

Reasons I Am Not A Christian

1 Peter 1:6-9

By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show some reasons why some people are not Christians.

- Intro:
1. If a person was to explain why they are not a Christian, what might they say?
 2. Who is a Christian (**1 Pt 1:14, 22-23; 4:17**)
 3. A person should know what to expect as a Christian (**Lk 14:28-30**)

I. Christians often suffer (**1 Pt 4:1-2**)

- A. People suffer all the time (**Job 14:1-2**)
- B. We often specifically because we are a Christian
 1. Put to grief by trials (**1 Pt 1:6-9**)
 - a. The power to endure shows love for Christ (**1 Pt 1:8**)
 - b. The strength to go on is by faith (**1 Pt 1:8**)
 2. Suffer for well-doing (**1 Pt 3:17**)
- C. How might you suffer today?
 1. Ridicule (**1 Pt 4:4**)
 2. Rejection by friends and/or family.

II. You Can't Do What You Want To Do (**1 Pt 4:3-4**)

- A. The World says:
 1. "Do as you please."
 2. "Enjoy yourself. You only live once."
 3. Do what everybody else is doing (Peer Pressure)
- B. Paul's statement... ("You cannot do the thing that you would." **Gal 5:17**)

III. Have to Constantly Battle Satan (**1 Pt 5:8-9**)

- A. He is always there attempting to deceive or seduce Christians.
- B. A new Christian faces: temptations and discouragements.
- C. One can get weary in this battle (**Heb 12:3-6**)
 1. Teens often think "I'll battle Satan not, but later, I won't, he'll leave me alone."
 2. Middle-age people may think, "when I am old Satan will leave me alone."
 3. The elderly have to battle Satan as well.
- C. There is hope of victory.
 1. Christians will have their day of victory.
 2. Hope for the young (**1 Jn 2:14**)
 3. Hope for all (**Eph 6:10-13**)
- D. In Revelation we see: The devil's doom & the Saints victory (**Rev 20:10, Rev 21 & 22**)

IV. Lessons for Us Today

- A. If you want to be a Christian, you must be prepared.
 1. You must be prepared for battle (**Lk 14:31**)
 2. No one wins battles when unprepared.

- B. If you want to be a Christian, you have to WANT to be a Christian.
1. If a person keeps looking back longing for the world and missing their old sinful way Of life, such a person is not fit for the kingdom of God (**Lk 9:61-62**)
 2. No one is a Christian on accident, being a Christian means living a godly righteous life and doing so on purpose (**Ezra 7:10**)

Application & Conclusion:

1. Not all people are willing to pay the price to follow Christ.
2. Not all people REALLY want to be a Christian.
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9