

I'm tired of religion and I'll be entirely honest with you:

I know of nothing more frustrating than Christianity without Christ. Have you ever tried to start a car without fuel, until there wasn't a spark left in the battery? There are few things more frustrating than a car that will not go.

I know how frustrating it must be for those who are trying to find life and meaning in the empty ritual and outward motions of a lifeless church. Countless people have stopped going to church simply because they're tired and sick of going through the empty motions of a dead religion.

“While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption.” 2 Peter 2:19

But I have Good News for you: **Jesus Christ is alive!**

Religion cannot help anybody, but Jesus can help everybody.

Religion cannot heal the sick, but Jesus can and does.

Religion cannot save your soul, but Jesus can and will.

Christianity is Christ: it is essentially miraculous. It is always supernatural.

Nothing is as boring and empty as religion. But nothing is as utterly exciting as being a disciple of Jesus! I'll tell you why. I'll tell you the kind of God I've got: He walks with me, He talks to me, He strengthens me, He guides me and works miracles before my eyes!

To separate your Christianity from Christ is to rob it of its power, it's to reduce a vibrant relationship to the impotence of a dead religion, which is impersonal to you, and impersonal to Him. It then becomes just a mental exercise, a form of beliefs, an outward routine, or a sentimental tradition.

“He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested that He might destroy the works of the devil.” 1 John 3:8

Religion is man trying to reach up to God (but no one can reach that high); whereas JESUS is God reaching down to man (2 Corinthians 5:19). God our Creator has given us Laws by which to live. The Bible is the Manufacturer's Handbook, the Instruction Manual for living. When we violate God's Commands things go wrong. Creation malfunctions. Our selfishness, greed, envy, malice and lust degrades and destroys what God has created. ***“What we sow is what we reap.”***
We are guilty before Almighty God of violating His Law.

Religion is man's way (Philippians 3:3).

Jesus is God's way (Colossians 1:20).

Religion doesn't work, but Jesus does work. In our own experiences, we've discovered that He is real! Jesus is alive today! Jesus does change people! Jesus heals broken hearts! Jesus still works miracles today! I've experienced it – I've seen it. I know it! I've seen Jesus heal the sick before my very eyes. I've seen Jesus touch lives and turn bitterness into joy, hatred into love, selfish people into loving people, aimless people into purposeful people, I've seen Jesus answer prayers, and transform lives, marriages, families, congregations and communities. To encounter Jesus is the most radical experience of one's life – He forgives sins, He renews minds, He delivers people from the power of evil, He frees people to serve Him, He breaks the power of addictions and habits.

“Our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us that He might redeem

us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people zealous for good works.” Titus 2:13 – 14

Jesus is Revolutionary! He brings peace into a storm, love into loneliness. He turns problems into solutions, questions into answers, needs into provisions, battles into victories!

He loves and forgives and saves alcoholics, drug addicts, liars, prostitutes, murderers, adulterers, blasphemers and thieves. He saves them and He frees them and He changes them! It's revolutionary! But it's for real – Jesus is alive and active. We must trust Him and depend upon Him. We must put our faith in Him and trust Him to meet our needs. You can speak to Him right now in prayer and trust Jesus to reach out to you and work a miracle – to forgive your sins, to free you from bondage, to heal your broken heart, to guide you as to what to do – Jesus can do it! And He promises: **“All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.”** John 6:37

If you want to know if all this is for real – check it out for yourself. Repent of your sins and turn to Christ – you'll find what millions of people all over the world have found: that Jesus is **“The Way the Truth and the Life.”**

No one comes to the Father except through Him (John 14:16).

Don't be put off by some churches, or Christians, or ministers: because people fail but, praise God – **Jesus never fails!** You can be put off religion, but never get turned off Jesus, for Jesus is where it's all at! He is for real.

If you want to know more (and you'd be a fool if you didn't), do these three things that Jesus said:

Ask – Speak to Jesus (that's what prayer is all about) confess your sin, repent and tell Him where you're at, what you've done and what you feel; ask Him to forgive you and cleanse you and change you (Isaiah 55:6,7). Jesus says: **“Ask you and will receive”**(Luke 11:9).

Seek – Search through the Bible (It's God's Message to us) – Read the books of Mark and Acts

to start with (you sure won't find if you don't seek so keep on searching in the Bible until you find). Find out for yourself what the truth really is. You'll notice that the Bible is definitely no textbook on religion – the Bible is the authoritative source Book on Life. The Bible tells it like it is. So read it like it says, (Psalm 1:2,3) ***“He who seeks will find”*** Luke 11:10

Knock – Act on what you find – do what the Bible tells you to do (James 1:25). Step out in faith. Obey God's Word – knock on God's door and ask Him to open it up for you. You'll find a new start in life and a new life to start (Joshua 1:7 – 9). ***“The door will be opened to anyone who knocks”*** Luke 11:10.

“Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.”
Jeremiah 33:3

“And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.”
Jeremiah 29:13

You will find what you are looking for in Jesus – so keep searching – don't miss out on any of the great life that Jesus has for you.

You have a lot to live – Jesus has a lot to give.

Give up your small ambitions and FOLLOW JESUS!

Dr. Peter Hammond
Frontline Fellowship
PO Box 74
Newlands, 7725
Cape Town, South Africa
E-mail: admin@frontline.org.za
Web: www.frontline.org.za

