

“ONE RELIGION IS AS GOOD AS ANOTHER”
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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Our topic for discussion, “One Religion Is As Good As Another”, is a statement often made by men, by religious men, by men who profess to believe what the Bible teaches.
2. Question: Is it a true statement? Another question: Do the people who make such a statement really believe it? Will they, and/or do they actually, apply it straight “across the board”?
3. Let’s consider the statement from that standpoint, as well as from what the Bible, they claim to believe, reveals about it.
4. The final word, in reality, is what men say Vs. what God says in the Bible!

II. DISCUSSION

A. NEVER, IN THE OLD TESTAMENT PERIOD OF TIME WAS ONE RELIGION AS GOOD AS ANOTHER IN GOD’S SIGHT.

1. God established the religion of Judaism and governed it and them as his people by the Law of Moses given at Mt. Sinai, Exo.19 and 20; Deut.5; Deut.4:2.
2. God never accepted the idolatrous religions of that period of time, or any other time period, nor the people who worshipped accordingly, Exo.20:1-5; Deut.5:7; 13:1-5; 6:13-15.
3. All who followed such religious practices were “worthy of death,” Rom.1:18-25,28,32.
4. Throughout the Old Testament period all who turned from God to serve idols, or who rejected his law and failed to faithfully serve God in accordance with his revealed will were rejected by him, even those of his covenant people who turned from his law, Prov.28:9; 1Kings 12,13.
5. Therefore, whether it involved rejecting God himself for an idol or turning from the truth of God’s word to a false doctrine (that is, any teaching or practice contrary to his revealed will), one religion or system of worship was never as good as another, or never as good as God’s system of religion and worship in the Old Testament period of time!

B. NEVER, IN THE NEW TESTAMENT PERIOD OF TIME IS ONE SYSTEM OF RELIGION AND WORSHIP AS GOOD AS ANOTHER.

1. In this the N.T. dispensation of time:
 - a. God and God only is to be worshipped and served religiously, Mt.4:10. Cf. Rev.19:10; 22:8,9; Acts 10:24-26; Acts 14:8-15.
 - b. God is to be worshipped in spirit and in truth, Jno.4:23,24
 - (1) Meaning, of course, In the right attitude and according to the truth, that which is taught in God's word.
 - (2) Cf. Jno.8:32; Jno.12:48-50; Heb.5:8,9; Mt.7:21-23.
 - (3) Cf. 1Pet.4:11; 1Cor.4:6; Rev.22:18,19.
2. Saul of Tarsus had to give up the religion of his fathers in order to be saved, to become a Christian, and then an apostle of Jesus Christ, Gal.1:11-14,23; 1Tim.1:12-15; Phil.3:3-7; Ac.26:9-11.
3. Beginning on Pentecost in Acts 2 all other converts in the Book of Acts had to do the same thing and for the same reason.
 - a. In each case of conversion, learning the truth of the gospel, they learned they were wrong religiously and changed.
 - b. In not one case did they say:
 - (1) If I accept and obey that, that means my parents are or were lost!
 - (2) If I accept that I would be condemning my parents to hell!
 - (3) How can that be true? If it is, that means all these other good people are wrong and that just can't be!
 - c. Remember what Jesus said in Mt.7:13,14.
4. Furthermore, the Bible plainly says one religion is not as good as another, Mt.15:9. Cf. Col.1:18-23; Jas.1:26.

III. CONCLUSION

1. The plain, simple truth of the matter is that what you do or do not do will have no bearing one way or another on the destiny on your deceased relatives – but it will have bearing on your own destiny! And it may have bearing on the destiny of your living relatives!

2. In reality, I have never met, nor do I personally know of any religious person, Denominationalist or otherwise, who really believes one religion or one church or one faith is as good as another, and this in spite of their claim that they do!
3. What Denominationalist really believes:
 - a. The religion of Islam or Buddha is as good as the Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, or Presbyterian faith? Etc. etc.
 - b. The Catholic religion is as good as the Denomination of their own faith?
 - c. The religion of angel worshippers is as good as any and every Denominational religion?
 - d. The religion of Satan worshippers is as good as any other religion? The religion of sun worshippers? Etc. etc.??
4. Moreover, if one religion or one system of worship or one faith is as good as another then the one Jesus Christ died to establish and revealed through his Holy Spirit inspired apostles in the New Testament is no better than the ones established by men since Pentecost and are being established even now, every year, by men, until now there are hundreds of them in existence all with different names, doctrines, and practices – yet all claiming to be “of the Lord.”
5. Remember: The Bible speaks of the “one faith,” the “one way,” the “one gospel of Christ,” not “many faiths,” or “many ways,” or “many gospels,” Prov.14:12; Mt.7:13,14; 1Cor.1:10-13; Eph.4:5; 4:13; Gal.1:6-8,23.