



**“Not One of Us”**

**Mark 9:38-40** Someone had cast out demons,  
but they were “not one of us”

**9:2...** three disciples

**9:14...** these three joined the other disciples

**9:30 – 31...** the twelve are together  
in the house

“not of us” refers simply to “the twelve”

*“Whoever is not against us is for us”*

\***Cooperation** is **possible** (often) with someone who is not one of your “group” or even of your religion

When it is possible (without compromise of your Christian faith), **celebrate** and **cooperate!**

“...I never knew you. Away from me!”  
*(Matthew 7:21-23)*

The fact that someone honors the Christian tradition is very different from the reality of inner Christian belief or saving faith in Christ.

When someone embraces Christ,  
then God DOES know/acknowledge  
them, and they will never hear these  
tragic words.

**RELIGION** – system of belief that is a person's ultimate standard for reality, their world view.

Jesus noted there are only two sources for such convictions... revelation from God or traditions from men.

- You have let go of the **commands of God** and are holding on to the **traditions** of men. *(Mk. 7:8)*

- So, you nullify the **word of God** by your **tradition** that you handed down.  
*(Mk. 7:13)*



arrogance... rejection of any person who  
rejects your religion

i.e. seeing truth and grace as  
contradictory

grace... acceptance of a person even when they reject your religion.

i.e. seeing truth and grace as compatible

For the law was given through Moses.  
Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.  
*(Jn. 1:17)*

In its central message, the Bible is quite narrow minded.

a) **ONE GOD**... only

b) **JESUS**... Divine/Mediator/Savior/Lord... only

The Bible warns that Satan **deceives** mankind resulting in many human fantasies and false religions.

*“Leading to destruction”... wide gate  
broad road, heavy traffic. (Mt. 7:13-15)*

Regarding human cultures, religions,  
philosophies, heritage, etc.

**Truth should trump Tradition**

\*This is the burden/message of the Bible  
*(1 Tim. 2:4)*

What attitude must the Christian exhibit toward people of other religions/denominations/beliefs?

- seek to understand/accept/love
- seek to persuade them from error to truth

King Agrippa (Jew) to Paul (Christian)

*“Do you think you can persuade me  
to become a Christian?”*

Paul to Agrippa

*“I hope so, I pray so. You and your wife  
and bodyguards. I’m trying.*

*(Acts 26:25-29)*