

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

★ I am a member of the church of Christ, (*i.e. the body of Christ*), because the Lord added me to it when I obeyed the gospel! - Acts 2:37-47

★ Why am I a member of this local church and why do I fellowship some who identify themselves as members of the church of Christ? - Rom. 16:16

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ?

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

1 Peter 3:15

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ?

We should know the answer to this question

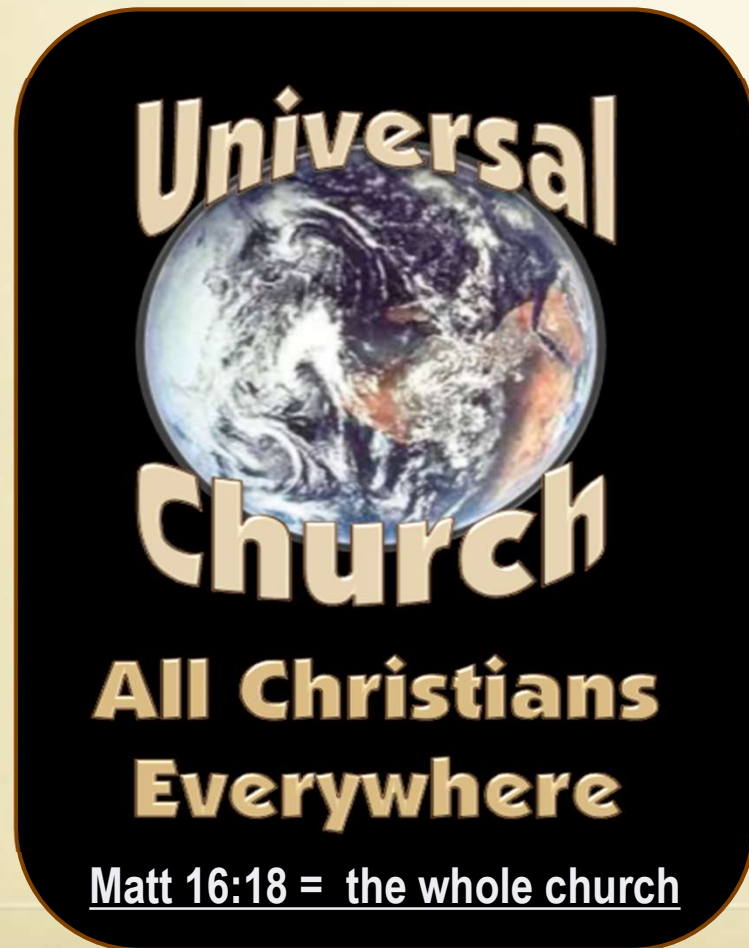
We should be able to answer if anyone asks

We should know the truth of what the bible teaches about the church

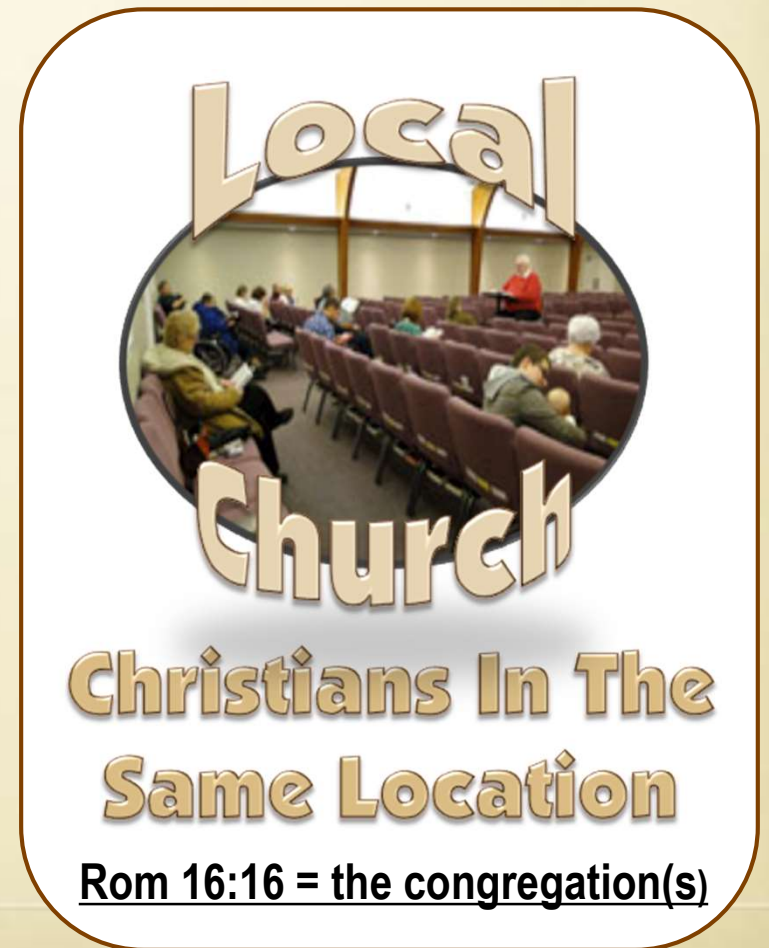
This teaching is known as sound doctrine

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

The word “church” is used 2 ways in the NT

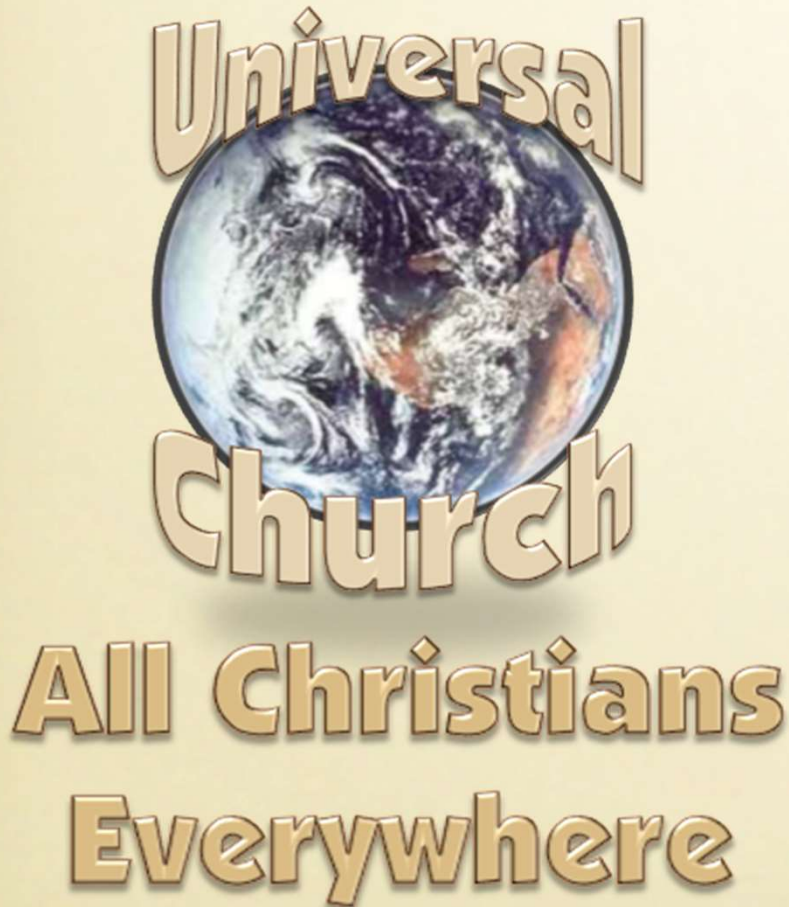


&



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Defining "The Church of Christ"



◆ "I will build MY CHURCH"
Matt. 16:18

◆ "There is ONE BODY"
Eph. 4:4

◆ "He is also head of the BODY, the CHURCH"
Col. 1:18; Eph. 1:22-23

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Defining "The Church of Christ"



Christians In The
Same Location

- ◆ Who agree to join together in fellowship (Acts 9:26).
- ◆ Who worship in a common assembly – (1 Cor. 11:18)
- ◆ Who work out of a common treasury – (1 Cor. 16:1-3)
- ◆ Who submit to a common oversight – (Acts 14:23; 20:28)

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ



EXAMPLES OF UNSCRIPTURAL NAMES



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Recognize the pattern:

The bible often labels the church by its relationship with God or its Location



- ◆ "the church of God which is at Corinth" - (1 Cor. 1:2)
- ◆ "the church of the Thessalonians in God" - (1 Thess. 1:1).
- ◆ "the churches of Galatia" - (1 Cor. 16:1).
- ◆ "the churches of the saints" - (1 Cor. 14:33).
- ◆ "the churches of Christ" - (Rom. 16:16).
- ◆ "the churches" - (Acts 8:3; 15:41, etc., etc.).

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Description	Passage	Jesus	Relationship
"the church"	(Acts 8:3, etc.)	The One Who Calls	The Called Out
"the church of God"	(Acts 20:28)	Paid The Price	Purchased of God
"the body of Christ"	(1 Cor. 12:27)	Headship	Members
"the kingdom of God"	(Rom. 14:17)	Kingship	Citizens
"the family of God"	(1 Tim. 3:15)	Son	Children
"the temple of God"	(1 Cor. 3:16)	High Priest	Serve / Worship
"the church of the firstborn"	(Heb. 12:23)	Heir	Fellow Heirs

**ONE CLUE TO WHETHER A
CONGREGATION IS SCRIPTURAL IS TO
PAY ATTENTION TO:**

**BY WHAT NAME DO
THEY COMMONLY REFER
TO THEMSELVES**

**THERE ARE SCRIPTURAL CONGREGATIONS
WORLDWIDE**

SOME COMMONLY CALL THEMSELVES:

CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE CHURCH

THE ASSEMBLY

THE CHURCH OF GOD

CHRISTIANS

AND OTHER NAMES ¹³AS SEEN IN THE BIBLE

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Just a few of the answers...

