

Dear Anonymous,

Thank you for writing us at Christian Questions Radio. You wanted to know some specific emotional reasons people might give for rejecting the Christian Gospel.

When people begin to study the Gospel of Jesus Christ as well as the letters of the Apostles they soon learn that in order to become true Christians they must sacrifice their own wills, which include their superficial emotions, such as the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. They learn that the Gospel does not fit in with their goals in life. They become disillusioned and disappointed because the high standards of Christianity were not what they had been anticipating. The Apostle Paul explains, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices (the slaughter of self-will), holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." (Romans 12:1-2) Because the sacrifice of living a life for Christ and not for one's self is just too much for some to make, they reject the Gospel.

We will list but a few specific emotional reasons for rejecting the Gospel.

1. People do not want to change their life styles.
2. People often look for visible changes rather than spiritual changes in their lives when they accept Christ. If they do not receive visible changes, such as improved health, etc. or their prayers have not been answered to their satisfaction, they reject the Gospel as false.
3. A person may have a specific conviction which is in conflict with the Gospels, and rather than let go of or reject that conviction, he rejects the Gospel instead since it conflicts with his beliefs.
4. The pleasures and pursuits of the present world are more appealing than the eternal truths and self-sacrifice found in the Gospels. (See Matthew 19:16-23.)
5. People want to come to God on their terms and not on the terms described in the Gospels. In a world where humanistic views are becoming more prevalent, people do not like being told that there are absolutes for right and wrong and that the only way to God is through his Son Jesus Christ. Since they prefer a broader view, they reject the Gospels.

We have touched on just a few of the emotional reasons why people might reject the Gospel. However, we can conclude that in most cases the rejection is based on the self-will of the individual. We hope we have answered your question. Be sure to sign up for CQ Rewind at [www.christianquestions.net](http://www.christianquestions.net). The service is free without obligation and will provide you with scriptural perspective on many questions and topics.

Sincerely,

**Christian Questions Radio**