

Shabbat shalom. My name is David Rubin. You may know me better as Jolie's husband. I consider myself to be pretty Jewish. I do most of the things a good Jew should do. I celebrate the Jewish holidays and eat Jewish foods. I root for Jewish athletes and vote for Jewish Judges. I have a Jewish name – one of the 12 tribes even. People say I look like a Jew, and that I spend money like a Jew. When it comes to God, I guess I'm not that good of a Jew. I'm not a religious Jew, nor a spiritual Jew. I might be more of a secular Jew – I need to discuss that with the Rabbi. I kinda' think of myself as a cultural Jew.

My older son – now he's quite a Jew! He changed his name from Mason to Moshe. He keeps kosher, and he strictly observes the Sabbath. Every Friday he puts scotch tape on all of the light switches, so we don't turn the lights on or off by accident. (It's a little irritating, actually.) And he's moving to Israel! And we all know that the Israelis – well, those are some amazing Jews!

On the other hand, my brother – not much of a Jew. He got Bar Mitzvah'd, and went to Osru, but since then, he does nothing Jewish at all. Nothing. *He's not even* a Yom Kippur Jew. And - he married a gentile. Twice even! No, I don't consider my brother to be much of a Jew.

My best friend in High School was Jewish. I thought Ken was more Jewish than I was, because he wore a necklace with a Star of David, and, you gotta' be pretty Jewish to do that. He fell in love with a very religious woman, but she was Christian. Ken didn't know what to do, and he wound up joining, get this, joining Jews – for – *Jesus*. Jews – for – Jesus? That doesn't even make any sense right? You can't believe in Jesus if you're a Jew – that's part of the deal. No, I never considered Ken to be a "real" Jew after he joined Jews – for - Jesus.

My good friend Arthur, he's quite a Jew. He also fell in love with a really religious woman, an Orthodox Jew. At his wedding the men were on one side and the women on the other. That's pretty Jewish, I guess, although I missed dancing with Jolie. I remember going to their house and bringing taffy apples, cuz' we Jews love taffy apples. But his wife was very upset with me because the taffy apples were not kosher. Who knew taffy apples could not be Kosher? She demanded that I remove the tref treat from her house immediately, which I did. Later I thought gee, Arthur's wife sure is Jewish. But I don't think she considers me to be much of a Jew at all.

My son Moshe spends a lot of time at the Chabad House down at U.I.C. Chabad – now *those* are some crazy Jews right? “Stay away from the Chabad Jews”, I always heard. Actually, Jolie & I absolutely adore the husband and wife who run the UIC Chabad house and we only have good things to say about them. They do great things. No need to be afraid. The thing is, when I’m with them, the Chabad husband and wife, they’re so darn Jewish that I don’t feel like much of a Jew, compared to them at least.

My point is, people seem to embrace their Judaism in many different ways. And really, who am I to judge?

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