**What Does Your Religion Mean To You?**

**Scripture Reading: James 1:21-27**

**Letters Are Worthless If No One Takes Instruction**

***"Therefore putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves."***

When you think of YOUR "Religion", What comes to mind?

Most people are bothered by those passages in Scripture, which they cannot understand. The Scripture that troubles me most is the Scripture I can understand.

***(Matthew 15:9) And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'"***

***(Matthew 7:21-23) “Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. {22} "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' {23} "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'***

**Time to get off the fence**

(1 Kings 18:21) And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will you falter between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people answered him not a word.

If we are going to be Christians, Then let us BE Christians! Wholeheartedly, and unreserved!

***(Romans 15:4) For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.***

**David [2 Samuel 24] – A Good Example Of Commitment**

***(2 Samuel 24:24) Then the king said to Arunah, "No, but I will surely buy it from you for a price; nor will I offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God with that which costs me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.***

**GOD DOESN’T WANT NOR DOES HE DESERVE LEFTOVERS.**

(Romans 12:1-2) I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. {2} And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

***(Matthew 10:39) "He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.***

***Mark 10:17 "And as He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and knelt before Him, and began asking Him, 'Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?'"***

***(Matthew 19:29) "And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.***

***(Romans 7:6-7) But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter. {7} What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet."***

 ***(Romans 8:9) But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.***

***(Romans 5:8) But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.***

***(1 John 4:10) In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.***