

“Why Do Ye These Things?” — No. 1

Why Do Anything in Religion?

Acts 14:15

Introduction:

- A. A valid question for apostles to ask.
 - 1. People tried to worship them as gods: Why? By what authority?
 - 2. People needed to think on this question?
- B. A good question for anyone to ask. (cf. 1 Pet. 3:15).
 - 1. Will ask: *Why worship God as we do?*
 - 2. Will ask: *Why work in religion as we do?*
 - 3. Will ask: *Why organize in religion as we do?*
 - 4. Are asking: *Why do **Anything** in religion?*
- C. Three good reasons for doing anything in religion:

Discussion:

I. The Creator-Creature Relationship.

- A. God created man for Himself. (Heb. 2:10; Col. 1:16).
 - 1. To seek after Him. (Acts 17:24-31).
 - 2. To serve and praise Him. (Ps. 100).
 - 3. To remember and honor Him. (cf. Deut. 32:15).
 - 4. To submit to Him totally. (Rom. 9:20-21).
- B. God created man free — not a robot. (Deut. 30:19-20; cf. Rom. 6:16-23).

II. The Revelation Of Creator's Will. (Deut. 29:29)

- A. God's revelation: Past And Present. (Heb. 1:1-3). Past by O.T. Prophets (2 Pet. 1:20,21). Presently by His Son. (cf. Heb. 2:1-5). “First spoken by Lord” — His character, words, deeds. (cf. Jno. 20:30,31). “By them that heard Him” (John 14:26; 16:13). “God bearing them witness” (Mk. 16:17-18).
- B. God's written revelation. (Eph. 3:3-5; 2 Tim. 3:16,17; 1 Cor. 14:37).
 - 1. In form of direct statements. (cf. Matt. 4:4).
 - 2. In form of examples. (Phil. 4:9).
 - 3. In form of necessary inference. (unleavened bread, every 1st day).
- C. God's attitude toward His revelation.
 - 1. Not to go beyond it. (Rev. 22:18-19; 2 John 9-11).
 - 2. Not to be presumptuous (2 Pet. 2:10; Lev. 10:1-2)

III. The Hope Set Before Us. (Heb. 6:11-20; 1 Cor. 15:19).

Conclusion:

- A. Why do anything in religion?
 - 1. Because of *who* wants it?
 - 2. Because He does want it?
 - 3. Because We *know* he wants it?
 - 4. Because of His promises?
- B. As Creatures: Let Him be potter and we clay — Do only what “assured of” (cf. 2 Tim. 3:14).