors to worship and serve God as they please, or through the pursuit of evil designs.

The direct opposite is true of the true religion of God. Those who love truth and willingly abide in God's true religion seek to do His will not their own. They choose to be followers of Jesus Christ, who prayed, "*not my will, but thine be done*" (Mark 14:40, Luke 22:42).

The second reason discussed here regarding why false religions exist in the world is related to the first. The reason for their existence is the judgments of God. God sends *strong delusions* upon those who refuse to believe and love the truth that is revealed through His Word of Truth.

*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven
against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men;
who love not the truth, but remain in unrighteousness.*

Romans 1:16

*I also will choose their delusions,
and will bring their fears upon them;
Because when I called, none did answer;
When I spake, they did not hear;
But they did evil before mine eyes,
and chose that in which I delighted not.*

Isaiah 66:4

*And for this cause
God shall send them strong delusion,
that they should believe a lie;
That they all might be damned
who believed not the truth,
but had pleasure in unrighteousness.*

II Thessalonians 2:11,12

Because there are those who refuse to receive *the love of the truth* – who choose to abide in darkness rather than light – God prepares a place for them outside of the truth, a place of darkness called *outer darkness*, which is a place of lies and delusions. Why is it God who provides a place of darkness for those who love darkness? As Paul, the Apostle of Jesus Christ, testified, it is God who sets the *bounds* of the *habitation* of all people, including those who love darkness over light. And He does so for an express purpose: *that they should seek the Lord, if they are willing to find Him.*

*God that made the world and all things therein,
seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth,
dwelleth not in temples made with hands;
Neither is worshipped with men's hands,
as though he needed anything,
seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;
And hath made of one blood all nations of men
for to dwell on all the face of the earth,
**and hath determined the times before appointed,
and the bounds of their habitation;**
That they should seek the Lord,
if they are willing to find him,
for he is not far from every one of us.*

Acts 17:24-27

God, who is the Lord of all, subjects each and every one of us, including those who love lies over the truth, to *tribulation* in the *hope* that being exercised therewith (Romans 5:1-5, James 1:1-5, Acts 14:22), we will come forth from these tribulations as His dear children; as those who rejoice solely in the revelation of truth; as those who are grieved in the presence of lies and vanity.

*For the creature was made subject
to tribulation <vanity> not willingly,
but by reason of him who hath subjected it in hope.
Because the creature itself also
shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption
into the glorious liberty of the children of God.*

Romans 8:20,21

For this cause, to separate the *wheat* from the *chaff* (cf. Luke 3), God is passing the nations through *the sieve of vanity*.

*John answered, saying unto all,
I indeed baptize you with water,
but there cometh one mightier than I,
the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose,
He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire;
Whose fan is in his hand,
and he will thoroughly purge his floor,
and will gather the wheat into his garner;
but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable.*

Luke 3:23,24 (16,17KJV)

*And his breath, as an overflowing stream,
shall reach to the midst of the neck,*

*to sift the nations with the sieve of vanity;
And there shall be a bridle in the jaws of the people,
causing them to err.*

Isaiah 30:28

*For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid,
which is Jesus Christ.
Now if any man build upon this foundation
gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;
every man's work shall be made manifest;
For the day shall declare it,
because it shall be revealed by fire;
And the fire shall try every man's work
of what sort it is.
If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon,
he shall receive a reward.
If any man's work shall be burned,
he shall suffer loss;
but he himself may be saved;
yet so as by fire.*

II Corinthians 3:11-15

If we forsake vanity to receive *the truth* embodied in God's Word, He will add *precept upon precept* and *line upon line* so that we may grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ, *the True Vine*, and become fruitful thereby (John 15).

