

**DOUBTING GOD—4**

*“The single greatest cause of atheism in the world today is Christians who acknowledge Jesus with their lips, then walk out the door and deny Him by their lifestyle. That is what an unbelieving world simply finds unbelievable.” —Brennan Manning*

*“What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs—beautiful on the outside but filled on the inside with dead people’s bones and all sorts of impurity. <sup>28</sup>Outwardly you look like righteous people, but inwardly your hearts are filled with hypocrisy and lawlessness.”*

**Matthew 23:27-28 NLT**

*“You snakes! You brood of vipers! How will you escape being condemned to hell?” **Matthew 23:33 NIV***

**3 REASONS MANY CHRISTIANS GET IT WRONG?**

**1. SOME PEOPLE WHO CLAIM CHRIST AREN'T REALLY Christians.**

*They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. ... **Titus 1:16 NIV***

**2. SOME ARE CHRISTIANS, BUT NOT Mature.**

*For someone who lives on milk is still an infant and doesn't know how to do what is right. <sup>14</sup>Solid food is for those who are mature, who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong. **Hebrews 5:13-14***

**NLT**

**3. SOME ARE CHRISTIANS, AND Maturing, AND STILL MESS UP.**

- **When we fall short, we blame our circumstances.**
- **When someone else falls short, we blame their character.**

*For he knows how weak we are; he remembers we are only dust. **Psalm 103:14 NLT***

*The word of the Lord spread through the whole region. <sup>50</sup>But the Jewish leaders incited the God-fearing women of high standing and the leading men of the city. They stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region. **Acts 13:49-50 NIV***

*So they shook the dust off their feet as a warning to them and went to Iconium. <sup>52</sup>And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit. **Acts 13:51-52 NIV***

**IF YOU HAVE LOST FAITH IN JESUS BECAUSE OF PEOPLE, MAYBE YOUR FAITH IS IN PEOPLE WHEN IT SHOULD BE IN JESUS.**

**JESUS HAS ZERO TOLERANCE FOR HYPOCRISY. HE HAS UNLIMITED GRACE FOR A SINNER IN NEED OF FORGIVENESS.**

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