

Organized Religion: Necessary for Salvation?

“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





Organized Religion & Salvation

- **So what do I have to do to please God?**
 - **Pleasing God means following the apostle's commands – I Thess. 4:1-2**
 - **The apostles taught the same thing in every church – I Cor. 4:17**
 - **The church is the pillar and ground of the truth – I Tim. 3:15**
 - **Jesus told the apostles to tell us what to do – Matt. 28:18-20**

Organized Religion & Salvation

- **Is organized religion necessary to be saved?**
 - **The NT example involves serving and worshipping God through organized religion**
 - **Lord's Supper – I Cor. 11:18-26**
 - **Contribution – I Cor. 16:1**
 - **Singing – Eph. 5:19**
 - **Praying – Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5**
 - **Teaching – Acts 20:7**

Organized Religion & Salvation

- **Is organized religion necessary to be saved?**
 - **Must have faith to please God – Heb. 11:6**

 - **Grace can be found through faith – Eph. 2:8**

 - **Only by accessing grace can we be justified – Rom. 5:1-2, 15-18, Rom. 6:23**

 - **Baptism is the means of being justified – Acts 2:38-39**

 - **The Lord adds us to the church via baptism – Acts 2:47**

Organized Religion & Salvation

- **Is organized religion necessary to be saved?**
 - **The answer? Yes!**
 - **But it must be what God has authorized! **Matt. 7:21-23****
 - **There have been many organized religions that have used the name of God to justify terrible deeds; See **John 18:36****