

The Struggles that Surround us - 7

This is totally your study. Nobody will be instructing you and nobody will be grading you. It will just be you, your Bible, these lessons, your own paper, and of course, the Holy Spirit guiding and teaching you.

STRUGGLE	What Beliefs are Right?
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In the early days of the USA, religion or a faith in God was the focus of people and families. It must have been important; they left the Church of England, due to numerous disagreements and came to America (the Pilgrims). However, even within their religious community, the beliefs varied. The church of England added things that the pilgrims rejected (not supported in the Bible). The pilgrims did not include those beliefs; they believed the Bible supported their version of Christian faith.

1. Man's wisdom creates beliefs. How does the Bible describe this wisdom?
 - a. Colossians 2:8 "Through philosophy & vain _____."
 - b. Colossians 2:8 "After the _____ of men."
 - c. Colossians 2:8 "After the _____ of the world."
 - d. Colossians 2:8 "And not after _____."
 - e. 1 Cor. 3:19 "The wisdom of the world is _____ with God"
 - f. 1 Cor. 3:19 "The wise in their own _____."
 - g. 1Cor. 2:4-5 "The _____ words of man's wisdom."
 - h. 2 Tim. 4:3-4 "They will not endure _____ doctrine."
 - i. 2 Tim. 4:3-4 "But after their own _____."
 - j. 2 Tim. 4:3-4 "They shall turn away from the _____."
 - k. 2 Tim. 4:3-4 "They shall turn to _____."

Many of the main religions of the world & most of the false religions (sometimes called cults) ADD things to what is taught in the Bible. This does two bad things:

- a. *It confuses people from knowing what the truth is.*
- b. *It convinces people to do good works to find the truth.*

2. Have you ever asked these questions in your search for truth?
 - a. ___ Yes ___ No What happens after we die?
 - b. ___ Yes ___ No Is there a God Who wants to personally know me?
 - c. ___ Yes ___ No Will I ever be good enough to get into Heaven?
 - d. ___ Yes ___ No What do I have to do to please this God above?
 - e. ___ Yes ___ No Why is the subject of religion so confusing?

If I have to decide which beliefs are the right ones and which ones are wrong, I am in deep trouble. If I have to decide what rules to live by – how do I know if my rules are better than someone else’s rules? How can any rule or truth be the right one if everybody has their own.

If I decide my own rules, truth & beliefs, then I am using my own wisdom or thinking to decide (remember man’s wisdom described above?).

3. If you have **any respect for the Bible**, look at this: (Match)

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|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------|-----------------|
| a. Man is proud | “I am the most important” | _____ | 1 Cor. 8:4-11 |
| b. Man is a liar | “I want it my way” | _____ | Isaiah 14:12-17 |
| c. Man is disobedient | “I have my own rules” | _____ | 1 Tim. 6:10 |
| d. Man loves idols | “I need more than God” | _____ | Deut. 19:16-21 |
| e. Man is greedy | “I want it all for me” | _____ | Romans 5:15 |

*It doesn’t take a religious person to realize that people across the world are: **proud** (“I am proud & selfish”); **liars** (“I am a liar at times”); **disobedient** (“I break rules deliberately”); **idolatrous** (“I make some things more important than God”); **greedy** (“I love my stuff & I seldom want to share it”).*

4. ___Yes ___No Would you want me to make up the rules & the beliefs that you would let into your life?
5. ___Yes ___No Would you follow a religion that I (imperfect me) created?
6. ___Yes ___No Would you accept my belief system just because I told you I received that “truth” from some prophetic source?

*I hope not. I am not reliable. I cannot be the source of where you get your truth, your rules, your peace, your satisfaction, your eternal home. No other man on the planet can be that source for you either. **No wonder people ask, “What Beliefs are Right”?***

7. Write out John 14:6. _____

Yes, my Source is Jesus Christ.

He knows the Path I am looking for. He knows I cannot find it.

He knows the Truth I am looking for. He knows I cannot find it.

He knows the Purpose I am looking for. He knows I cannot find it.

63 years ago, I asked Him to be my Savior & my Source of Truth & Purpose.