

## ***Christ or Religion?***

1 Thessalonians 2:13-20

### **Genuine Christians:**

- Receive the Bible as the Word of God – v. 13
- Follow the example of other believers – v. 14a
- Often suffer persecution for their faith – v. 14b
- Desire fellowship with other believers – v. 17-18
- Rejoice when other believers are faithful – v. 19-20

### **People who are Merely Religious:**

- Oppose Christ and His messengers – v. 15a
- Do not please God (Heb. 11:6) – v. 15b
- Hostile toward everyone – v. 15c
- Oppose the spread of the Gospel – v. 16a
- Under God's wrath – v. 16b

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