

RELIGION?

By: Pastor Sam Downey

Walking around the Tomahawk Speedway the other week, I couldn't help but notice that there were thousands of individuals present who were enjoying themselves and practicing their religion. Now, I know that at the sound of the word, "religion," many people zone out or ride off, but almost all of us are really religious at heart. I, myself, have protested that, even though I am a follower of Christ, I am NOT religious. But, according to a dictionary definition I ran across, I am religious. And you are, too. This dictionary says that religion is, "The quest for the values of the ideal life." If that doesn't describe the biker's life, I don't know what does. Whether we think so or not, we are all looking for that "ideal" life, and we have come pretty darn close when we started riding. The things we value are freedom, independence, respect, love, meaning in life, and we religiously pursue them down the highways and byways of life. We don't find real fulfilment in our 9 to 5 job, or the unreal expectations of the legalists of society, but we do find it in being who we are, doing what we enjoy, and being with others on the same quest. We have even formed societies and brotherhoods that help us understand each other and define who we are to the rest of the world. According to the dictionary, this is religion. I read an article online that defined what a 1%er is compared to a weekend biker. The one may be a doctor, lawyer, salesman, factory worker, or even a minister who enjoys riding a motorcycle on occasion. He is a motorcyclist. The other is someone whose lifestyle is molded around his bike, who may work at one of those other jobs to pay the bills. He is a biker. That's religion.

As a follower of Jesus Christ, I have no quarrel with anyone whose religion consists of the God-given right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I have no viable alternate religious system to offer anyone whose religion is not really making them happy. History records the wreckage of lives that have been pounded to dust by man-made religions which attempted to lead man to the pinnacle of godship. Though there are any number of "Christian" religions, and even more "other-type" religious systems, the sad fact is that they don't really lead anywhere at all. The Scripture given us by the Creator doesn't propose that we will ever find God by following a religious system. Jesus Christ, the Son of God who came into the world, did not come to perpetuate an ancient religion, nor to start a new one, but to seek and save the lost, and help them find the ideal life. This fits the REAL dictionary definition of religion, which all man-made religious systems don't. What Jesus introduced to us is a new way of life, which shares many of the values we were seeking when we began to ride - freedom, respect, love, meaning, brotherhood. I don't call this religion, I call it life. Through trusting in Jesus Christ and His sacrifice for sin on the cross, we can now have real life which gives meaning to everything else we do. You

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don't have to give up your religion or anything else to come to Jesus. Invite Him into your life, and let Him sort out all the details. Then, when you get on with the quest for the "ideal" life, you will find that you have already found it in Jesus Christ. To respond to this in any way, positively or negatively, e-mail: fbcaf@netscape.net
 Write: P.O. Box 557 Adams, WI 53910
 Phone: 608-547-8198



REALLY CHEAP GARAGE DOOR OPENER

By Dr. Gizmo Doodad

I recently saw an advertisement for a device that opens your garage door from your motorcycle. Not a bad idea, being able to open your garage and ride right in without getting off your bike. This motorcycle mounted device retails for about a hundred bucks.

I suppose the object of this utensil is to make you feel like Batman riding into the Bat-cave. Personally I really dig the garage door opening as I thunder up the driveway and into my own fortress of solitude, err ah, my garage that is.

Well hang on there Sparky. I'm going to tell you how to accomplish the same task for one-fourth the price with an even more convenient device that attaches to the rider. This way you can open your door any time you care to.

Do I have your attention now? Good, just visit your local home center. Find the department that sells electric garage door accessories and pick up a Stanley mini garage door opener (part number 108210). This little \$30 gadget measures about 2 inches by 1-1/2 inches by 1/2 inch. It weighs practically nothing and fits right on the key ring that you already carry.

Well hold on there Bobalouie! You say that you don't want to use a remote that is not the same name as your present garage door opening system. No problem! I went online and found a slew of companies that offer mini openers that match any garage door system ever made. The average price of these units is around \$24.

I am only highlighting the Stanley brand because it is the type that I have and know the most information about. Many of the other brands of universal mini control units available are compatible with just about any major brand of door opener that was manufactured in the past ten to fifteen years. You can also contact the maker of the opener you have and buy a mini unit directly from them.

Simply follow the instructions that are included with your mini remote opener and in no time at all you will be opening the garage door from your motorcycle seat. As an added bonus this same apparatus will work from the comfort of your four-wheeled vehicle.

Hey! Life doesn't get any better, simpler, or cheaper than this.

You can contact Dr. Doodad, MC, Ph.D. with your questions, comments, tech tips, and chili recipes at drgdoodad@yahoo.com

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