

# How Some People Use Religion

## I. Fire Escape.



2 Pet. 3:7-10; 2:9; 1 Pet. 4:17-18.

- A. No Joy, only concerned about avoiding fires of Hell. Mt. 13:47-50; Mt. 25:41; Heb. 10:25; Rev. 3:15-16.

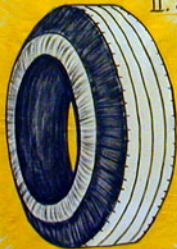
## III. Free Ride.



- A. Ark of safety, sit down - taken to Heaven -

Amos 6:1; 1 Cor. 15:58; Mt. 20:1-8.

## II. Spare Tire.

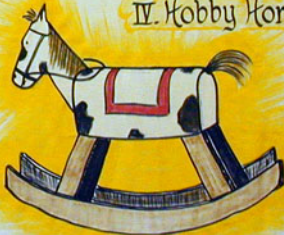


- A. Don't want to use.

### B. Examples -

1. Rehoboam - 1 Kings 12:6-11.
2. Rachel - Gen. 30:1.
3. Rich young man. Mt. 19:16-22.

## IV. Hobby Horse.



- A. Just a hobby - only spare time and Money - Mt. 6:33; Mt. 7:21.

## **HOW SOME PEOPLE USE RELIGION**

James 1:27

INTRO: Knowing that some members of the church are as weak as they can be, I want to present this subject in hopes that it will help them. It will also help the members that are stronger.

Some members of the church use religion as:

### **I. FIRE ESCAPE. 2 Pet. 3:7-10; 2 Pet. 2:9; 1 Pet. 4:17-18.**

There are no joys afforded these people in the church. They are only concerned about avoiding the fires of hell at the judgment. Matt. 13:47-50. Matt. 25:41. They use religion only as a fire escape. They do not attend services Sunday evening or mid-week; they go to the ball game on Wednesday evening. They never do any visiting. They do not do anything. They do just as little as possible, so they will not go to hell. Their religion is a false face. They have never known the joys of a Christian life; they do not want to. You may as well go on to the ball game or movie on Sunday, because you will go to hell anyway. Heb. 10:25; Rev. 3:15-16.

### **II. SPARE TIRE**

We do not want to use a spare tire, but we are afraid to try to get along without it. So many members use religion the same way: they do not want to use it, but are afraid to get along without it. Examples include: Rehoboam asking counsel of old men. 1 Kings 12:6-11. Rachel wanted child possibly not because she wanted one, but because she was envious. Gen. 30:1. Rich Young Man. Matt. 19:16:22. People do not want to use it. It may come in handy sometime; it may be good to hold them up in time of need until something better comes along. Many people get religious in a hurry when they get sick.

### **III. FREE RIDE**

Some consider the church an ark of safety in which they can sit down and be taken to heaven, but it is a rowboat. Read: Amos 6:1. We are to work in the church. 1 Cor. 15:58. The church is a vineyard in which we are to work. Matt. 20:1-8. They assume no responsibility in the work; they think it is a free ride so will not give. It is not a free ride. They will be lost.

### **IV. HOBBY HORSE**

Religion is just a hobby with many. They devote only their spare time and money to it. Matt. 6:33; Matt. 7:21.

CONCL: Are we the deadest church in the area? If men speak that way, what does God feel? If you have been using religion as this, and many have, you should come forward to confess your wrongs and get right and get to work.