

## **religion abuses religion to get power and nominal religion can pretend to be the "real deal"**

*Jesus is the founder of Christianity.*

A religion must exclude certain doctrines otherwise there is nothing definitive about the religion and what it says can mean anything.

Suppose Jesus intended to form a new religious society or even reform the one he was in. Jesus knew that attempts would be made to label children with the religion resulting in a problem with cultural religion getting an influence and respect it does not deserve and bullying people and posing hypocritically. For that reason if he agreed with children being initiated into the religion then he is responsible for the terrible results. Cultural religion is worse than religion religion. Each one gets its evil power from the other. Sometimes there is no distinction between them. We should not honour this man in any sense.

*Some thoughts on the royal baptism of Meghan Markle and Prince Harry's son in 2019*

First, a baby cannot be baptised for baptism in the Bible is only meant for those making an informed choice.

Second, its only for show. Do you really think Meghan Markle cares about what Jesus thinks? Who does these days? Abortion, LGBT, divorce and so on. Wealth and vanity in her case and "Christians" always give themselves away when they are so bad at forgiving. She hates Kate and William. Nominal religion is as dangerous and hypocritical as real religion and sometimes worse and nominal parents or those who are nominal in some ways produce nominal offspring.

Third, the meaning of baptism is that a baby is born unfit for God. That needs to be taken seriously and opposed vigorously. Worse it presupposes that Jesus had to die as a blood sacrifice to give power to baptism so treating it lightly means you are accused of grave cruel disrespect. Baptism involves water for as St Paul put it, it is symbolically drowning you so that you die to being an ordinary bad human being and rise to being holy like Jesus. The violent undertones are there and nobody has the right to sanitise this.

Four cultural change is coming – the religious freedom of children can and will be respected.

Five if religion is good then baptism is bad - good religion does not need gimmicks and should and will be able to attract people without them. It should be able to flow from real informed choice.

Six hardly anybody changes religion which is a bad sign. In reality they are just a bunch of nominals and nominals is what religion wants first and foremost. The religious searcher who goes wherever the heart and the truth leads is a true hero. In that context baptism is wrong.

*What is so bad about baptism?*

Christianity says, "Once baptised always baptised". Baptism is said to put you in the Church and wash away your sins. It seems it puts you in the Church by removing the obstacle between you and God which is sin. But that does not mean you cannot end up in the same state as the unbaptised. Though your baptism is not reversed it might as well be. You might as well have a reverse baptism. :If any man have not care of his own, and especially of those of his house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel" (1 Timothy 5:8).

Fact - most active members of a religion are secretly nominal.

Fact - most members of a religion are shamelessly nominal.

Fact - if one's religious faith is non-existent or weak one is still nominal

Fact - it is possible a religion and its leaders want the religion to be largely nominal.

Fact - nominal religion is the expert at being sectarian and corrupt and manipulative. Based on lies it is a breeding ground for lies that are told so often they end up looking true.

Fact - a nominal religion preaches magical far-fetched doctrines that nobody sane can truly believe so it can't be anything else but nominal

Fact - nobody admits that their religion is about being nominal

Fact - if belief does not matter for membership then if you believe you can be a Catholic without enrolling or being received into the Church. If belief does not matter then religious rules are only important if you believe in them.

Fact - a nominal religionist does not truly respect religion so how can you expect them to treat a sincere religion well?

Fact- the Bible says that an outward Jew who is not one inside is not a Jew at all. The apostle Paul wrote that and thus refuted the Christian notion that they can turn a person into a Christian by doing baptismal rituals.

Fact - when politicians respect religion it is nominal religion they mean

The solution

Each religion should lay out the case for not joining it or joining it to a person who can decide for themselves.

The number one problem behind nominal religion is society and parents keeping nominal members of religion high by forcing or pressuring children into a religious framework. This happens for cultural reasons. Consider the big number of those who get babies baptised into a religion and do nothing to produce true spiritual believers. Catholicism knows exactly what it is doing when it targets babies. It argues that the baby becomes Catholic at baptism and that implies the duty to be raised Catholic. Thus it uses baptism as an excuse for demanding Catholic schools to indoctrinate them. It completely contradicts the separation that should exist between politics and specifically religious claims.

Labelling and seeking nominal members and facilitating nominalism makes a religion look huge and undefeatable so that if it has a bad side or has terrorists (the number if low or high is irrelevant - do not insult victims by making a numbers game of it!) people will be afraid to admit the religion or its holy books or its failure to really remedy human evil is to blame.

Cults or sects that abuse are simply engaging in the same manipulation as every major religion engages in.