

"RELIGIOUS REBELLION"

First Baptist Church :: Montgomery, Alabama
Russell McCrory, Minister to Students

📖 Isaiah 58:1-12 (pages 526-527 in the pew Bible)

A. Devotion Without Deeds (vs. 3-4)

"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices — mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law — justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former."
Matthew 23:23

B. Religion Without Reverence (v. 5)

♥ This kind of religion is all about **ME**.

C. Spirituality Without Sacrifice (vs. 6-7, 9-10)

♥ Religious rebels refuse to offer SACRIFICES of Time, Comforts, Energy, Treasures, Belongings or **Meaningful Worship**.

"But you ask, 'How have we shown contempt for Your name?' 'By offering defiled food on My altar.' 'But you ask, 'how have we defiled You?' 'By saying that the Lord's table is contemptible. When you offer blind animals for sacrifice, is that not wrong? When you sacrifice lame or diseased animals, is that not wrong?'" Malachi 1:6-8

A + B + C = **Empty Religion :: Empty Religion is Pointless**

① God Desires **Pure Religion**

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." James 1:27

② Pure Religion = **LGLO (Love God Love Others)**

"To love Him with all your heart, with your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices." Mark 12:33

③ **Results** of Pure Religion (vs. 8-12)

♥ Light, Healing, God's Presence, God Hears & Answers, Guidance, Satisfaction, **Strength**, Refreshment, Fulfillment, Restoration.

Which Will I Choose?

11/15/15 Morning