Because it was founded by the scriptural builder - Christ

Because it was founded at the scriptural place - Jerusalem

Because it is undenominational (same as commanded in the bible)

Because of its scriptural teaching and obedience of the Lord's Supper

Because it gives scriptural answers to the question –
What must I do to be saved?

And much more...

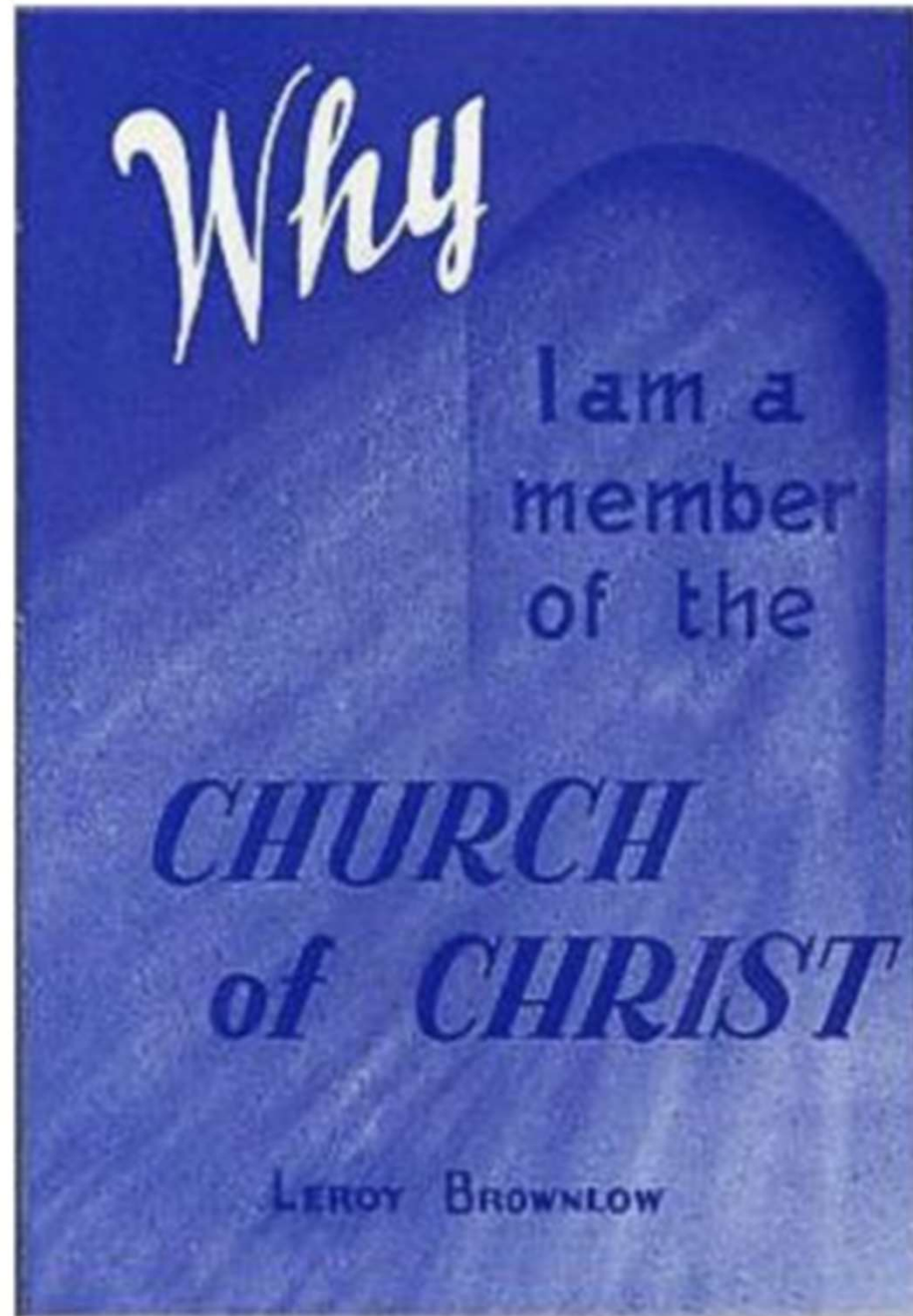
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

Next Week

We Will

Discuss

Pages
3 - 9



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

★ The scriptures are like a piece of woven fabric. They support and defend each other.

★ One thread alone is weak. But many threads together are strong

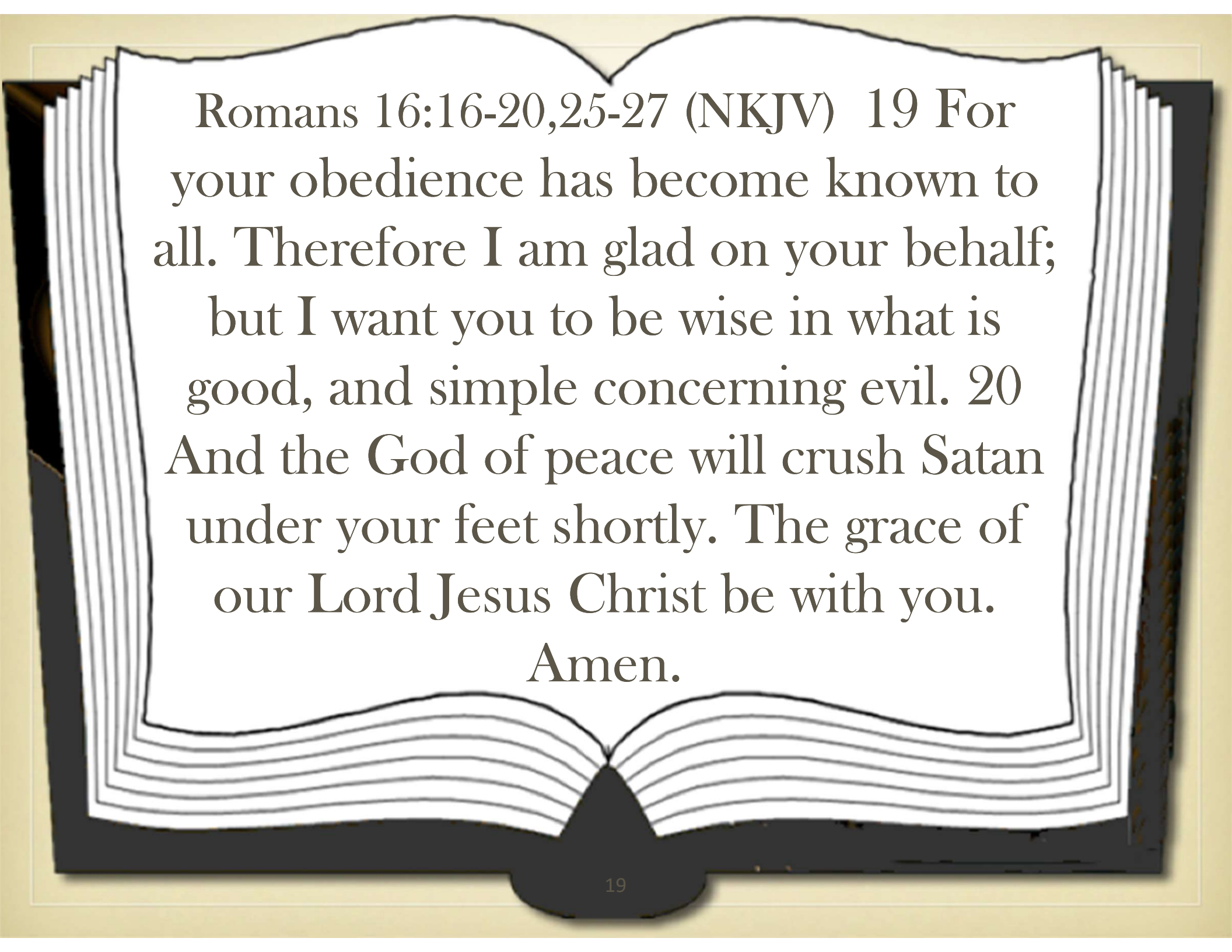


Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

- ★ Why am I a member of this local church and why do I fellowship some who identify themselves as members of the church of Christ? - [Rom. 16:16](#)
- ★ What is key things the churches of Christ asked to do in this key scripture context?

Romans 16:16-20,25-27 (NKJV)

16 Greet one another with a holy kiss. The churches of Christ greet you. 17 Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. 18 For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

An illustration of an open book with a dark cover. The pages are white with black text. The text is from Romans 16:16-20,25-27 (NKJV). The book is open to a page that contains the text. The text is in a serif font. The book is set against a light yellow background.

Romans 16:16-20,25-27 (NKJV) 19 For
your obedience has become known to
all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf;
but I want you to be wise in what is
good, and simple concerning evil. 20
And the God of peace will crush Satan
under your feet shortly. The grace of
our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
Amen.

Romans 16:16-20,25-27 (NKJV)

25 Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began 26 but now has been made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures has been made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith-- 27 to God, alone wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen.

