

*God Turns the Wicked
Upside-Down -
While the Wicked Turn
Good Upside- Down!*

Psalm 146: “But the way of the wicked
He turns upside down.”



Isaiah 5:20 - 21:

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet bitter! **21** Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, And prudent in their own sight!



Acts 17:5 - 6:

But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious, **took some of the evil men** from the marketplace, and **gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar** and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. **6** But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, **“These who have turned the world upside down have come here too.”**

Wha-a-a-a-t??????

***Unbelieving Jews Condemning
Disciples of Jesus Christ of Turning
“the World Upside Down?????”***

Our Topsy-Turvy World!

Juliet:

**“What’s in a name? That which we call a rose
By any other name would smell as sweet.”**

Romeo & Juliet (II, ii, 1-2), William Shakespeare

***If you call your thumb “a finger”,
then how many “fingers” would
you have on your hand?***

***Answer: 4 - Calling a “thumb” a
“finger” doesn’t change a
“thumb” into a “finger”!***



When is “Service to God” NOT Service to God?

Our Topsy-Turvy World!

John 16:1 - 4: “These things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble. **2** They will put you out of the synagogues; **yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. 3** And these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor Me. **4** But these things I have told you, that when the time comes, you may remember that I told you of them. And these things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you.”

Thinking one is doing service to God **DOES NOT** make it service to God! **Matthew 7:21 - 23; 2 Timothy 2:19**

How & Why Did Things Change?

Our Topsy-Turvy World!

Mark 15:14: Then **Pilate said** to them, “**Why, what evil has He done?**” But they cried out all the more, “Crucify Him!”

Acts 2:46 - 47: “So **continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house,** they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, **47 praising God and having favor with all the people.** And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.”

Acts 8:1: “At that time **a great persecution arose against the church** which was at Jerusalem.”

What “Evil” Had “The Church” Done To Cause Such a Violent Response?

Call “Religion” “The Opium of the People”??

Our Topsy-Turvy World!

“Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world, and the soul of soulless conditions. It is the opium of the people.”

— **Karl Marx**, [Critique of Hegel’s Philosophy of Right, Introduction](#) (1843)

James 1;27: **“Pure and undefiled religion** before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.”

Karl Marx Wrongly Treated All Religion Alike!

Calling the “church of Christ” a...

“Sect” Acts 24:14: “But this I confess to you, that according to **the Way which they call a sect**, so I worship the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the Law and in the Prophets.”

“Division” (a.k.a. “denomination”) 1 Corinthians 3:3:
“For where there are **envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?**”

DOES NOT MAKE IT ONE!

Ephesians 1:22 - 23: *And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.*

True Service to God

Ezra 6:18: “They assigned the priests to their divisions and the Levites to their divisions, over the service of God in Jerusalem, as it is written in the Book of Moses.”

1 Peter 2:4 - 5: “Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, **5** you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”

Roman 12:1: “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.” **Hebrews 13:15 - 16**

Our Service Begins When We Obey the Gospel of Jesus Christ

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Mark 16:15 -16: *And He said to them, “Go into all the world and **preach the gospel to every creature.** **16** He who believes and is baptised will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”*

Colossians 2:11 - 12: *“In Him you were also **circumcised** with the circumcision made without hands, **by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh**, by the circumcision of Christ, **12** **buried with Him in baptism**, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.”*

Calling It “Salvation By Man’s Works” Doesn’t Make It So!

Our Topsy-Turvy World!

John 9:4: “I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.”

Philippians 2:12 - 13: “Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; **13** for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.”
