

# Organized Religion: Can I please God without it?

**“Increasingly, we hear glowing talk of a churchless Christianity. ...These days, spirituality is hot; religion is not. Community is hip, but the church is lame.”**

*Kevin DeYoung, **Why we love the Church: In praise of institutions and organized religions***

**Spirituality – belief in ideas of religious significance, such as God, Heaven, etc**

**Organized Religion – the structure and creeds of a specific religion or faith; i.e. Baptist, Catholic**

**Hypocrisy**

**“They are Christian  
in name only!”**

**Organized Religion:  
Why do so many reject it?**

***God is not Great***

**By Christopher Hitchens**

# Organized Religion: Why do so many reject it?

- **Hypocrisy – “They are Christian in name only!”**
  - **Does this happen?**
    - **Yes! Matt. 7:1-2, 23:27-28, Gal. 2:11-13**
  - **“No one is perfect” argument**
    - **True, but we are to try – Rom. 3:23, Phil. 3:12-14**
  - **Are these viable reasons to reject organized religion?**
    - **No! Address them! Gal. 2:11-13**
    - **We will be judged alone – Rom. 14:9-13**

## **Hypocrisy**

**“They are Christian  
in name only!”**

## **Politics**

**“Those people are so  
petty!”**

**Organized Religion:  
Why do so many reject it?**

# Organized Religion: Why do so many reject it?

- **Politics**

- “It’s all about the money!”

- Does this happen?

- Yes! **Acts 5:1-11, 8:13-16**

- The proper heart is needed – **II Cor. 8, 9**

- “It’s all about power over others!”

- Does this happen? Yes! **III John**

- NT example – **I Tim. 3**

- **Col. 1:18** – Christ is head

- **Gal. 3:28** – All are equal

# Organized Religion: Why do so many reject it?

- **Politics**

- “You people are so petty!”

- Does this happen?

- Yes! **Rom. 14**

- We are to pursue peace – **Rom. 14:19-20**

- Are any of these viable reasons to reject organized religion?

- No! Address them! **Gal. 2:11-13, III John**

**Hypocrisy**

**Politics**

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**These simply want to justify  
their own lives...**

e so

**Organized Religion:  
Why do so many reject it?**

**...or they truly do not  
understand the nature of the  
church**