

Growing in the Grace and Knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ... (2 Peter 3:18)

Chapter 11 – Formality

5 holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

2 Timothy 3:5

***28 For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh.
29 But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God.***

Romans 2:28-29

1. What is Mr. Ryle talking about when he uses the phrase “formal religion”?
 - A. Whose whole religion seems to consist in Keeping religious _____ and ordinances.
 - B. Today we refer to such religion as TALK but without _____.
2. Can a man according to Paul be a son of Abraham according to the flesh but not a true Jew?
3. Can a person according to Ryle be a baptized and even active member of a church and not be a true Christian?
4. Why does Jesus say “Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!” 8 times in Matthew 23? Why is it He is harsher, louder against this sin than He seemingly is against others?
5. What are the characteristics of formalism that make it so bad?
 - A. Nothing is so _____
 - B. Nothing is so _____ to a man’s soul
 - C. Nothing is so _____, _____ and _____

Growing in the Grace and Knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ... (2 Peter 3:18)

6. What is the real test of a man's character or religion?

Proverbs 23:7 – *For as he thinks within himself, so he is. He says to you, "Eat and drink!" But his heart is not with you.*

1 Samuel 16:7 - *But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."*

Romans 2:28-29 (see first page)

7. What passages of Scripture tell us the heart is where saving Christianity starts (begins)?

8. What does Ryle mean when he says the heart is "the seat of saving faith"?

9. What does he mean when he says the heart is the "spring" of true holiness and steady continuance in well doing?

10. What does he mean when he says "when the heart is wrong all is wrong in God's sight"?

What are some of the examples he gives of this both from Scripture and from his own experience in England?

11. When the heart is right can / does God overlook other faults? What examples does Ryle give of this?

Does this make faults right? Why, what are some of the reasons formalism has been "popular"?

(1)

(2)

(3)



Growing in the Grace and Knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ... (2 Peter 3:18)

Why has heart religion been unpopular?

(1) It is too _____

(2) It is too _____

When in the entire history of the world or where was heart religion popular?

Who cares about or approves heart religion?

Application:

Is your religion heart religion? Make sure you know!

If your religion is not "heart religion" apply to Christ – HOW?

If your religion is right, heart religion, what should you do? Praise! *Watch! How?*