Romans 16:16-20,25-27 (NKJV)

Christians
Everywhere

16 Greet one another with a holy kiss. The churches of Christ greet you. 17 Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. 18 For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

Watch who
you hang with

Using words to trick
those who simply
want to follow Jesus

You can't listen to
everybody when it
comes to God

Romans 16:16-20,25-27 (NKJV) 19
your obedience has become known
all. Therefore, I am glad on your
behalf; but I want you to be wise in
what is good, and simple concerning
evil. 20 And the God of peace will
crush Satan under your feet shortly
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be
with you. Amen.

This is what
COUNTS!

Paul is happy for them
because they are obedient to
Christ's teaching. Its what
make them scriptural

Example:
Adam & Eve

Romans 16:16-20,25-27 (NKJV)

25 Now to Him who is able to establish you
Acts 2:47 according to my gospel and the preaching of

Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the
mystery kept secret since the world began 26

Eph 3:6 It now has been made manifest, and by the
prophetic Scriptures has been made known to

all nations, according to the commandment
of the everlasting God, for **obedience** to the faith--

27 to God, alone wise, be glory through Jesus
Christ forever. Amen.

Old Testament
Prophets

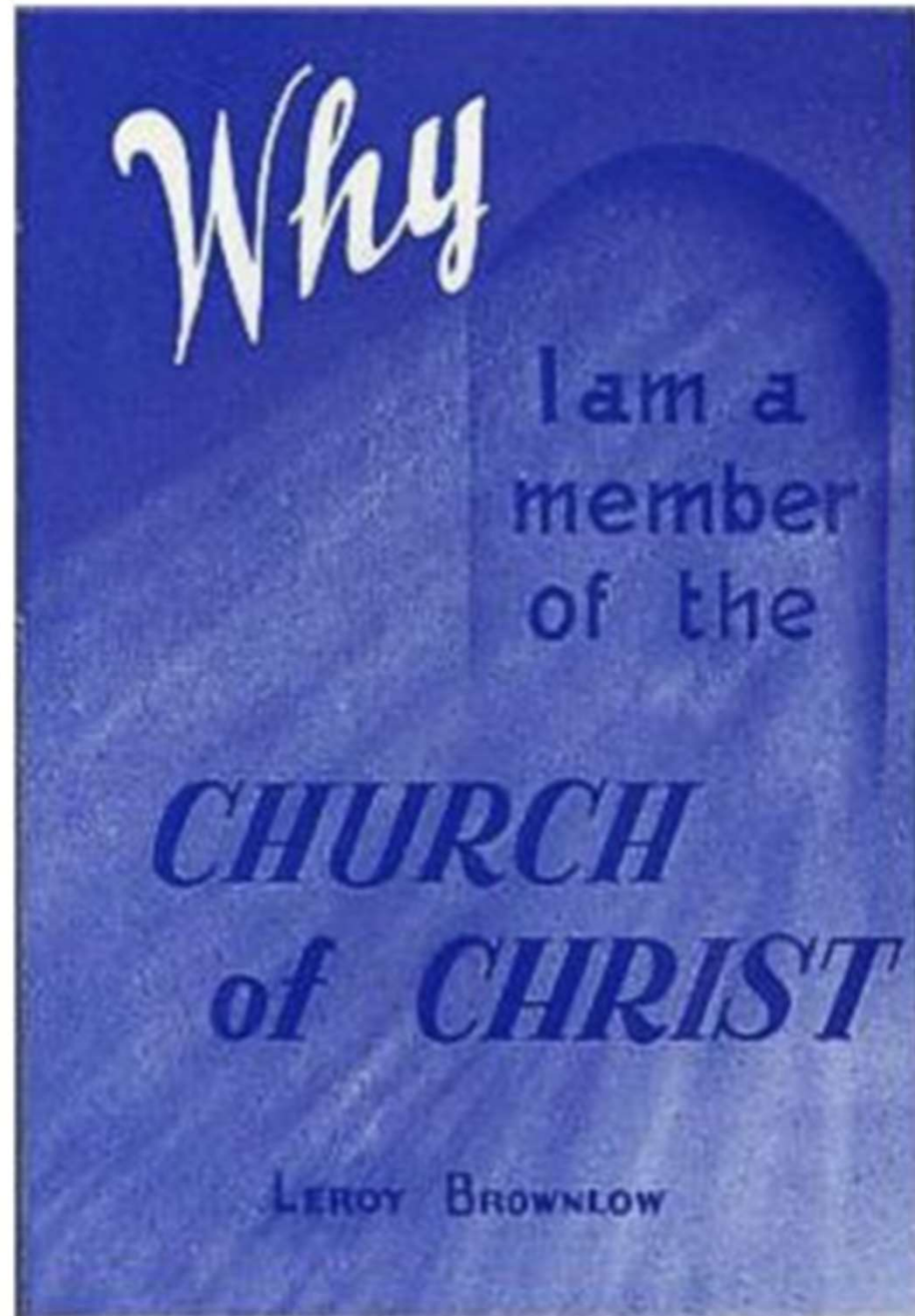
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

Next Week

We Will

Discuss

Pages
3 - 9



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

"Anti" Denominational



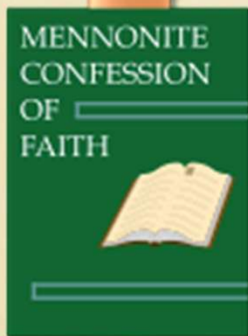
- ♦ **Jesus Prayed For Unity –**
John 17:20-23
- ♦ **Paul Pleaded For Unity –**
1 Cor. 1:10
- ♦ **The Church belonging to Christ Submits To Christ –**
Ephe 5:23,24; 4:1-6; 1 Cor 4:17

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

"Anti" Denominational



Mennonite



Methodist



Nazarene

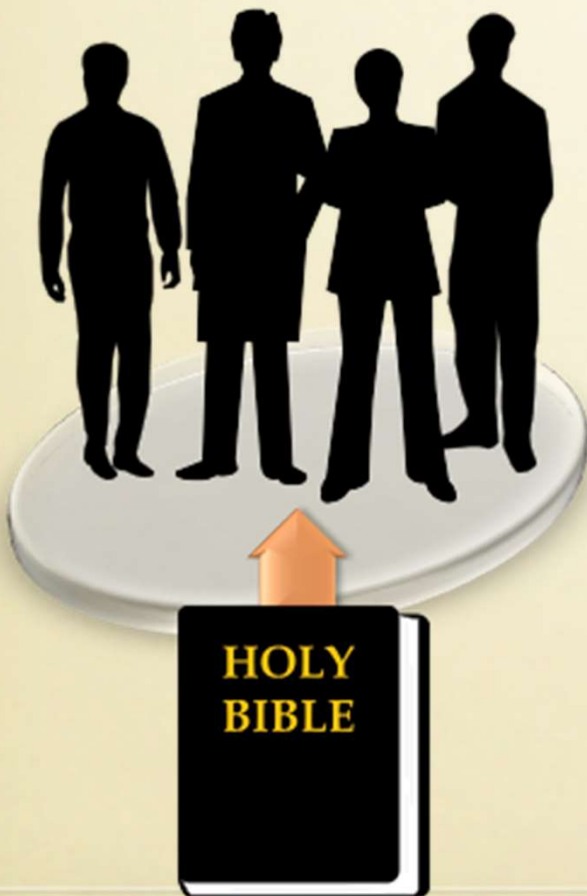


Christian



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

The Standard It Follows



- ◆ Human Denominations Do Not Use “JUST” The Bible – (Confessions, Disciplines, Rules of Faith, Party Statements, etc.)
- ◆ The Lord’s Church Uses ONLY The Bible As Its Guide In Faith, Teaching, Work, Worship & Organization. (2 Tim 3:16,17; 1 Pet 4:16; Col 3:17)

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

The Message Preached



- ◆ **What A Person Must Do In Order To Be Saved In The Words of Inspired Men – (1 Peter 4:11)**
- ◆ **The Alien Sinner – (Rom 10:17; John 8:24; Romans 10:9,10; Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30; Mark 16:15,16; Acts 2:38; 10:47; 22:16; Ro 6:3-6; 1 Pet 3:21)**
- ◆ **The Christian – (Col. 1:23; Rev 2:10; Acts 8:18-24; 1 John 1:9)**

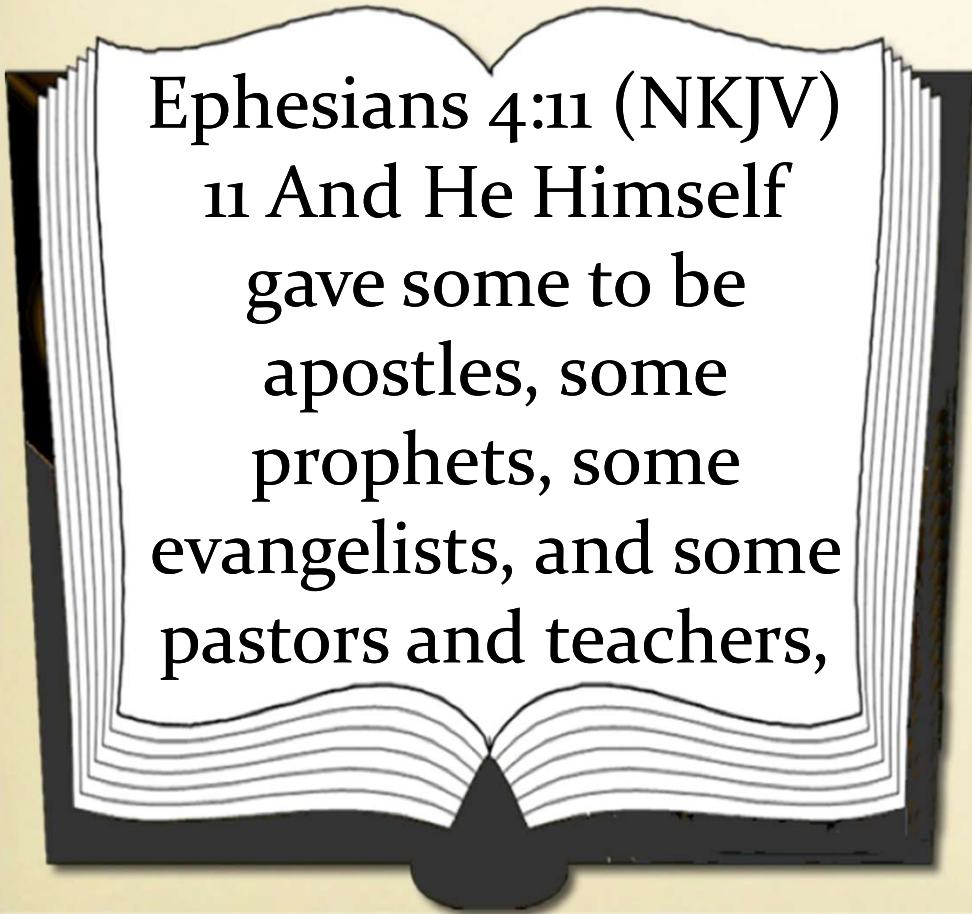
Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