*Grace and peace be multiplied unto you
through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,
According as his divine power hath given unto us
all things that pertain unto life and godliness,
through the **knowledge** of him
that hath called us to glory and virtue;
Whereby are given unto us
exceeding great and precious promises;
that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature,
having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.
**And besides this, giving all diligence,
add to your faith virtue;
and to virtue, knowledge;
and to knowledge, temperance;
and to temperance, patience;
and to patience, godliness;
and to godliness, brotherly kindness;
and to brotherly kindness, charity.**
For if these things be in you, and abound,*

*they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful
in the **knowledge** of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

I Peter 1:2-8

*For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept;
line upon line, line upon line;
here a little, and there a little.*

Isaiah 28:10

Thus the weapons of our warfare in this life were outlined by the Apostle Paul as follows:

*For though we walk in the flesh,
we do not war after the flesh;
(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal,
but mighty through God
to the pulling down of strongholds;)
**Casting down imaginations,
and every high thing that exalteth itself
against the knowledge of God,
and bringing into captivity
every thought to the obedience of Christ;**
And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience,
when your obedience is fulfilled.*

I Corinthians 10:3-6

If we fail in our warfare by allowing lies and vanity to overrun our minds at the expense of the truth, God will take from us the truth which we have already received.

*Now the parable is this;
The seed is the word of God.
...
Take heed therefore how ye hear;
For whosoever receiveth,
to him shall be given;
And whosoever receiveth not
from him shall be taken
even that which he seemeth to have.*

Luke 8:11,18

Therefore, our Lord calls to us to believe His Word while it is yet called "Today."

***Take heed, brethren,**
lest there be in any of you
an evil heart of unbelief,*

in departing from the living God.
But exhort one another daily,
while it is called Today;
lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.
For we are made partakers of Christ,
if we hold the beginning of our confidence
steadfast unto the end;
While it is said, Today if ye will hear his voice,
harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.

Hebrews 3:12-15

Those who harden their hearts unto choosing to remain outside the truth, having an *evil heart of unbelief*, will eventually be shut out from the presence of *the God of truth* (Psalm 31:5) by being cast into outer darkness where there is *weeping and gnashing of teeth* (Matthew 8:12, 22:13, 25:29-31). Why? They love darkness over light; yet in darkness there is no joy nor happiness. Only destitution and torment. So, as explained throughout the scriptures, those planted by *the father of lies*, even within the church established by Jesus Christ, will eventually be bound together as *tares* and *cast into the fire* together with that wicked one who beguiled them with his empty lies and tempting vanity (see Matthew 13:22-29; 13:24-30KJV).

On the other hand (on the right hand of God), those who *receive the love of the truth* will be given to abide together as one body in the true religion of *the God of truth*. Why? They *hunger and thirst* for righteousness (Matthew 5-7 with Acts 4). They love truth over lies and vanity. So, by faith they are established in the eternal religion that is upheld by God's Word (Acts 6:7,8, 19:19-21, etc.), the one true religion that is built upon Jesus Christ and His teachings and commandments – at the heart of which are the two great commandments and His new commandment to love as He has loved us.

Jesus said unto him,
Thou shalt love the Lord thy God
with all thy heart,
and with all thy soul,
and with all thy mind.
This is the first and great commandment.
And the second is like unto it;
Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.
On these two commandments
hang all the law and the prophets.

Matthew 22:36-39 (37-40 KJV)

A new commandment I give unto you.
That ye love one another;
As I have loved you,
that ye also love one another.
By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples,

if ye have love one to another.

John 13:34,35

*Therefore owe no man anything,
but to love one another;
for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.*

For this,

*Thou shalt not commit adultery,
Thou shalt not kill,
Thou shalt not steal,
Thou shalt not bear false witness,
Thou shalt not covet;*

*And if there be any other commandment,
it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely,*

Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

*Love worketh no ill to his neighbor;
therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.*

Romans 13:8-10

*If any man among you seem to be religious,
and bridleth not his tongue,
but deceiveth his own heart,
this man's religion is vain.*

***Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this,
To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction,
and to keep himself unspotted from the vices of the world.***

James 1:26,27

Not everyone or everything that is purported to be of God or of His true religion is in fact of God. Lies masquerading as truth abound in this world. Satan and his servants are liars and are intent on beguiling the nations with their deceptive, destructive ways.

