

Fear-based religion discourages independence of thought.

The average pew sitter has appallingly little knowledge of the Bible, and spends almost no time at all seeking answers to the tough theological questions. Most are not even capable of asking good questions. They would rather have their pastor and teachers do their thinking for them. The problem is most pastors and teachers accept, without much critical thought at all, what their pastors and teachers taught them, and so on. So, we've got the blind leading the blind, so to speak. That is not always such a terrible thing, because there is a lot of good theology mixed in with the bad, and because of this, most Christians, are still able to make good life decisions. Somehow, God is able to get the important truths across to us, despite our confusion over many theological issues. We instinctively know right from wrong, that it is better to love than hate, and so on. Most instinctively know that God exists and rewards those who seek to do His will. Most are not very adept at logic and reason, but that's OK. The heart has reasons that reason cannot know. God will fill in the gaps in our knowledge soon enough.