The Message Preached

- ◆ The Need To Live In Love & Purity – (Mark 12:29-31; Col. 3:1-14; 2 Cor 6:14-7:1; Ephe 5:1-18; 1 Pet 1:13-18)
- ◆ The Need For Positive Divine Authority For Everything Believed, Taught & Practiced - (Mat 21:25; 1 Pet 4:11; Col. 3:17)
- ◆ The Plea For Unity Upon What The Bible Says – (1 Cor 1:10; John 17:20-22; Ephe 4:1-6)

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

The Organization Is Found In NT



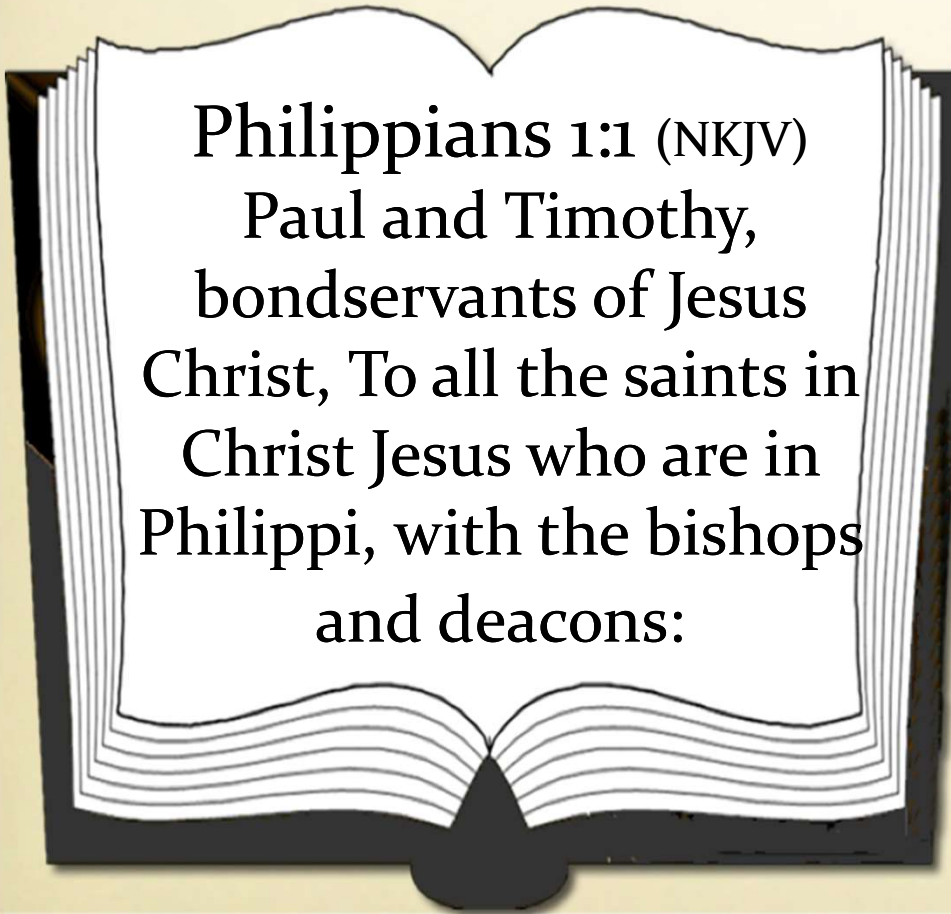
Ephesians 4:11 (NKJV)
11 And He Himself
gave some to be
apostles, some
prophets, some
evangelists, and some
pastors and teachers,

Part of the
structure
through
their
writings ~
Eph 2:20

**Apostles,
Prophets,
Evangelists,
Pastors
Teachers,**

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

The Organization Is Found In NT

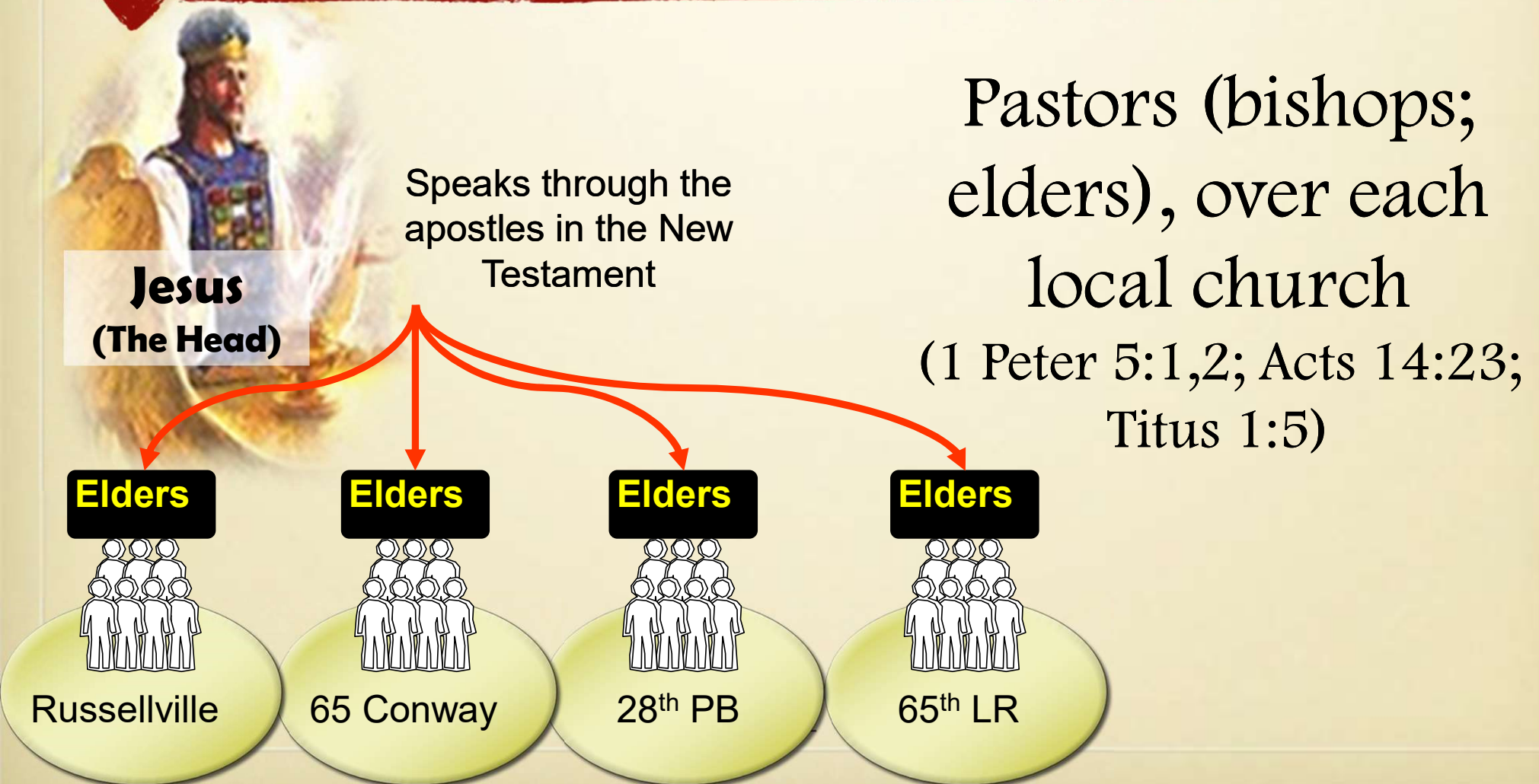


Philippians 1:1 (NKJV)
Paul and Timothy,
bondservants of Jesus
Christ, To all the saints in
Christ Jesus who are in
Philippi, with the bishops
and deacons:

- ◆ **Elders / Pastors / Bishops** - (Acts 14:23; 20:17,28; 1 Pet. 5:1-5; 1 Tim 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9)
- ◆ **Deacons** - (Phili 1:1; 1 Tim 3:8-13)
- ◆ **Saints** - (Phili 1:1; 1 Cor 1:2; 2 Cor. 1:1; Eph 1:1; Col 1:1)

