

A Form of Godliness 7-20-14 AM

II Timothy 3:1-5 makes an unusual statement: "*holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power*". A "form " of Godliness refers to something that seems similar too or looks like righteous conduct. "Denying its power" refer to the end result failing to receive salvation (Romans 1:16). How is it many people have a form of Godliness, but deny its power?

Most people claim to be Christian (in the US, about 80%), but most are not, at least, according to Jesus (Luke 13:23-24 and Matthew 7:21). Let us consider such "forms" that we encounter daily.

First, there is the person who says "I believe there is a God"But not much else
James 2:19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe--and tremble!

Next there is the person who says "I believe Jesus is Lord"But He is not King yet, or He is just one part of who I am.
John 8:24".....for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.

Another one is the person who says "I believe in the church"but one church is as good as another; I don't need church to be good
Hebrews 10:25a,26 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves ... For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

Here is yet another one: "I believe in the cross"But God accepts me just as I am; I need not change to seek God.
Luke 13:3 "I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish."

Do you know this man? "I believe in the Bible" ...But don't take it too seriously; especially not in the creation, flood, miracles; it is not perfect; there are other revelations too.
Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you

Finally, perhaps you know this man: "I believe in the judgment of God"But it really does not apply to me; Hell is not real or eternal; Heaven is on earth.
John 5:28-29 "Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.

Most people claim to be Christian; We WANT to believe them. However, the simple truth is that most are not. They lack the Christian birth. They lack the Christian life. They lack the Christian mind.

Is it hard to be a Christian? The answer is "no".
Matthew 11:30 "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

How do I become a real Christian?
James 1:21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

