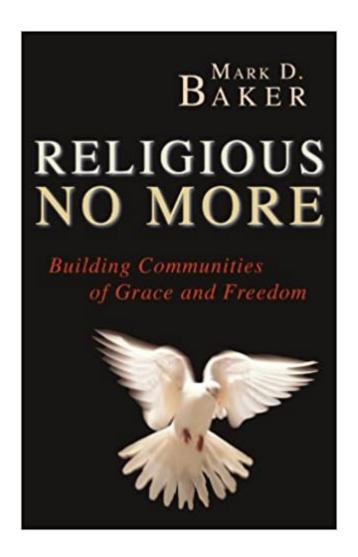


## The book was found

# Religious No More: Building Communities Of Grace And Freedom





## **Synopsis**

Too many Christians are "religious" - their faith is more a human endeavor than a response to God's loving initiative. Such religion assumes that our value comes not from God but from what we do. It absorbs principles and postulates from the surrounding society, leading to further misconceptions about God and our relation to our Creator. All this hinders people from experiencing vibrant Christian community, where they could freely love and be loved. Mark Baker suggests that just as car companies test automobiles under severe conditions to uncover weaknesses, North American Christians may detect fallacies in their "gospel" by examining how it plays out under the challenges of poverty, injustice, and entrenched religiosity. Baker's test case is drawn from his ten-year missionary experience in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, at churches born out of North American mission work. Baker observes Honduran church life, draws parallels to the dangers of religion in the North American church and mines from Galatians exciting possibilities of robust Christian grace and freedom. The result is a bracing and refreshing approach to Christian community for laypersons, pastors, missionaries, and mission strategists.

### **Book Information**

Paperback: 188 pages

Publisher: Wipf & Stock Publishers; First Edition edition (February 28, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1597521051

ISBN-13: 978-1597521055

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.4 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #590,356 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #119 in Books > Christian Books

& Bibles > Theology > Fundamentalism #155 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious

Studies > Fundamentalism #413 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church

Leadership > Ecclesiology

#### Customer Reviews

Mark D. Baker (Ph.D. in theology and ethics, Duke University) is associate professor of mission and theology at Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary in Fresno, California. He was a missionary in Honduras for ten years and has written 'Dios de ira o Dios de amor?' and (with Joel B. Green) 'Recovering the Scandal of the Cross: Atonement in New Testament and Contemporary Contexts'.

THIS IS DEFINITELY ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS I HAVE EVER READ IN SEMINARY. I HAVE BEEN RECOMMENDING IT TO MANY FRIENDS. IT IS A GREAT BOOK TO TRY AND UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCES OF "RELIGIOUS" CULTURE IN LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. WHAT THEY CONSIDER AS "POSITIVE PROOF" OF A NEW LIFE IN CHRIST AS OPPOSED TO WHAT OTHERS MAY SEE AS "NEGATIVE" AND A HINDRANCE IN THE GROWTH OF THE CHURCH. IT IS SOMETHING THAT I ALWAYS THOUGHT BUT COULD NOT PUT INTO WORDS. THIS BOOKS HAS THOSE WORDS.

Baker gracefully and practically addresses issues of religion prevalent within American Christianity. He uses his experience as a missionary with his skill as a theologian to help readers rethink Christianity. He does this skillfully using Paul's letter to the Galatians.

Inciting, good reading and timely

This book reminds me on how individualistic many Christians are, and how we tend to add something to the grace of God. Using his ministry experiences in Honduras, Dr. Baker explained the necessity to seegrace of God as a sufficient grace, and the importance of building a community of grace pretty well. Though I think Dr. Baker needed to write more about faith, not only as written in the epistle to Galatians, but I think his book deserves a five-star rating.

This is an excellent resource for understanding the connections between mission and the letter to the Galatians. I think this should be any preacher's first book they access when considering preaching a series on Galatians. Can't recommend enough.

This book reminds us that we often make following Jesus more difficult than it needs to be. Shed off the unecessary, and live life in freedom from humanistic obligations!

#### Download to continue reading...

Religious No More: Building Communities of Grace and Freedom The Grace Awakening Devotional:

A Thirty Day Walk in the Freedom of Grace Freedom, Truth, and Human Dignity: The Second

Vatican Council's Declaration on Religious Freedom (Humanum Imprint) Senior Living

Communities: Operations Management and Marketing for Assisted Living, Congregate, and

Continuing Care Retirement Communities Aging with Grace: What the Nun Study Teaches Us about

Leading Longer, Healthier, and More Meaningful Lives [AGING W/GRACE] TimeLinks: Third Grade. Communities, Communities Student Edition (OLDER ELEMENTARY SOCIAL STUDIES) Redeeming Administration: 12 Spiritual Habits for Catholic Leaders in Parishes, Schools, Religious Communities, and Other Institutions The Religious World: Communities of Faith (3rd Edition) Muslims: Their Religious Beliefs and Practices (Library of Religious Beliefs and Practices) When Religious and Secular Interests Collide: Faith, Law, and the Religious Exemption Debate Books of Breathing and Related Texts -Late Egyptian Religious Texts in the British Museum Vol.1 (Catalogue of the Books of the Dead and Other Religious Texts in the British Museum) Religious Therapeutics: Body and Health in Yoga, Ayurveda, and Tantra (Suny Series, Religious Studies) Faith in Divine Unity and Trust in Divine Providence: The Revival of the Religious Sciences Book XXXV (The Revival of the Religious Sciences, Book 35) Religious Diversityâ "Whatâ ™s the Problem?: Buddhist Advice for Flourishing with Religious Diversity Girls of Grace Daily Devotional: Start Your Day with Point of Grace The Grace Awakening: Believing in Grace is One Thing. Living it is Another. Grace Livingston Hill, Collection No.6 (4 Complete Novels including a novel by Isabella Alden, aunt to Grace Livingston Hill) Why Waco?: Cults and the Battle for Religious Freedom in America The Yoder Case: Religious Freedom, Education, and Parental Rights (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) Enfleshing Freedom: Body, Race, and Being (Intersections in African American Theology) (Innovations, African American Religious Thought)

Contact Us

DMCA

Privacy

FAQ & Help