

# Can You Recommend Your Religion By the Way it Works for You?

Psalm 66:16

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## INTRODUCTION:

- A. This is the fifth in a series of lessons concerning some serious questions about your religion.
- B. The first lesson asked this question? Are you dissatisfied with your religion?
  - 1. Literally millions of people are dissatisfied with their religion.
  - 2. Many of these dissatisfied people are looking around for another religion.
  - 3. Can you recommend your religion to them?
- C. This question might appear to you to be out of place, but I believe it is indeed a timely one. We take too much for granted. We had rather drift with the crowds, rather than put forth the effort to see for sure whether or not we stand with Christ.
- D. If your religion is worth dying for, then certainly it is worth recommending. If it is worth recommending, then certainly it is worth examining.
- E. David said in “**Psalm 66:16** – “Come and hear, all you who fear God, And I will declare what He has done for my soul.”
  - 1. This was the Psalmist’s way of saying, “I can honestly recommend my religion to the whole world!”
  - 2. What about you; can you recommend yours?
- F. It goes without saying, and I think most of us would agree, that some religions in the world aren’t worth recommending. They are: vain, shallow, empty, inadequate and contradictory.
  - 1. Perhaps it has never dawned upon us that ours might be in that class.
  - 2. Some have never stopped to find out.
- G. Whether one realizes it or not, he is each day either recommending his religion or renouncing it as not being worth the efforts. A man shows day by day, through his speech and actions, what kind of recommendation he places on his religion.
- H. Concerning some serious questions about your religion:
  - 1. Four weeks ago we asked, Are you dissatisfied with your religion?
  - 2. Three weeks ago we asked, Can You recommend your religion in light of the Scriptures?
  - 3. Two weeks ago we asked, Can you recommend your religion by the life you live?
  - 4. Last week we asked, Can you recommend your religion by the way you support it?
  - 5. One week from now we will ask, Do you need to change your religion?

6. Today we ask, Can you recommend your religion by the way it works for you?
7. Two weeks from today we will conclude our questions by asking, “Do you need to change your religion?”

## **Can You Recommend Your Religion By the Way it Works for You?**

- A. Here is a good test/Can you recommend your religion by the way it works for you?
  1. Does it give you something to hold on to?
  2. When a crisis comes, can you recommend it?
  3. When you suffer misfortune, can you recommend your religion?
- B. Others are looking at you to see if it works for you. They reason that if it does not work for you, then probably it will not work for them either.
- C. As a part of a test for your religion:
  1. When death reaches its ugly fingers in to steal a loved one, can you still recommend your religion?
  2. When you are down and out, what then?
  3. When you are sad, lonely, discouraged, or when you seem to lose your direction in life, does your religion work then?
  4. Does your religion always work for you?
- D. The religion of Christ can be recommended for and during any crisis or catastrophe. If your religion doesn't work for you all along, then you don't have the one Christ offers.
  1. What man needs is a religion that can be used on Monday, and will not have evaporated by Saturday. Christ's religion fills that need.
  2. The religion that makes a man look sick will not cure the world. Christianity is a happy religion.
    - a. Promises
    - b. Assurance
    - c. Confidence
    - d. Blessings
    - e. Example
    - f. A Guide
    - g. God's help
- E. When the world is at its worst, the Christian must be at his best.
  1. The Gospel of Christ will help the Christian be at his best.
  2. David said, “You are a shield for me” (**Psalm 3:3**). We ought to feel the same toward Christ.
- F. Note these Scriptures:

1. **Psalm 84:11** – “. . . No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly.”
  2. **Romans 8:28** – “For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come.”
  3. **Hebrews 13:5** – “. . . For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."
  4. **Psalm 37:25** – “I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread.”
  5. **Psalm 57:1** – “And in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge, Until these calamities have passed by.”
  6. **Romans 8:37** – “Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.”
  7. When the Lord is a man’s helper, he can joyfully say, “I will not fear what man can do to me” **Hebrews 13:6**
- G. A man and his God constitute a majority. They will be able to do whatever is within keeping with God’s will.
1. **Daniel 3:17** – “God is able.”
  2. **Ephesians 3:20** – “Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us.”

## CONCLUSION:

- A. Listening friends:
1. Has your religion stopped working for you? Maybe you stopped working for it.
  2. Do you feel God has given up on you? Maybe you have given up on Him.
  3. Do you feel Religion has given up on you? Maybe you have given up on it.
  4. Do you feel the church has given up on you? Maybe you have given up on it.
- B. Can you recommend your religion by the way it works for you?
- C. A religion that does not see after you in every way, is not the religion that of you need because it is not the religion of Christ.
- D. The religion of Christ will care for you if only will care for it it.
- E. **God’s Plan for Man’s Salvation.**