

# **HOW SOME PEOPLE USE RELIGION**

(Scripture: James 1:26-27)

## INTRODUCTION

Knowing that some people are weak as they can be, this subject will hopefully help them.

It will also help people who are stronger.

Let's examine how some people use religion:

### I. FIRE ESCAPE

(2 Pet. 3:7-10; 2 Pet. 2:9; 1 Pet. 4:17-18)

People who use religion as a "fire escape" have no joys afforded to them in the church.

They are only concerned about avoiding the fires of hell at the judgment. Matt. 13:47-50. Matt. 25:41.

They use religion only as a fire escape, so they can escape the fires of hell.

They attend Sunday services randomly.

They do not do anything.

They do just as little as possible, so they will not go to hell.

Their religion is a false face.

They have never known the joys of a Christian life; they do not want to anyway.

People who use religion as “fire escape” might as well go to their personal appointments on Sunday, because they will go to hell anyway.  
Rev. 3:15-16

## II. SPARE TIRE

We do not want to use a spare tire, but we are afraid to try to get along without it.

Some people use religion the same way:  
they do not want to use it, but are afraid to get along without it.

Examples of people who use religion as “spare tire”:

- Rehoboam asking counsel of old men. 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 12:6-11.
- Rachel wanted child possibly not because she wanted one, but because she was envious. Gen. 30:1-2
- Rich Young Man. Matt. 19:16-22.

People do not want to use it.

It may come in handy sometime; it may be good to hold them up in time of need until something better comes along.

Many people get religious in a hurry when they get sick.

These people come to church only in time of need.

They think of God only if they have problems in their life.

### III. FREE RIDE

Some consider the church an ark of safety in which they can sit down and be taken to heaven.

Some people think that by merely attending worship services is good enough to reach heaven.

We are to obey the gospel and work out your own salvation. Phil. 2:12

The church are compose of people who obeyed the gospel of Christ.

Some people come to church thinking it is a free ride to heaven.

It is not a free ride. 1<sup>st</sup> Pet. 4:16-19

### IV. HOBBY

To some, religion is just a hobby.

They devote only their spare time and money to it. Matt. 6:33; Matt. 7:21.

Some people come to church as a hobby.

They are like stamp-collectors, hopping from one church to another collecting church bulletins.

They devote no seriousness to God.

### CONCLUSION

Are you one of these people?

Do you belong to these class of people who use religion for convenience only?

If people use religion that way, what do you think God would feel?

If you have been using religion as this, you should come forward to confess your wrongs and get right it.

Obey the gospel of Christ and live faithfully for our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ!

Come forward and we will help you get it right with God!