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

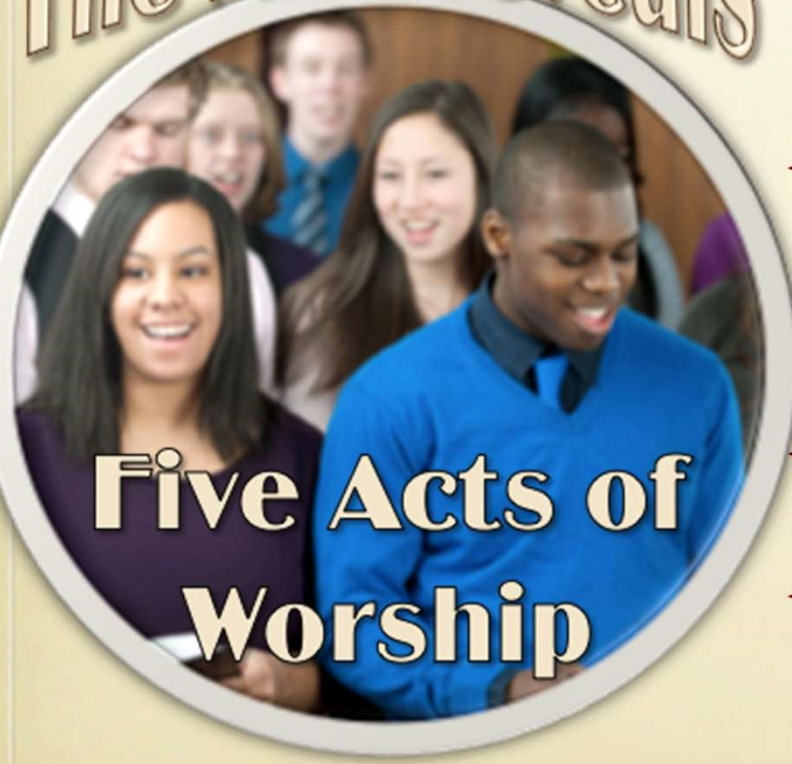
The Organization Is Found In NT



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

The Worship Is Scriptural

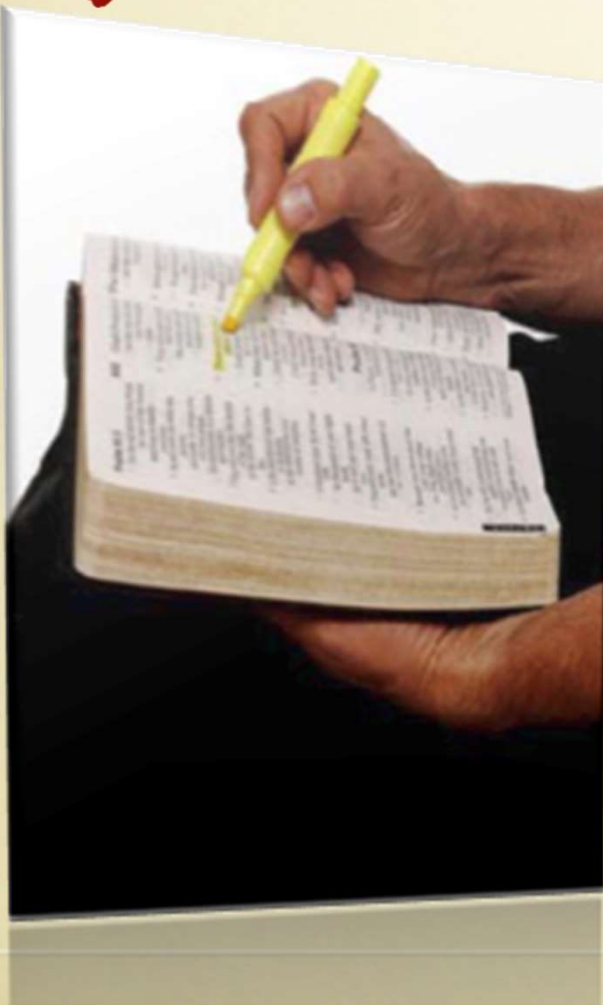
The N.T. Reveals



- ◆ **Studying God's Word** - (Acts 20:7; Col 4:16)
- ◆ **Singing** - (Eph 5:19; Col. 3:16)
- ◆ **Praying** - (Acts 4:23-31; Eph 6:18)
- ◆ **Giving** - (1 Cor 16:1,2)
- ◆ **Observing The Lord's Supper** - (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor 11:23-26)

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

The Work Is Authorized



- ◆ Evangelism - (Acts 13:1-3)
- ◆ Edification of the church - (Eph 4:11-16)
- ◆ Benevolence to needy saints - (Ro 15:25-26)
- ◆ Nothing else - (Col. 3:17)

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

✦ Have you been added to Christ's church – Act 2:47?

✦ Are you serving Christ in a scriptural local church? – Acts 9:26~28

★ Anti-Denominational –

★ The Standard –

★ The Message preached –

★ The organization is according to the NT pattern

★ The Worship Is Scriptural –

★ The Work Is Authorized –

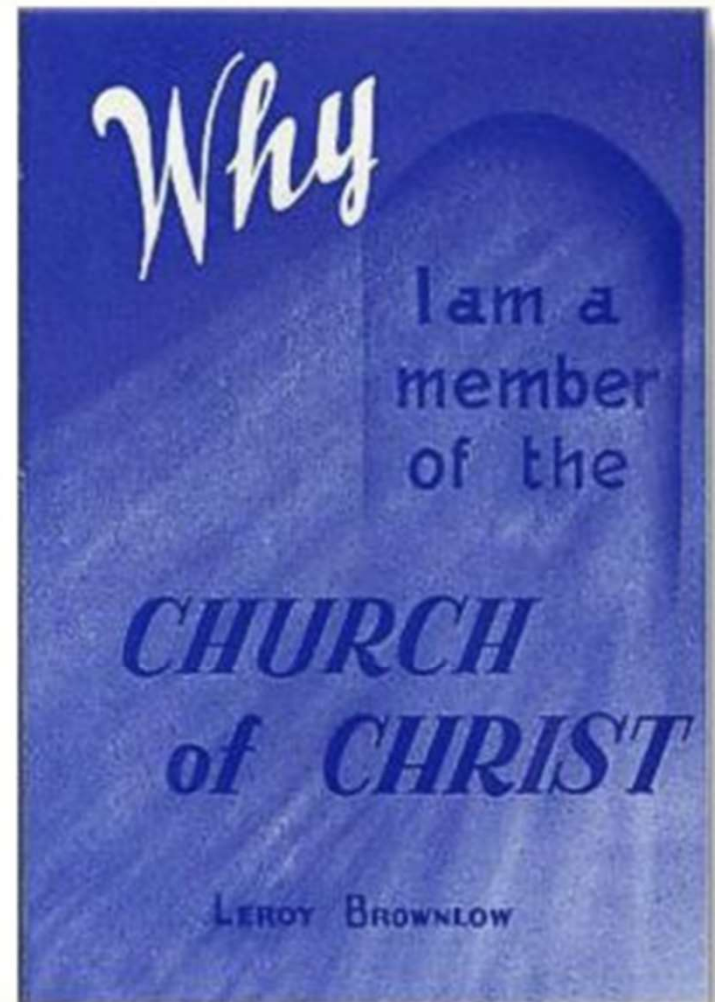
Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ



To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

REASON #1

**Because it was
founded by the
scriptural
founder**



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ?

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

1 Peter 3:15

Many people are religious because of human reasons rather than scriptural ones

“It’s a popular church”

“It’s a friendly church”

“My mama was a member of this church”

“I been in this church since I was a baby”

“This church as the nicest building”

“I married into this church”

None of these reasons matter to God!



The church is the pillar and ground of truth
(1 Tim 3:15)

The word of God is truth
(John 17:17)

Together these mean that it is the
responsibility of the church to
teach and practice ~~some~~ truth

**NO church can be scriptural unless it was
founded by the scriptural builder**

**The fact that a religious body exists is proof
that it was founded by someone**

**Therefore, it is important to know whether the
builder of a church was scriptural or
unscriptural**

**If a church was founded by an unscriptural
builder, that church must be unscriptural as it
was the work of ⁴²man, not Christ**

Christ founded the scriptural church

Christ himself said he would founded / build his church (Matthew 16:18)

Therefore, it is certain NO church can be the scriptural church UNLESS it was founded by Christ

Do you believe that Christ built his church, just like he promised he would?

Christ founded the scriptural church

Christ promised Peter and the disciples that he would give them ability to share the church with others (Matt 16:19)

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Christ founded the scriptural church

No human ever had the scriptural authority to say this, because no human being ever had scriptural authority build church nor promise things on heaven and in earth. Jesus did!

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."

- Matthew 28:18-20 NIV -

Bad Assumption: John the Baptist started the Baptist church

This is impossible for many reasons:

#1

**Since Christ started the church in the bible,
that is undeniable proof that John the baptist
did NOT start it.**

**In fact John the baptist did not start any
church. The baptist denomination was
started by John Smyth in the 1600s**

Bad Assumption: John the Baptist started the Baptist church

This is impossible for many reasons:

**#2 John the Baptist was dead at the time Jesus
promised to build his church**

John the Baptist death (Matt 14:10)

**Two chapters later Jesus promised to build
his church (Matt 16:18)**

Bad Assumption: John the Baptist started the Baptist church

This is impossible for many reasons:

#3

**Christ did not promise to build something that
had already been built by John the baptist**

Look at the language in Matt 16:18

Bad Assumption: John the Baptist started the Baptist church

This is impossible for many reasons:

#4 John the baptist was NEVER in the church.

Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Matthew 11:11

A dramatic sunset or sunrise over a body of water. The sky is filled with vibrant colors of orange, red, and blue, with clouds catching the low light. The sun is a bright, glowing orb on the horizon. In the foreground, a dark pier or dock extends from the bottom center towards the middle of the frame, its reflection visible in the calm water. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

Matthew 15:13 KJV

But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.

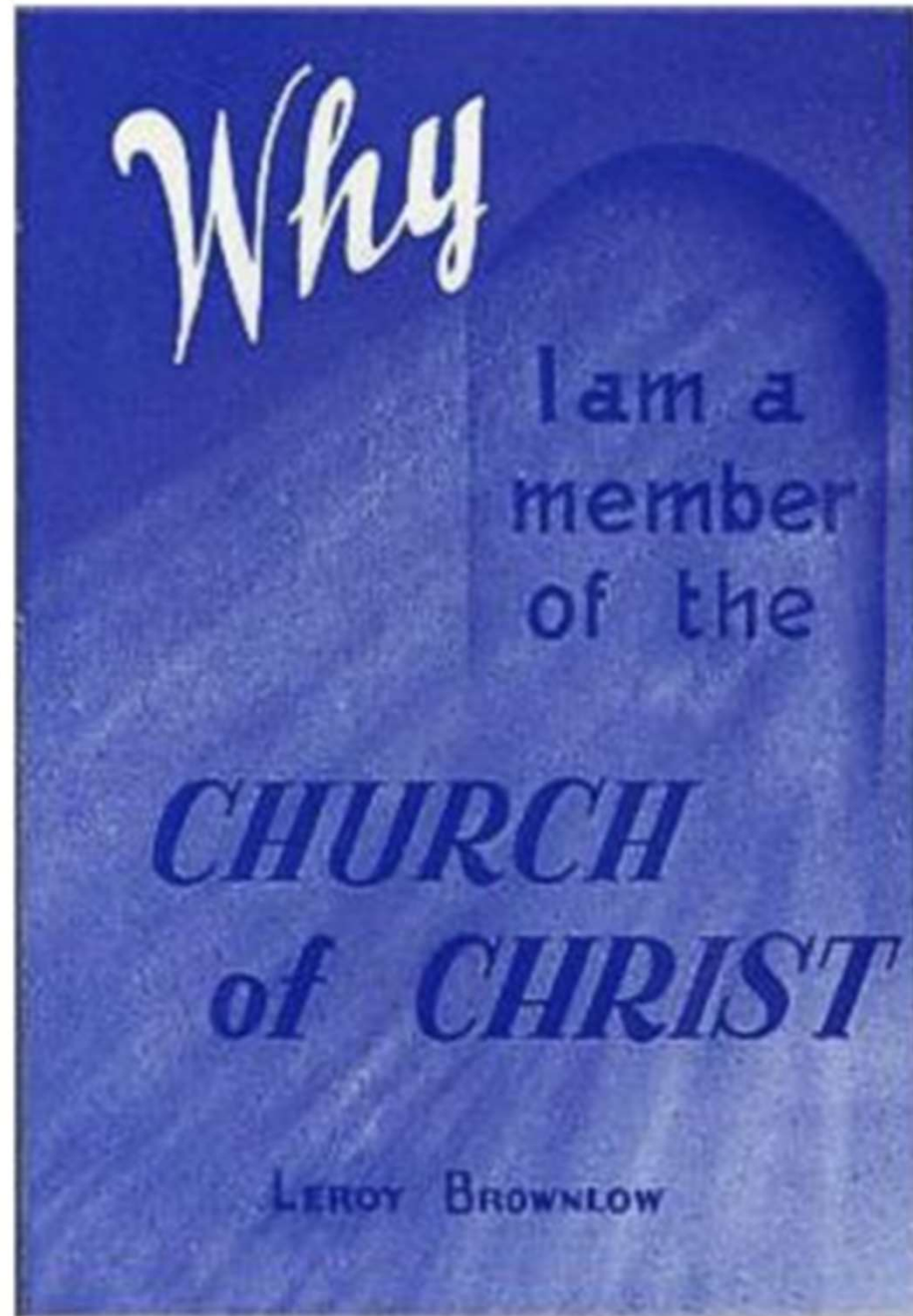
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
10-12**



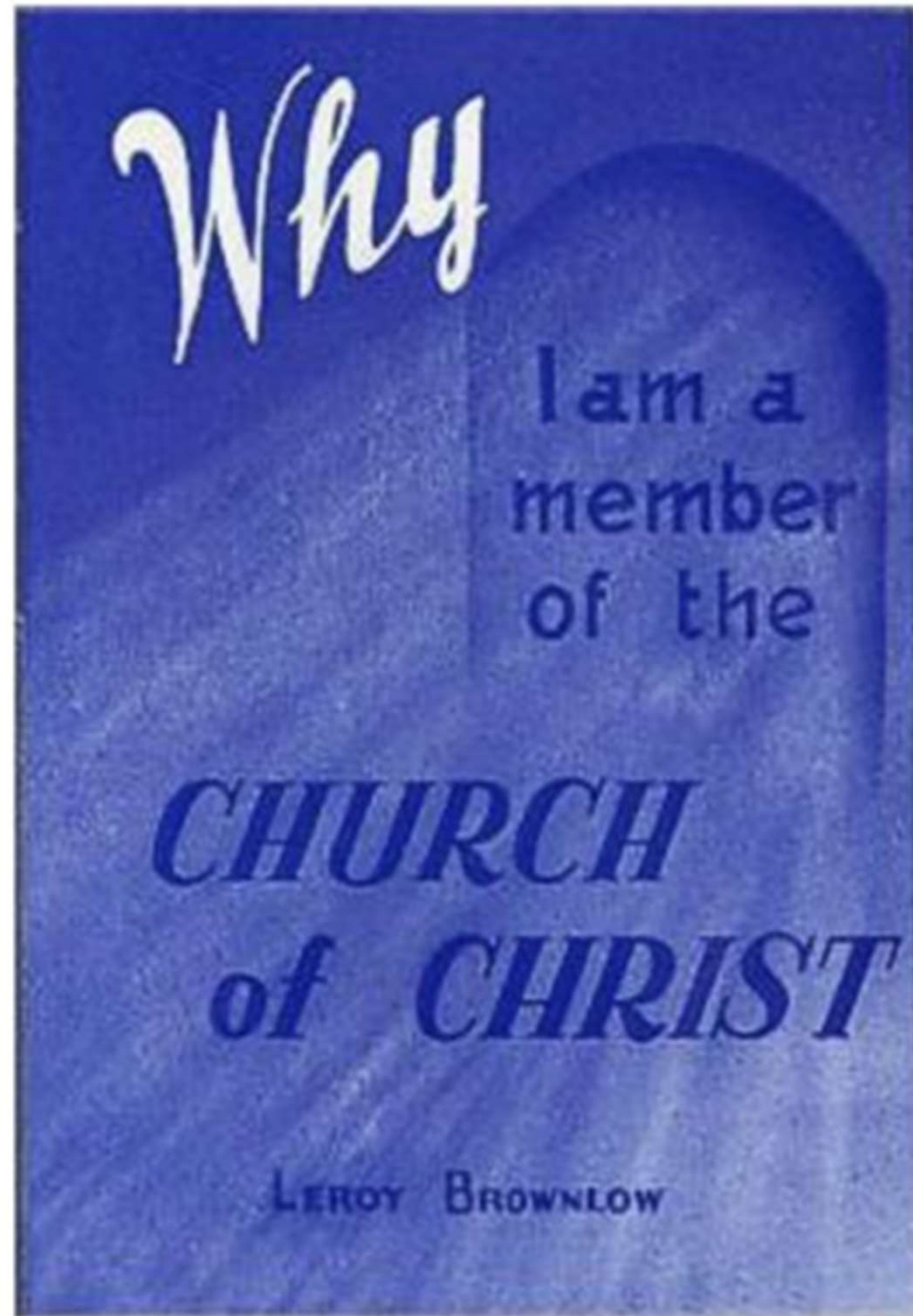
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

