



## Part 4: *TO SHUT DOWN RELIGION*

**Re-li-gion** \ri-'li-jen\ (noun)

From the Latin *re* meaning "again" and *ligare* meaning "to bind."

Positively, religion is a re-fastening to something.

Negatively, religion is a return to bondage.

### INTRODUCTION — Rest, Freedom, Life

**Matthew 11:28-30, 23:4; 2 Corinthians 3:6**

What's the BIG IDEA?

Religion – that is, any system of salvation – is done away with through Jesus. When this truth sinks in, we will experience transforming freedom, peace, and rest.

### DINE IN – The End of Sacrifice

**Ephesians 2:14-16; Colossians 2:13-14**

**Hebrews 7:12-14, 18, 27; 8:6-13; 9:24-28; 10:1-4, 9-18; 12:2**

### TAKE OUT – I'll Have That to Go Please

Christ-followers are forgiven, cleansed, and equipped for spiritual growth. There is nothing more we can do to be made spiritually alive, beyond trusting Christ. Nothing. Got it? Nothing.

- The Jewish system...
- The Pagan system...
- The Catholic system...
- The Evangelical system...

**Matthew 6:12; 1 John 1:9**

**Hebrews 10:14, 17-18**

### CONCLUSION – God is Good...to Me

**Galatians 2:20; Colossians 2:13-14; Hebrews 4:16**

Q & Eh? Text 647.330.2789 or email [ask@themeetinghouse.com](mailto:ask@themeetinghouse.com).

#### HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

##### Warming Up...

1. Talk about the following quote from Hannah Whitall Smith (1832-1911). Have you ever experienced what she is talking about? Or seen this experience in others?  
*"We may spend our days in what we call our religious duties, and we may fill our devotions with fervour, and still may be miserable. Nothing can set our hearts at rest but a real acquaintance with God."*

##### Look to the Book...

2. Read all of the Scripture passages listed in the "DINE IN" section above from the book of Hebrews. As you read, make a list of all the ways the New Covenant of Christ is different to the Old Covenant of Moses.
3. How is the death of Jesus the centre of the transition from Old Covenant to the New?
4. Can you think of any ways that Christians sometimes drag Old Covenant thinking into our New Covenant faith?

##### So What?...

5. Have someone read **Matthew 11:28-30** out loud, slowly. What do you need rest from the most these days? A recurring sin? The weight of self-condemnation? Religious performance anxiety? Fear of the future? Something else? Talk about it, and speak Gospel words to each other to encourage one another, referencing ideas from this week's Scripture passages if possible.

**The Meeting House | Sunday, April 22/29, 2012 | Bruxy Cavey**

Notes are available online at [themeetinghouse.com/teaching](http://themeetinghouse.com/teaching)

or on your mobile device at [youversion.com](http://youversion.com) (search for The Meeting House)

Twitter... @TheMeetingHouse / @bruxy / #TMHWhyDidJesusDie