

Series: The Gifts of the Gospel

Part Four: God Sent His Son to Shut Down Religion

Sunday December 24, 2017

1. God sent Jesus to planet earth to be born on Christmas day...

- to show us His love
- to save us from sin
- to set up His kingdom of love and peace and reconciliation
- to shut down religion so that we can worship God anywhere

2. We don't have to make any more sacrifices because Jesus will take away all sin for all people once and for all!

3. Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself (Heb. 7:27).

4. Jesus was saying that *He* – not some building somewhere – is the meeting place with God (Jn. 2:19-21).

5. "You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Pt. 2:5).

6. No sacrifices. No priest. No temple. No problem. Jesus fulfilled the entire religious system at the cross!

7. Are there *any* rules for our faith?
Just one: love one another!

8. "'The days are coming', declares the Lord, 'when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah... This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after a time... I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people... For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more'" (Jer. 31:31-34).