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RELIGIOUS...to the very

here are <u>MILLIONS</u> of people who give more *honor and respect* to their **RELIGION**, and will even **DIE FOR IT**, than to believe God Himself, and the RE-CORD HE GAVE of His Son (1 JOHN 5:10)!





This woman, at the news of the death of Pope John Paul II, laid prostrate on the floor of the St. Florian Catholic Church in Hamtramck, MI, sincerely praying for him AFTER his death, contrary to the Word of God.

But, ALL OF HER SINCERITY will not help, if John Paul [REAL NAME KAROL WOJTYLA] DID NOT REPENT of his sins BEFORE he died because "...it is APPOINTED unto MEN [MALE AND FEMALE] ONCE TO DIE, but AFTER THIS [NOT PURGATORY, BUT ...] the JUDG-**MENT** [MEANING DECISION TIME: TO HEAVEN OR TO HELL]" (HEBREWS 9:27).

The world is FILLED WITH PEOPLE who have "GOOD" intentions, but do you remember what Jesus said, "...there is NONE GOOD but ONE, that is, GOD" (MATT. 19:17)?



A young man asked Jesus, "...WHAT SHALL I DO TO INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE" (LUKE 18:18)? Even the people asked Jesus, "WHAT SHALL WE DO, THAT WE MIGHT WORK THE WORKS OF GOD" (JOHN 6:28)?

Jesus told them, and is telling the world **TODAY** TOO, "THIS IS THE WORK [SINGULAR] OF GOD, THAT YE BELIEVE ON HIM WHOM HE HATH SENT" (JOHN 6:29), and MOST individuals REJECT THIS WORK, AND PREFER religion!



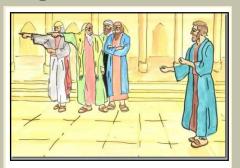
Religion **TODAY** is no different than in Jesus day, for they ALL LOVE to have the PREEMI-NENCE among men instead of "...the HONOR that cometh from GOD ONLY" (JOHN 5:44).





Both John the Baptist, and Jesus, called these **RELIGIOUS LEADERS** just what they were, "O generation of VIPERS" (MATT. 3:7) and "HYPOCRITES" (MATT. 23:13), and these religious leaders HATED THEM for it!

Even Pilate, the Roman governor KNEW why these religious leaders sought the DEATH of Jesus: "For he knew that the chief priests had delivered him for **ENVY** [JEALOUSY]" (MATT. 27:18 & MARK 15:10). These same religious leaders urged the people to "CRUICFY" Jesus, when Pilate was determined to let him go (ACTS 3:13).



The power <u>behind **RELIGION**</u> blinds the mind to God's truth, as demonstrated in the story of the man born blind, whom Jesus healed.

Although the parents of this man *verified* that he was their son, and that he indeed was born blind, these religious leaders WOULD NOT BELIEVE IN JESUS, because, they said, he had healed on the Sabbath day! Imagine that!

The man said to these spiritually blind Pharisees, "Since the world began was it NOT HEARD that **ANY MAN** opened the eyes of one that was **BORN** BLIND. If THIS MAN [JESUS] were NOT OF GOD, he could do NOTHING" (JOHN 9:32-34)! For this, they became *religiously insulted*, and **THREW HIM OUT** of **THEIR** place of worship, *their synagogue*!

These chief priests, elders, scribes, Pharisees, and both thieves on the cross MOCKED Jesus as he hung there: "He SAVED OTHERS; himself he CANNOT save. If he be the King of Israel, let him COME DOWN...and we will BELIEVE him. He TRUSTED in God; let Him deliver him now..." (MATT. 27:42-44).

But ONE thief DID ESCAPE RELIGION that day and **REPENTED**, and said, "...Lord, **REMEMBER ME** when thou comest into thy kingdom" (LUKE 23:42). Do YOU want Jesus to remember you too? Then REPENT, and tell God you are sorry, and to SAVE YOU NOW.

