

## IT MATTERS WHAT ONE BELIEVES

### 1 Timothy 1:9-10

**Introduction:** What do we need laws for anyhow? What if everybody was free to do as he/she believed or wanted to? Laws are for those who do not want to do that which is best for everyone and are guidelines for everyone to live their lives by.

Does it really make any difference what a person believes, so long as that person is sincere? Does sincerity in what one believes bring salvation? Does sincerity guarantee salvation to be permanent? What if all churches came together as one universal church what would have to be forfeited? What would have to be changed? What would have to be adopted? Which part of the New Testament would have to be left out? Just as long as everybody was sincere, what difference would it make what was in or what was left out? Does it really matter what is believed as long as there is sincerity?

### I. WHAT IS THE GENERAL ATTITUDE OF OUR WORLD? (2 Timothy 4:3-4)

1. People don't want to have their own beliefs or ways of life threatened by laws or guidelines.
  - Anything contrary to what a person wants or is sincere about is disbelieved and abandoned.
  - Therefore the Bible is not readily accepted by most people for it condemns their ideas.
2. People will accept guidelines that allow them to continue on in doing whatever they want and living in whatever lifestyle they desire and will make such guidelines/laws whenever possible.
3. As a result of people living however they want and doing whatever they want, God's Truth is rejected and replaced by their own misguided, untruthful, sinful beliefisms.

### II. WHAT IS THE RESULT IF GOD'S TRUTHS ARE LEFT OUT OF LIFE?

1. Those who reject God's Truths are: *...let him be accursed...* (Galatians 1:10)
2. God's truth has been given to mankind by Jesus, God's Son, and Jesus said:  
*"...Ye are to be witnesses unto me..."*
  - God's truth is to be told, taught, spread, read, scattered all over the world to show mankind what/how he/she should be living his/her life.
3. If God's plan of salvation is changed as any person wants it to be changed, God's grace will be neutralized, useless, nothing and people will not have real salvation and will be without Jesus.
  - *"...if one can obtain righteousness by keeping the law, then Jesus Christ died for nothing.."* (Galatians 2:21)
  - If some of man's ideas of outward religious acts could actually save, then why did Jesus have to die on the cross?
4. If, as some people believe, Jesus does not have the power to keep one saved, then where is His power to save in the first place?

5. If keeping certain rituals, ordinances could save as some believe, then why didn't Jesus use/do them and teach others to do them?
6. If belonging to a certain Church could save, then why didn't Jesus organize the Church first, before anything else He did?
  - The Church is needful for:
    - To teach the way of life Jesus wants believers to live.
    - To witness for and about Jesus Christ.
    - A place set apart from the world for believers to gather for worship and fellowship together as a family.

## **CONCLUSION:**

1. If God had left salvation up to people, there would be at least a thousand ways to be saved and resaved, and resaved, and resaved, etc....and lost again, and lost again, and lost again, etc..
2. If God had left the Church to be made up and function as people wanted then there would be chaos. There would be rules, law, rituals, observances and requirements that nobody would be able to keep or meet, much like in the days of Jesus.
3. It does matter what one believes! That is what laws are for! That is what God's Word is for! That is what Jesus came to establish! One way, One Savior, One Salvation, Once and forever! **GOD'S WAY! GOD'S WAY ONLY!**