

Religious Boredom

A serious-minded person is unlikely to deny that there is something gravely wrong with much Christian worship and living today.

There are a number of causes that bring about this lack of real deep interest in Christianity.

It is not always easy to distinguish between effects of a problem and causes.

One cause of this low state of affairs in Christianity is religious boredom, that is found in some degree almost everywhere among Christians.

Boredom comes when a person knows that they must try to hear and understand with relish, but for lack of that emotional response they hardly hear anything.

All such people are too courteous to the speakers or embarrassed to admit to others they are bored and possibly too timid to admit it, even to themselves.

When Moses tarried on the mountain [Exodus 32:1-6], Israel became bored with the faith in an invisible God and clamoured for a God they could see and touch.

Israel displayed a great deal more enthusiasm for the golden calf than they did over the Lord God of Abraham. [Exodus 32:19]

Later, Israel tired of manna and complained about the monotony of their diet. [Numbers 11:4-6]

God gave them meat [Numbers 11:13, 18-20, 31-34], but it was their downfall.

A similar dissatisfied boredom within parts of the Christian Church has become increasing impatience with things invisible and eternal and have demanded and been given by their leaders a host of things visible and temporal to satisfy their sensual appetites.

Without any Biblical authority religious leaders have introduced a host of attractions that serve no purpose except to provide entertainment.

Especially the young people are being fed a maximum of entertainment and a minimum of serious instruction based directly on God's Word, the Christian Bible.

In some places it is impossible to get anyone to attend a meeting where the only attraction is worship and the in-depth study and meditation on God's Word.

The only conclusion is that God's professed children are bored with Him, for they must be wooed to a meeting with religious films, games and refreshments.

Any objection to the present "*golden-calf Christianity*" is met with the triumphant reply "*but we are bringing the people in.*"

But bringing people to what?

To true discipleship of Jesus Christ? [John 13:34-35; Luke 14:26]

To a cross-bearing new life? [Luke 14:27]

To self-denial? [Matthew 16:24]

To separation from the world? [**John 17:16**]

To crucifixion of human nature? [**Romans 6:6**]

To Holy living? [**1 Peter 1:15-16**]

To a God-like character? [**Galatians 5:22-23**]

To despising of worldly treasures? [**Matthew 6:19-21**]

To hard self-discipline? [**Hebrews 12:7-11**]

To love of an unseen God? [**1 John 4:12-16**]

To total committal to Jesus Christ? [**Acts 4:12; John 14:6**]

I leave you, with an open mind, to decide if your church fellowship is doing all of the above.

We are paying a frightful price, as did the ancient Israelites, for religious boredom, at the very time of the world's mortal peril.