



**KEEP  
CALM**

| LIFE IS COMPLICATED |

**CARRY  
ON**

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love Him. James 1:12

Sunday, Sept. 7, 2014

## **The Complication of Religion**

James 1:26-27

David H. McKinley  
Pastor-Teacher

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*Notes:*

### **James 1:26-27**

*Notes:*

"If anything is obvious from Scripture, it is that there is a true faith, there is a true relationship with God, there is a genuine salvation, there is a right way to come to know God, there is a right way to be redeemed. And if that is true, it is a corollary to that that Satan, the enemy of God, will do everything in his power to counterfeit that right way, that genuine path, that true salvation. One of the foremost if not the foremost strategy of Satan in the world is to counterfeit salvation, is to produce a non-saving faith... Around the world all of the false religions spawned by the enemy are designed to give people a false sense of security in religion... Satan's ploy is to attempt to make people think they are right with God when they are not. I do not believe that Satan wants

people to hate God, to run from God, there are some people who do that. Satan wants people to come to the wrong god in the wrong way and feel secure when they shouldn't. He wants them to think they have solved the issue of religion... And they will be among those who say, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name and cast out demons and done many wonderful works?' And then will He profess to them, 'Depart from Me, I never knew you, you workers of iniquity.'" —John MacArthur

*Notes:*

"The human race in the course of time has taken the liberty of softening and softening Christianity until at last we have contrived to make it exactly opposite of what it is in the New Testament." —Soren Kierkegaard

## **Is Your Religion Real?**

**Stick Out Your \_\_\_\_\_**

*Any sign of verbal bridling?*

*Notes:*

**Matthew 15:10-12, 15-20**

**Luke 6:45**

*Notes:*

"The test of reality with God is not a man's ability to speak his mind, but to bridle his tongue." —George Sweeting

**Open Your \_\_\_\_\_**  
*Any reflection of missional living?*

*Notes:*

## **Psalm 68:5-6**

*Notes:*

"Disengagement is convenient; involvement is costly."

## **Ephesians 4:28**

"A religion that gives nothing, costs nothing and suffers nothing is worth nothing."  
—Martin Luther

**Look at Your \_\_\_\_\_**  
*Do you pursue personal purity?*

Notes:

“the world”  
John 14:30 Ruled by Satan  
1 John 2:16 Devoid of God  
1 John 4:5-6 United in Error

## 1 Peter 1:17-19

Notes:

“All throughout history men have tried to make ritual and liturgy a substitute for sacrifice and service. They have made religion splendid within the church at the expense of neglecting it outside the church.” —William Barclay

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