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When Religion Is Sin

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WHEN RELIGION IS SIN

John 4:19-24

INT: Jesus notified the world of the new and correct worship. Three essentials: Right object, right spirit, r. manner. Christ's teachings obviously did not please all Jews. My relay of this same message not expected to please all.

I. WHEN WORSHIP TO GOD BECOMES SIN.

- ✓ A. Cain and Abel. Genesis Genesis 4:1-8. Rel. became sin.
1. Both offered sacrifices to the same object.
 2. The manner differed: One obeyed God, other substituted.
 3. Spirits differed: One obedient. Other presumptuous.
 4. Conclusion: God does not accept just any ole thing!
- X B. Nadab and Abihu. Leviticus 10:1-3. (Sons of Aaron, H.P.)
1. Both men were religious workers, God's priests. Good.
 2. They seemingly got tired of the "old fashioned way."
 3. Spirit of rebellion. Act of transgression! Sin.
 4. Conclusion: Incorrect worship not acceptable even from the priests in the temple, or tabernacle.
- o C. Scribes and Pharisees in Christ's day. Matt. 15:8-9.
1. Drew near, honored with lips. Object of worship, right.
 2. Spirit was evil. Rejected God's wisdom, Manner of worship was wrong also: man-made. Not inspired. Sin
 3. Classified as hypocrites and warned of loss of reward.
 4. God asks so little of us, that it behooves us to at least honor the few requests He makes.

II. SPIRITS WHICH LEAD A HUMAN HEART TO SIN IN RELIGION.

- A. Sin of Ignorance. Judges 17:6. No leadership.
- B. Sin of Prejudice. Pre-judged. Matt. 13:15.-16.
- C. Sin of Deception. II John 9-10. Do it anyway!

III. WHAT ABOUT SOME CURRENT RELIGIOUS PRACTICES?

- OR ERROR
- A. Odd situation: People get excited about dishonest in government, in politics, in business offices, but seem not to care in religion. Which more important???
 - B. Some practices I mention for your consideration.
- Sacrifices*
K. Fike
Vain.
1. Instrumental music? Sinful unless taught. Rom. 10:17.
 2. Sabbath day worship? Object right, time wrong. 10:16?24
 3. Omission of Lord's supper on Lord's day. Acts 20:7.
 4. Raffles, lotteries, bazaars instead of free-will offerings. II Cor. 9:7. Gal. 6-7.

INV: Choose you this day whom you will serve and how?