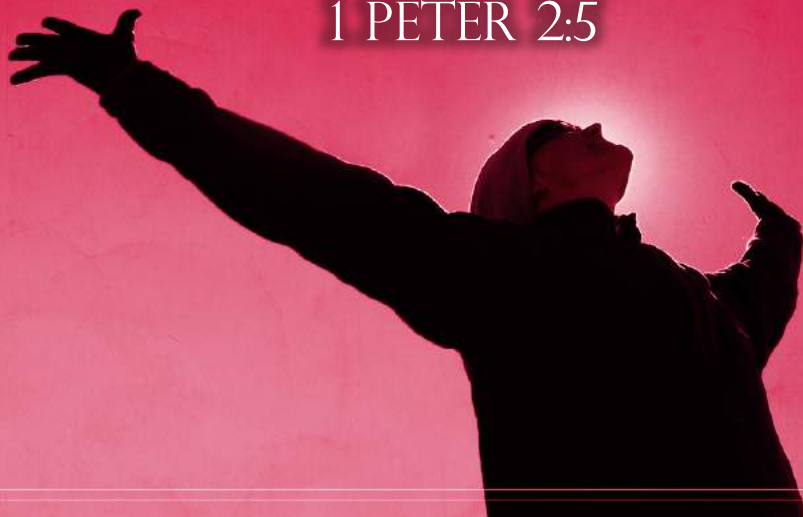


Spiritual

BUT NOT

RELIGIOUS

1 PETER 2:5



DEFINING TERMS

- The whole point for many is to escape definition.
- Religious and spiritual have long been considered synonymous (1 Cor. 14:37; Jas. 1:26).
- Religion has come to mean that which is institutional, public, and ritual.
- Spiritual has come to mean that which is personal and which lies outside of the tangible or observable world.
 - You have people who recognize a need for something outside of the physical but who reject any rules with that something.



BIBLICALLY SPIRITUAL

- We have two Greek words translated “spiritual” in the New Testament.
- The first one is found only in two places (Rom. 12:1; 1 Pet. 2:2).
- The other is found far more frequently (1 Cor. 9:11; 2:13-14).



SOME CONTRASTS

- Rules stifle true spirituality (Rom. 7:14; 1 Cor. 14:37).
- Rituals are a hindrance to relationship (Col. 3:16; 1 Cor. 11:29).
- I feel most spiritual when I am in nature or with my peers (Jn. 4:24).
 - My spiritual relationship is only between me and God (Gal. 6:1).