*Ye are of your father the devil,
and the lusts of your father ye will do;
He was a murderer from the beginning,
and abode not in the truth,
because there is no truth in him.*

*When he speaketh a lie,
he speaketh of his own;
for he is a liar,
and the father of it.*

*And because I tell you the truth,
ye believe me not.*

John 8:44,45

Therefore, we have been admonished to be careful *to prove all things and hold fast to that which is good* (I Thessalonians 5:21). This includes proving what we or others may write or say (including the writings on this website) by comparing them with God's word recorded in the scriptures, which are founded upon the [witness](#) God has given of His Son, Jesus Christ (I John 4 & 5). We are to confirm that our words and the words of others glorify Jesus Christ as "*the way, the truth and the life,*" as the only way that leads back unto *the God of truth* (John 12,14,16).

Every aspect of God's true religion glorifies Jesus Christ as His incarnate Word. Every facet of His true religion testifies that faith on the name of Jesus Christ (including the *Word* and the *Bread of Life*) is the only way whereby we may be saved from *the wrath to come* by being saved into the kingdom of God (see Romans 1 & 10 with John 1 & 5, I John 4, II John, etc.).

All words of truth will confirm Jesus Christ's fulfillment of the prophecies of the holy prophets, e.g. His virgin birth, His intercession for us through the atonement for sin, His death and subsequent resurrection from the dead, and His ascension into heaven to ever intercede for us before our heavenly Father. Most of all, they will substantiate that He, as the Lamb of God, is worthy of all praise and honor for overcoming death and the grave to bring salvation unto mankind justly and mercifully (Revelation 5). Only Jesus Christ is able and caring enough to save us from death and the grave. He alone is able to bring us back into the presence of our heavenly Father.

Let us hold fast, therefore, to God's good Word of Truth by holding fast to Jesus Christ. Let us *embrace* God's incarnate Word unto being led by His Spirit into repentance and worship (in spirit and truth) of *the God of truth*.

*And the hour cometh, and now is,
when the true worshipers shall worship
the Father in spirit and in truth;
for the Father seeketh such to worship him.
For unto such hath God promised his Spirit.
And they who worship him,
must worship in spirit and in truth.*

John 4:25,26

For it is only by embracing God's Word of truth, through faith in Jesus Christ, that we may be guided into all truth (John 16:13). By holding fast to Him as God's appointed *rod* (Micah 6:9), we will be led into eternal life that is found only in the light and love of God's fellowship.

*And now I would commend you to seek this Jesus
of whom the prophets and apostles have written,
That the grace of God the Father and also the Lord Jesus
Christ and the Holy Ghost, which beareth record
of them, may be and abide in you forever. Amen.*

Ether 5:41

In summary, God's Word of Truth was made flesh and dwelt among us so that we might come to know and abide in the true religion of God (John 1:1-16 with John 20:30,31). Therefore, we can only come to distinguish His true religion from false religions by coming to know God's incarnate Word, Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ is completely unique. While others may declare the word of God, Jesus Christ alone **is** the Word of God. Therefore, He is the only *way* by which we may know God and come back into His presence (John 14:6).

There is, therefore, no other honorable religion beside the one true religion which God has founded in and through the revelation of His Incarnate Word, Jesus Christ. No other religion can feed our hungering and thirsting souls with eternal life. Only in and through feasting upon God's Word (Jesus Christ) as the *Bread of Life*, may we be granted the precious gift of eternal life (John 6:48 with John 12:49,50). Thus it is written, "*He that hath an ear to hear, let Him hear what the Spirit (of truth) saith to the churches*" (e.g. Revelation 2:7 with John 14:15-18 & II Corinthians 3:17).

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