

Top Ten Reasons Not To Be A Christian #1

Introduction. Are you a Christian yet? If not, why not? Too many are like the demons who declared, "Let us alone" (Mark 1:24). On the other hand, some offer reasons or objections as to why they do not obey. The objections that we are studying today are important and should never be taken lightly. Therefore, we study them with the greatest of respect toward those who may possess these frames of mind so that they can be persuaded to be obedient to Christ.

I. ***"A Lot Of Christians Are Hypocrites"***

- A. This is a true statement. Many Christians are hypocrites. This should not be too surprising, because there are bad apples in every basket.
- B. However, the standard to which God calls us should not be judged by a few bad apples (Romans 16:17-18; 1 Timothy 4:1-2). Besides, would you rather spend a few years putting up with a few hypocrites in a congregation, or spend eternity with all of them in hell (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43)?

II. ***"I Am Not Good Enough"***

- A. When one becomes a Christian, it is not because he or she is good. In fact, we become Christians because we recognize that we are not good. We are sinners (Romans 3:9-18).
- B. Redemption is based on grace and faith, not one's own righteousness (Romans 3:21-28). If it was based on righteousness, no one would be a Christian, much less be saved (James 2:10-11).

III. ***"I Do Not Know Enough"***

- A. Do you believe there is a God? Do you believe that Jesus is His Son, who died on the cross to save us from our sins, and was resurrected to give us hope? Are you willing to accept Him as Lord and Savior, to follow Him wherever He leads you?
- B. His commands are simple: After hearing the gospel (Ephesians 1:13), you must believe (John 8:24), repent from your sins (Acts 3:19), confess Him (John 11:27), and be immersed in water into His body (Galatians 3:27). The rest will come with time and diligence (Hebrews 5:12-14; 1 Peter 5:10). Trust Him, walk by faith, and be diligent (Psalm 16:1; 2 Corinthians 5:7; 2 Timothy 2:15).

IV. ***"Being A Christian Is Too Difficult"***

- A. Being a Christian is hard work. Before someone becomes a Christian they should count the cost and commit themselves to Christ, whatever the cost (Luke 9:57-62; 14:26-35).

- B. But you should know that choosing not to be a Christian will produce a life that is even harder (Matthew 11:28-30). If we run away from the difficulties of being a Christian, we will run straight into a trapped life of ruin and misery, which will bring insurmountable and eternal difficulties (Luke 15:11-19).
- C. To help us, God has provided spiritual tools that enable us to grow as a Christian and overcome our hardships in life (2 Corinthians 10:3-5; Ephesians 6:10-18). These tools are only available to Christians (Ephesians 1:3).

V. ***"That Means My Family Is Going To Hell"***

- A. Once someone realizes the truth of his condemned state, it does not take long before he considers the fate of his loved ones. This realization often produces a lot of worry and heartache. Such a person may allow this concern to overpower his desire to save himself.
- B. Denying the truth will not change their true state before God (1 Corinthians 4:1-5).
 - 1. If they have passed on, then family would always want the best for the one who has to face God's judgment (Luke 16:27-28). They would want you to obey!
 - 2. If they are still alive, the only real hope of saving your loved ones is to first become a Christian, and then you can reach out to them with the gospel (1 Peter 3:1-2).
- C. Ignoring the judgment to come does not make it go away. Turning a blind eye only makes condemnation inevitable (Romans 11:7-10).

Conclusion. If you are delaying becoming a Christian, then please answer the question, "Why?" What stands in your way between you and the Lord? If something stands in your way, please think about it more than you have ever thought about anything else. There is nothing worth giving up eternity with God (Mark 8:34-38)!