

saved."

(Romans 10:13) "For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.""

7. "I just _____ to".

(Isaiah 53:6) "All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; ..."

(Isaiah 66:3) ""...they have chosen their own ways, And their soul delights in their abominations,"

(Isaiah 56:11) "...They all look to their own way, Every one for his own gain, From his own territory."

(Proverbs 6:16-17) "These six things the LORD hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him:

{17} A proud look, ...,"

(James 4:6) "... "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.""

(James 4:10) "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up."

(Luke 14:16-24) ".. "A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, {17} "and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.' {18} "But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.'

{19} "And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.'

{20} "Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.'

{21} "So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.' {22} "And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.' {23} "Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. {24} 'For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.'""

(Jeremiah 8:20) ""The harvest is past, The summer is ended, And we are not saved!""



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Please feel free to contact the Pastor for any needs you may have, queries, or questions about our church family.

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Central Mountains Baptist Church

29 MARCH, 2009

Information for Visitors.

* We're glad you're here. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the service. You're very welcome to join us for a cuppa after church.

* a Cubbies programme is normally provided, during the sermon for the **toddler to Kindy age bracket.**

Excuses?

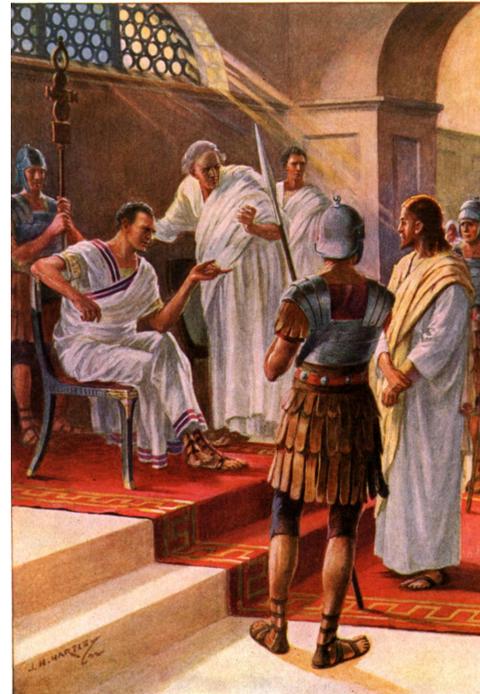
Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. —Romans 10:13

People have many different reasons for rejecting the gospel. A common one is to blame Christians for something they did or did not do. These critics say, "I know a Christian who treated me poorly." Or, "I went to church, and no one talked to me."

Indeed, Christians aren't perfect, and many can be bad examples. But blaming others doesn't remove one's accountability to God.

The truth of the gospel does not depend on the way others live out their faith. Salvation is about Jesus alone. Romans 10:9 says, "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

Some people may use Christians as an excuse to reject the gospel. But they certainly can't point a finger of blame at Jesus. He is sinless and perfect in every way. Pilate said of Him, "I have found no fault in this Man" (Luke 23:14). And Jesus did what no one else could do—He suffered death on a cross to provide salvation for all who believe in Him. That makes it tough for someone to say, "I'm not going to become a Christian because I don't like what Jesus did." Don't get sidetracked by looking at the faults of others. Look to Jesus. He alone is the way to heaven. — Dave Branon



Almost a Christian?

Today we consider 7 barriers that may prevent a person coming to Christ:

1. "It's just _____".

(John 4:20-24) ""Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship." {21} Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. ...{23} "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. {24} "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.""
(John 14:6) "... "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."



Eric Ambler

2. "Maybe it's not _____".

(Genesis 1:3) "Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light."
(Jeremiah 17:9) ""The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?"
(2 Timothy 3:16-17) "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, {17} that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

3. "God is not _____".

(James 4:1-2) "Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? {2} You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask."

(Mark 7:21-23) "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, {22} "thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. {23} "All these evil things come from within and defile a man.""
(Psalms 145:9) "The LORD is good to all, And His tender mercies are over all His works."

(Genesis 6:5-7) "Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.{7} So the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, ...""

(2 Peter 3:10) "But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare." (Isaiah 30:18) "... For the LORD is a God of justice; Blessed are all those who wait for Him."



4. "I really don't want to _____ my _____".

(John 3:16-20) ""For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.{18} "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. {19} "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. {20} "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed."

(Mark 10:17-22) "Now as He was going out on the road, one came running, knelt before Him, and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" {18} So Jesus said to him, ... {19} "You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' ... {20} And he answered and said to Him, "Teacher, all these things I have kept from my youth." {21} Then Jesus, ... said to him, "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me." {22} But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions."



5. "It's a _____ thing to do".

(Colossians 1:13) "He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,"

(1 Corinthians 15:3-6) "For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, {4} and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, {5} and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. {6} After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep."

(Psalms 34:8) "Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!"



6. "I'll _____ about it _____".

(1 Kings 18:21) "... "How long will you falter between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people answered him not a word."

(Acts 24:25) "Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered, "Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you.""

(Mark 6:20) "for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man, and he protected him. And when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly."

(Acts 26:28) "Then Agrippa said to Paul, "You almost persuade me to become a Christian.""

(2 Corinthians 6:1-2) "We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain."

[2] For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."

(Romans 10:9) "that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be