This Week

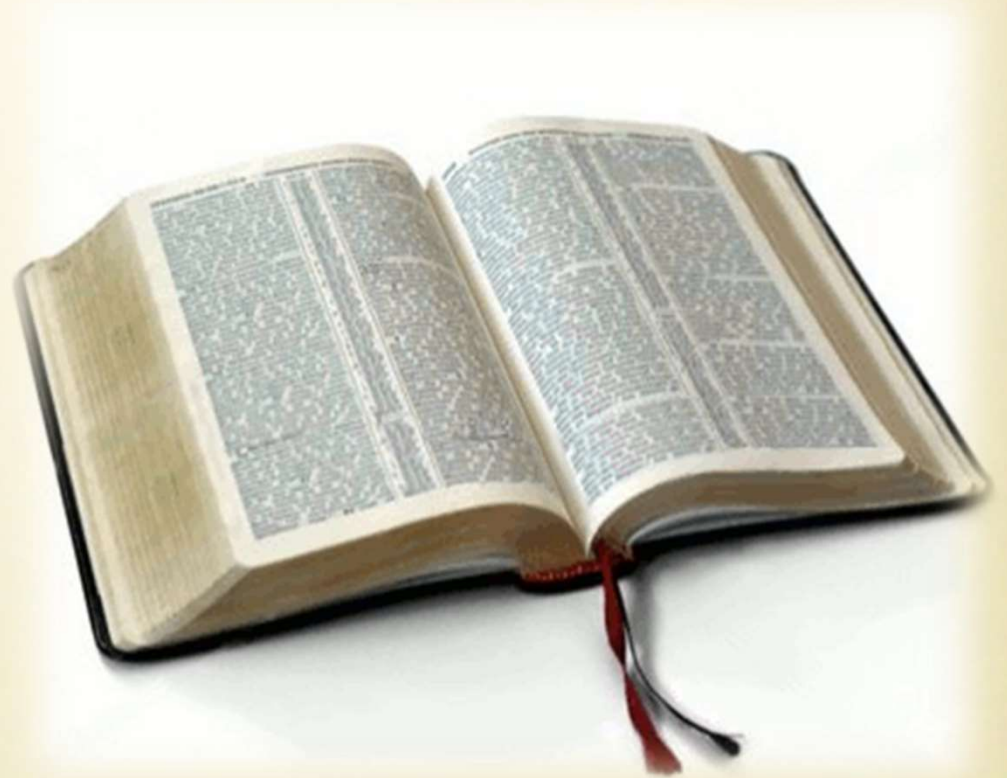
We Will

Discuss

**Pages
10-12**

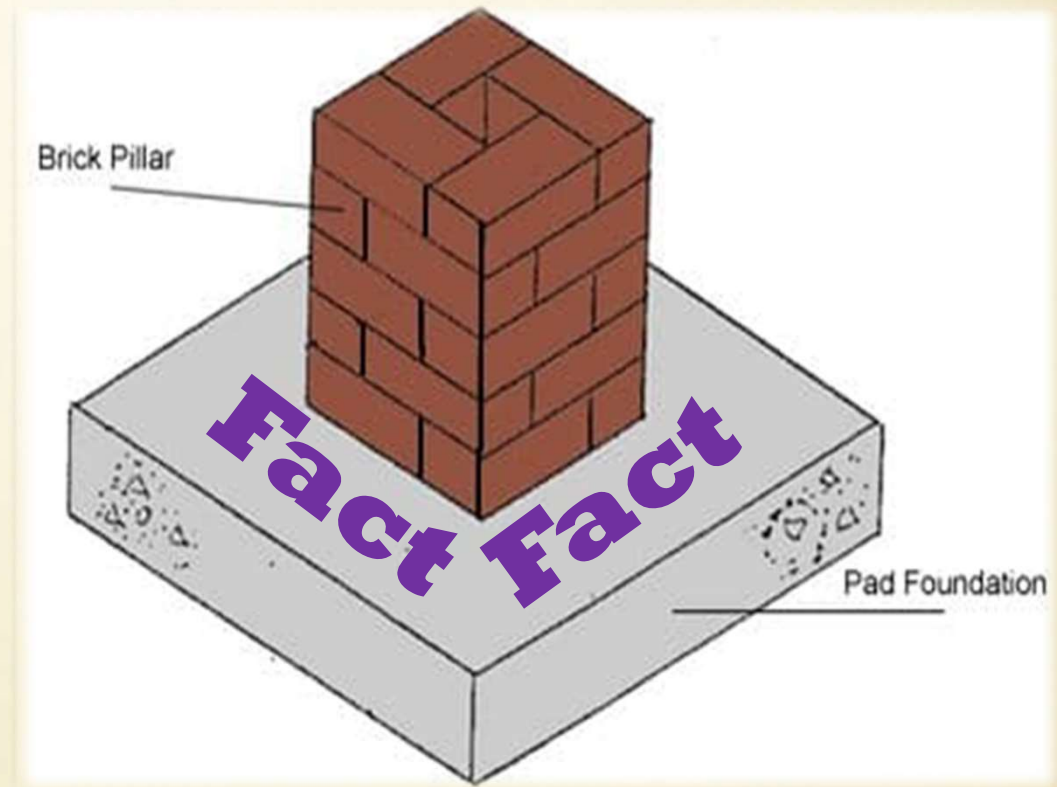


What Does Scriptural Mean?
Something
that is
supported by
or in
agreement
with what the
Bible teaches



What Is A Foundation?

**A principle or
fact upon
which
something
stands or is
supported**



Notice: the bricks won't stand unless they sit on top of the foundation

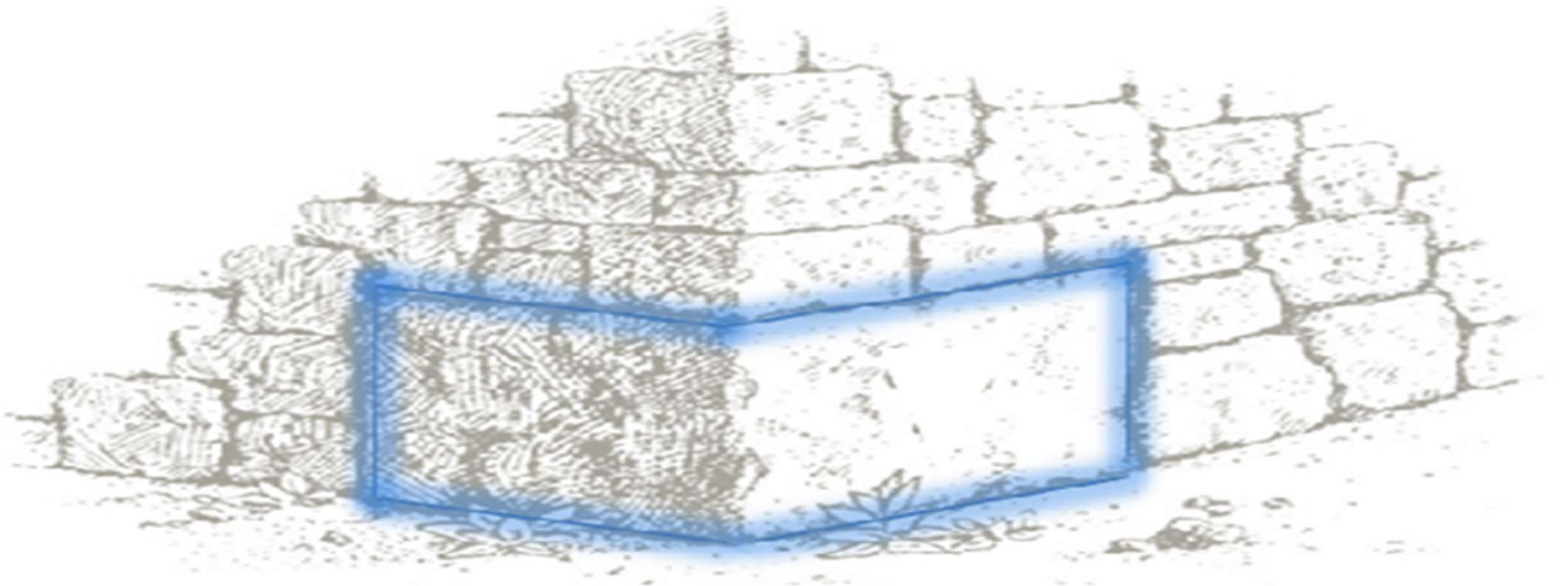
How Buildings Were Built In Bible Times

Step 1 – Builders dig until they find bedrock. Bedrock is a hard rock that is under most dirt surfaces.



How Buildings Were Built In Bible Times

Step 2 – Builders attach/lay a stone on the bedrock. This stone is called the Cornerstone. The whole weight & strength of this building rests on this Cornerstone.



How Buildings Were Built In Bible Times

Step 3 – Builders then lay stones on top of the Cornerstone & foundation to create the house.



No Building Or Institution Can Be Stronger
Than The Foundation On Which It Rests

A church is NO
DIFFERENT

Its stability depends upon
its foundation



The Scriptural Church Must Have The Scriptural Foundation

Otherwise, it would not be scriptural

No person can claim membership in the scriptural church unless that church stands upon the scriptural foundation

The Bible Says That CHRIST Is The Church's Foundation (also called Rock or Cornerstone)

Jesus promised to build his church
upon the fact that He is the Son of God
(Matt 16:18)

Therefore, the church in the bible is
founded ONLY on Christ
(Eph 2:20)

you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God

**Built on the
Foundation of the
Apostles and Prophets
Jesus Christ Himself being
the Chief Corner Stone**

Ephesians 2:20

Knowing-Jesus.com



Bad Assumption: Some have claimed the church is built upon Peter – WRONG!

Peter himself knew the church was built upon Christ, NOT himself.

**Let's listen to Peter's own Words to learn who Peter saw as the church's rock
(1 Peter 2:3-7)**

1 Peter 2:3-7

³now that you have tasted that the LORD is good.

⁴As you come to him, the living Stone-rejected by humans
but chosen by God and precious to him

⁵you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual
house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices
acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

⁶For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen
and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will
never be put to shame."

⁷Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those
who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has
become the cornerstone,"

This means that the church depends ONLY
on Christ's teachings which are found in
the word of God

**- 1 Corinthians 3:11 -
For no one can lay a
foundation other
than that which
is laid, which is**

JESUS CHRIST.

What About Institutions Founded Upon Men Instead Of Christ & His Word?

