

## Difference? - continued

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you need to do is consider certain Bible characters. These characters were judged severely by God for what they believed and practiced. Consider:

Cain (Genesis 4), the lost world of Noah's day (Genesis 7), Nadab and Abihu (Leviticus 10), King Saul (1 Samuel 15), Uzzah (2 Samuel 6), and Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5). All these characters chose to believe and practice something different from what God wanted and were punished for it. So yes, it makes a difference.

### Does It Make Any Difference?

Does it make any difference? Well, it depends upon who you ask, man or God. Man says, "No", and God says "Yes".

The statement "it doesn't make any difference" is actually the product of modern relativism and pluralism. It is a statement that is meant to keep one from obeying the word of God, or to justify man's varied opinions and practice. Yes, friends, it really does make a difference what one believes and practices! So, let's get busy believing and practicing what God wants as it is revealed in his word - the Bible.

- Chris Reeves -

## Sentence Sermons

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- Always forget your troubles and remember your blessings.
- The religion of some people is present in word, but absent in action.
- There is no free tuition available for the school of life.
- Where a person goes after death is determined by where a person goes before death.

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## THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.  
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

# Does It Make Any Difference?

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One of the most common statements by people today concerning religious matters is this: “It doesn’t really matter what one believes, so long as he is sincere.” You’ve probably heard something like that at some point in your life. Well, is this statement true? Is it biblical? And, if it is not true, how would you answer it?

## Preliminary Considerations

There are a few things to keep in mind when addressing this statement. First of all, does the statement, “It doesn’t make any difference...,” apply to other areas of life? Does it apply to the doctor – patient, the teacher – student, the parent – child, or the employer – employee relationship? If not, then why try to apply it to religion?

Second, the fact that the Bible points out basic differences at the end of time proves it does make a difference now what one believes and practices (Matthew 7:13-14; 25:31-46; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9).

## Answering The Arguments

*“It doesn’t make any difference what you believe as long as you are sincere...”*

Saul of Tarsus was sincere, but he believed the wrong thing about Jesus (Acts 23:1; 26:9) ... it does make a difference!

*“It doesn’t make any difference how you worship as long as you are sincere...”*

Cain and Abel were sincere in their worship, but God made a distinction between them (Genesis 4:2-5; Hebrews 11:4) ... it does make a difference!

*“It doesn’t make any difference if you go to church or not, so long as you are good...”*

Why did Jesus die to build a church if it doesn’t make any difference (Matthew 16:18)? Cornelius was “good,” but he was still lost until he was baptized (Acts 10:1ff; 11:14) ... it does make a difference!

*“It doesn’t make any difference what church you attend, so long as you go...”*

Multiple churches did not exist in the New Testament, so how do you know that it does not make any difference?

God does not plant all religious groups and he will one day pluck them all up (Matthew 15:13). Jesus built but one church (Matthew 16:18; Acts 2:47; 1 Corinthians 3:11; Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:4-6; 5:25)... it does make a difference!

## It Makes A Difference

When people today say “it doesn’t make any difference...”, they are saying something that is not in the Bible. The fact is, it does make a difference what we believe in a number of important areas of our life. Here are a few:

How we worship God must be in spirit and in truth and nothing else (John 4:24).

What name we wear must be that of Jesus Christ and nothing else (Acts 4:12; 11:26; 1 Pet. 4:16)

How we serve God with reverence and awe and in no other way (Hebrew 12:28-29).

How we live for Christ so that we can be in the kingdom (1 Corinthians 6:9; Galatians 5:21).

How we pray fervently so that our prayers will be heard (Luke 18:9-14).

## Ask These Persons If It Makes A Difference

If you are still not convinced that it makes a difference what one believes and practices in the area of religion, all