

# sermonnotes

## Toxic: Religion



“Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.”  
— Proverbs 4:23

**Toxic:** anything containing poisonous materials capable of causing sickness or even death.

**Religion:** any system, rules, expectations or regulations that promise God’s acceptance or approval in return for human effort.

### Galatians 1:6–7

#### Toxic Religion

- Focuses on the external, rather than the \_\_\_\_\_ . (Matthew 23:25)
- Focuses on rules instead of \_\_\_\_\_ . (Galatians 1:6–7)
- Focuses on what you must do, rather than what \_\_\_\_\_ . (Matthew 23:3–4)

### The Good News from Romans 3:20-22

1. You cannot \_\_\_\_\_ God’s acceptance by observing the Law. (Romans 3:20)
  - Religion says you can please God by your works, so we are driven to be work harder and do better. However, we can never be good enough.
2. The purpose of the Law is to show your need for a \_\_\_\_\_ . (Romans 3:20)
  - The Law is perfect, and we are not. The purpose of the Law is to reveal that we need a solution to our sin problem.
3. Righteousness with God comes by \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ alone. (Romans 3:22)
  - The Gospel is Christ plus \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - Religion is all about what I do. The gospel is all about what Jesus has done. Religion is about me. The gospel is about Jesus. Religion highlights my efforts to do what is right. The gospel highlights what Christ has already done.

Recommended Resources:  
*Soul Detox* by Craig Groeschel

Answers: internal; relationship; Jesus did; earn; Savior; faith; nothing



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