“If anyone comes to Me and does not hate ... his own life also, he cannot be My disciple”

Luke 14:26
“I didn’t go to religion to make me happy. I always knew a bottle of Port would do that. If you want a religion to make you feel really comfortable, I certainly don’t recommend Christianity.”

— C.S. Lewis
Signs of Wrong Pursuit of Religion (1)

1. God will be a means to other worldly goals

2. Christianity will be reduced to a code of conduct that is followed, half-heartedly, as a way for earthly blessings
SIGN OF WRONG PURSUIT OF RELIGION

3. The Cross will be just an ornament with no life application
4. Inconvenience will not be tolerated
5. Subject will be easily misled by false teachers and self-deception
6. Service and worship will be treated as entertainment and rejected if they don’t serve as such

7. Being often angry at God

8. Thinking of the church as a social club
9. Questions are often about shortcuts, minimal requirements, and how to bend the faith to fit my desires

10. Living comfortably in duality

11. Eventually giving up and rejecting the faith
THE RIGHT PURSUIT OF RELIGION (1)

1. It is the search for the Truth and being changed by it in order to be free.
2. It is a relationship with a Loving, Wise, and Good Father and Redeemer
3. It is the desire to change from within to acquire a pure heart
4. It is the total and unconditional surrender to the Lord Christ so that He can live in us and give our lives meaning, purpose, and value – this will entail accepting to die to the world.
The Right Pursuit of Religion (3)

5. It is in the knowledge of His will and struggling for it, and not ours, to be done
6. It is in seeing and valuing everything around us through our belief in Him.

- “I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.”
  — C.S. Lewis
7. It is in finding in the Lord Christ our fulfillment, joy, and ultimate peace.

- “God can’t give us peace and happiness apart from Himself because there is no such thing.” — C.S. Lewis