

THE ENEMIES OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

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1st Peter 4:13

If you are a kingdom citizen you have **SPECIALIZED** enemies. These types of enemies hate you because of what you believe and what you stand for. These enemies attack you because your values disrupt their culture.

RELIGIOUS people are enemies to the Kingdom of God. If you are living the Kingdom lifestyle you can expect to have religious people attack you. If you are pursuing the Kingdom of God you can expect to have religious people defame your name.

WHO ARE RELIGIOUS PEOPLE?

Religious people are not individuals who necessarily attend church. A person who is religious is anyone who **DESPISES CHANGE**. The term “**religious**” is defined as

doing something on a routine basis void of change. A religious person is a traditionalist.

When you encounter people who are opposed to change, refuse to change, reject change and attack those who want to change these are religious people. The most common place to find these types of people are in church. However, they are **EVERYWHERE**.

Religious people do not repent of their ways. They ask for forgiveness to **CONTINUE** their same ways. Repentance is defined as changing your way of thinking.

Have you encountered people who want to be restored but not renewed? Have you met people who acknowledged their wrongful ways without changing their wrongful thinking?

If the answer is yes, you have met religious people. It is easy to find people who ask for forgiveness. However, it is hard to find people who seek repentance. This is what Jesus went through.

King Jesus was searching for people who were willing to be **TRANSFORMED**. He was not looking for people who were content with going through the motions. The people **JESUS** sought after who were willing to be transformed did not attend church. They did not pray in the synagogues. They did not study the scriptures.

These people wanted something different. They were sinners, tax collectors and everyday people who wanted extraordinary change.

These people were bound with sickness desperate to be healed. They were bound with sadness desperate to hear hope. They were bound with with ignorance seeking clarity.

DISRUPTED PLANS

When the religious people saw the changes King Jesus was making into the lives of the masses they became jealous. The message of the Kingdom of God disrupted their agenda. The religious people wanted to control the people, not change them. However, King Jesus wanted to change the people, **NOT** control them.

When you are living the Kingdom lifestyle and speaking the Kingdom language you are going to disrupt the culture of **COMPLACENCY** and **TRADITION**. The Kingdom message is a philosophy of liberation, not slavery.

It is a message of rulership, not servitude. It is a message of royalty, not poverty. It is a message of entitlement, not subordination. When you exude the Kingdom of God on the earth you will attract religious enemies because you are a **DISRUPTER**.

Disrupters will always interfere with tradition. However, they will also inspire people to follow them. Jesus inherited enemies but He also inherited followers.

Religious people will do everything in their power to discourage you from living the Kingdom lifestyle. The Pharisees lied on Jesus to discourage Him from teaching the Kingdom of God. They tried to deceive Him so He would be discouraged to teach the Kingdom of God. They even tried to kill him to prevent the Kingdom message from being preached.

Do not allow the attacks from religious people to vex you. Their attacks prove that you are manifesting the Kingdom lifestyle. 1st Peter 4:13 says, “*But be happy that you are sharing in Christ’s sufferings so that you will be happy and full of joy when Christ comes again in glory.*”

It is a wonderful thing to share in the same suffering as Christ Jesus. King Jesus suffered on the behalf of religious people. It will be a pleasure if you could suffer for the same reason.

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