

Who am I? What's my Background? Do I Want a Following?

Dear Reader:

Who am I? I'm just a lone individual trying my best to obey God and to please Him in every way that I possibly can, and to encourage others to do the same.

What's my background? As far as my background is concerned, I've attended several different churches during my adult life, but have always walked away sadly disappointed, as not a single one really puts God's Word *first*. Of course they all say they put God first, but that is simply NOT the case. Instead they put their leader or organization first in just about every single case.

For example, take my article on the day of Christ's crucifixion. Do you honestly know of any churches that will actually read that article with an *open mind* and truly consider its merit, and like the Bereans sincerely try to *prove* it one way or another (Acts 17:10-11)? I don't think so. Instead, just about everyone will come up with all kinds of excuses and falsehoods just so they can continue believing the way they always have. Most people simply do NOT have an open mind towards God's truth, unless of course their church leader or some other influential leader within their organization brings it to their attention. In that case, they usually go to the opposite extreme—*blindly accepting* what their church organization comes up with—without truly *proving* from the Bible if it's right or wrong. In other words, most people (including 7th day Sabbath keepers), do not genuinely obey God and Jesus Christ, but instead obey their church organization/founder/leader. They unfortunately put their particular organization or church founder/leader *before* the Word of God. But rejecting the truth by putting the opinion of others before God's Word is a very serious matter, as God declares in His Word, "*My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you...*" (Hosea 4:6 NKJV). So it's not something to be taken lightly!

So what's my motive for the articles and books I write—do I want a following? As far as wanting a following, let me state very emphatically that I don't want even a single person following me! But I do want everyone following Christ! Therefore, if you are able to *prove from the Bible* that what I teach is false, then you should reject it (and me)! But if you are able to *prove from the Bible* that what I teach is accurate, then of course you should accept it and live your life accordingly. But sadly, most people have an incredibly strong *bias*—as they so readily accept whatever their church teaches and reject anything contrary to their church's teaching (regardless if it's from the Bible or not!). Therefore, I have no delusions that people will truly consider what I teach. On the contrary, I realize

that most people will reject it immediately (without truly considering its merits). So what I write, I write as a witness—hoping that someday people will repent and accept the truth of God (regardless if it comes from someone in their own church organization or from a lone individual outside their organization). But please remember that someday we will all have to stand before the judgment seat of Christ. Therefore, it's imperative that we put God and His Word *first* so that our lives can truly be pleasing to our heavenly Father, and so that we can someday hear these words from our loving Creator: “*Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord*” (Matthew 25:21 NKJV). So who will you put *first* dear reader: your church or the Word of God?