

“If anyone comes
to Me and does not
hate ... his own life
also, he cannot be
My disciple”

Luke 14:26





Religion: The Right and Wrong Pursuits

“I didn’t go to religion to make me happy. I always knew a bottle of Port would do that. If you want a religion to make you feel really comfortable, I certainly don’t recommend Christianity.”

— *C.S. Lewis*

SIGNS OF WRONG PURSUIT OF RELIGION (1)

1. God will be a means to other worldly goals
2. Christianity will be reduced to a code of conduct that is followed, half-heartedly, as a way for earthly blessings



SIGNS OF WRONG PURSUIT OF RELIGION (2)

- 3. The Cross will be just an ornament with no life application
- 4. Inconvenience will not be tolerated
- 5. Subject will be easily misled by false teachers and self-deception



SIGNS OF WRONG PURSUIT OF RELIGION (3)

- 6. Service and worship will be treated as entertainment and rejected if they don't serve as such
- 7. Being often angry at God
- 8. Thinking of the church as a social club



SIGNS OF WRONG PURSUIT OF RELIGION (4)

9. Questions are often about shortcuts, minimal requirements, and how to bend the faith to fit my desires
10. Living comfortably in duality
11. Eventually giving up and rejecting the faith



THE RIGHT PURSUIT OF RELIGION ⁽¹⁾

1. It is the search for the Truth and being changed by it in order to be free.
2. It is a relationship with a Loving, Wise, and Good Father and Redeemer
3. It is the desire to change from within to acquire a pure heart



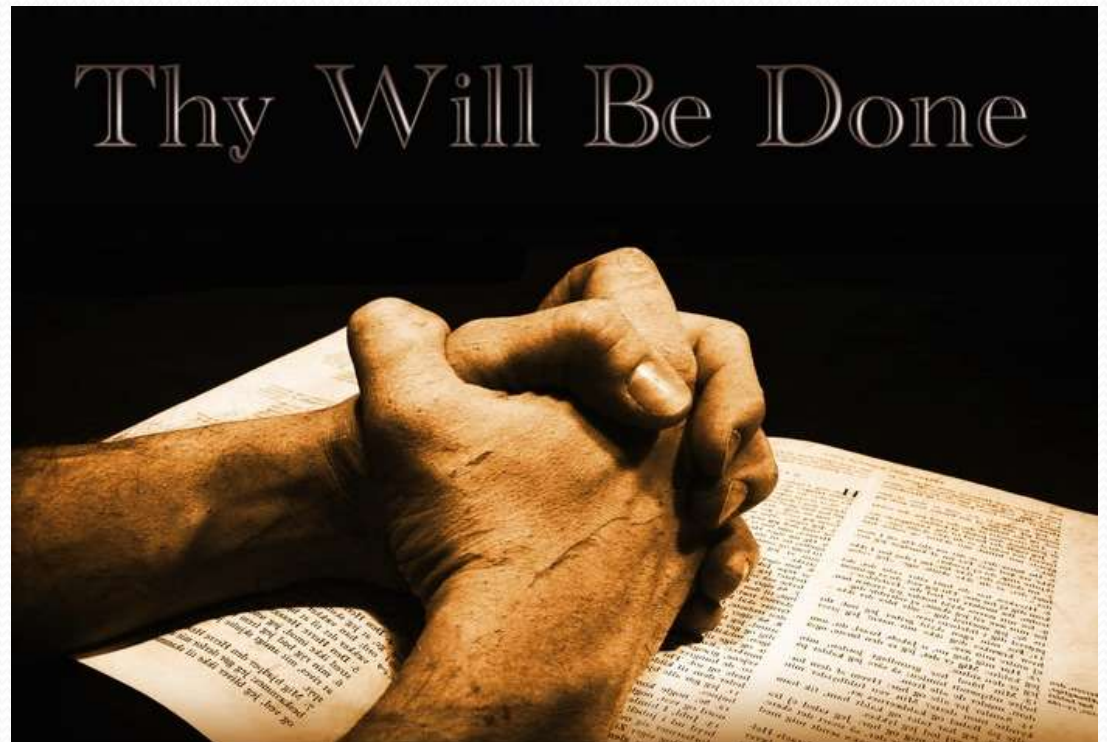
THE RIGHT PURSUIT OF RELIGION ⁽²⁾

4. It is the total and unconditional surrender to the Lord Christ so that He can live in us and give our lives meaning, purpose, and value – this will entail accepting to die to the world.



THE RIGHT PURSUIT OF RELIGION ⁽³⁾

5. It is in the knowledge of His will
and struggling for it, and not
ours, to be done



THE RIGHT PURSUIT OF RELIGION (4)

6. It is in seeing and valuing everything around us through our belief in Him.

- *“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.”*

— C.S. Lewis



THE RIGHT PURSUIT OF RELIGION (5)

7. It is in finding in the Lord Christ our fulfillment, joy, and ultimate peace.
- *“God can’t give us peace and happiness apart from Himself because there is no such thing.” — C.S. Lewis*

**"My peace I give
unto you: not as the
world giveth,
give I unto you.
Let not your heart
be troubled, neither
let it be afraid."
(John 14:27)**