Examples:

1. 1521 -- Lutheran Church -- Martin Luther (Wittenburg, Germany)
2. 1534 -- Church of England (Episcopal) -- King Henry VIII (London, England)
3. 1541 -- Presbyterian Church -- John Calvin (Geneva, Switzerland)
4. 1607 -- Baptist Church -- John Smythe (London, England)
5. 1739 -- Methodist Church -- John Wesley (Oxford, England)
6. 1830 -- Mormons (Latter Day Saints) -- Joseph Smith (Fayette, N.Y.)
7. 1843 -- 7th Day Adventists -- William Miller, Ellen G. White (New York)
8. 1875 -- Christian Science -- Mary Baker Eddy (Boston, Massachusetts)
9. 1881 -- Jehovah Witness -- Charles Taze Russell (Pittsburg, Pennsylvania)
10. 1901 -- Pentecostal Church -- Charles⁶⁶ Parham / Agnes Ozman (Topeka, Kansas)

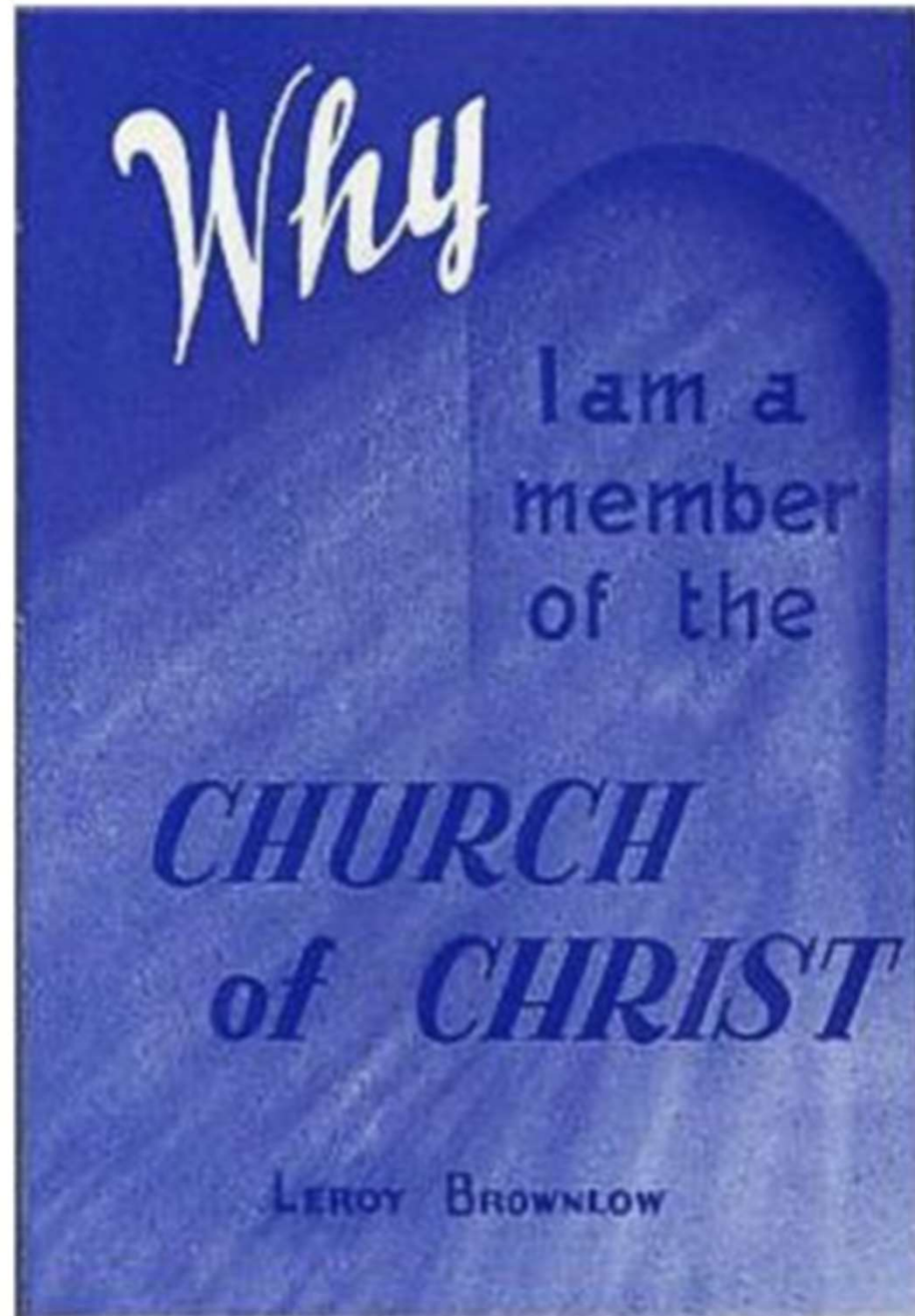
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

Next Week

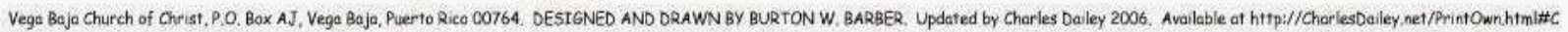
We Will

Discuss

**Pages
13-19**



2017



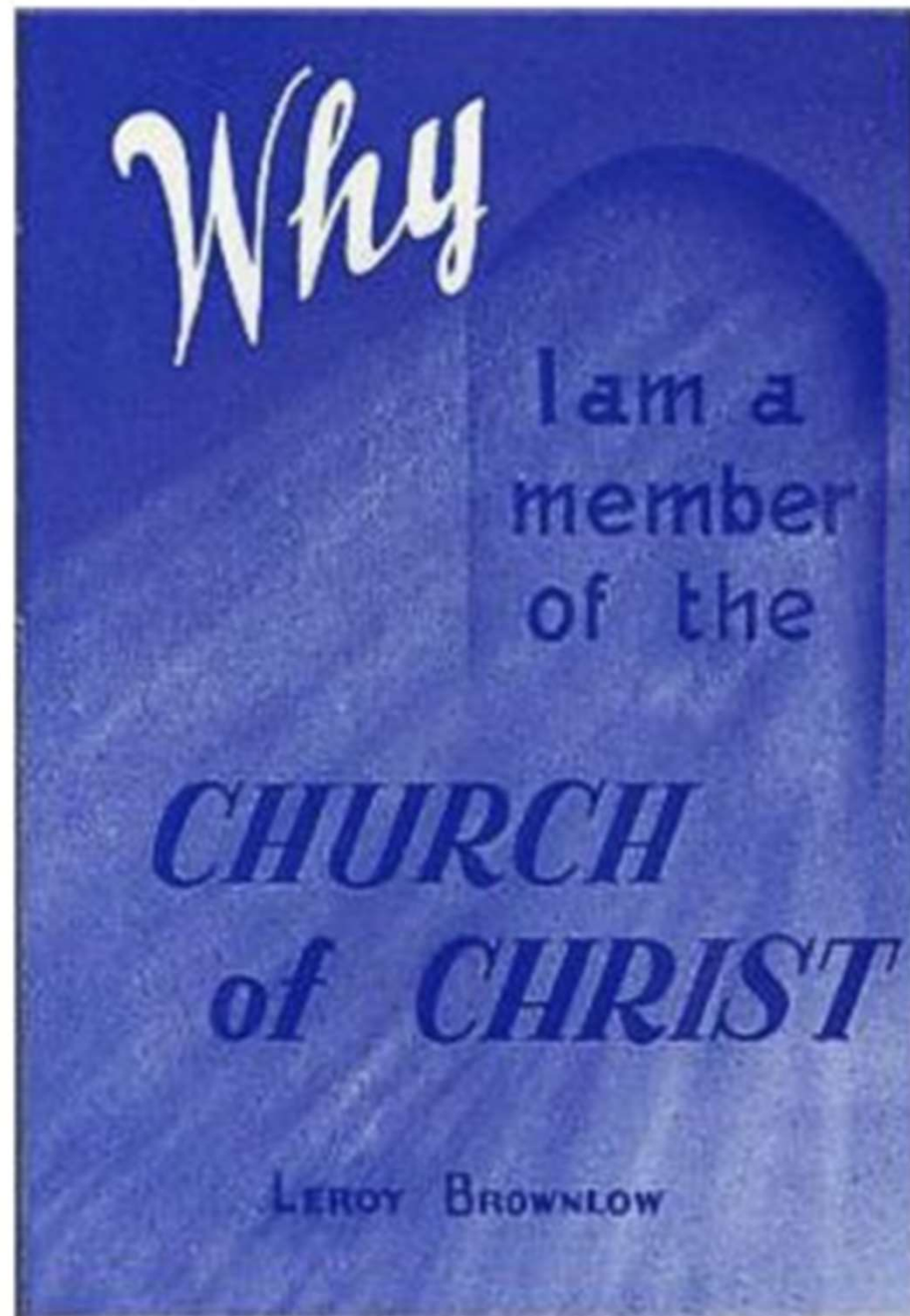
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

This Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
13-19**



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it was
founded at the
scriptural place -
Jerusalem

Because the church of
Christ started in Jerusalem
I can be confident that I
am a member of the
TRUE body of Christ

The prophets of the old
testament predicted that
the church (God's
kingdom) would start in
Jerusalem

Isaiah 2:2-3

²In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.

³Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Note: The same prophecy was made in Micah 4:1,2

We learn 3 things from Isaiah

1) God's (Jehovah) house would be established in Jerusalem

Paul tells us Jehovah's house is the church according (1 Tim 3:15)

We learn 3 things from Isaiah

2) Jehovah's house would
exalted and all nations will
flow to it.

Jesus tells us that the church is to be
shared in all nations in
Matthew 28:19

We learn 3 things from Isaiah

3) The time that this would all happen was in the latter days

The bible tells us that we are to be
guided by the words Jesus in the
last days

Hebrews 1:2

Zechariah 1:16 16

“Therefore this is what the LORD says: 'I will return to Jerusalem with mercy, and there my house will be rebuilt. And the measuring line will be stretched out over Jerusalem,' declares the LORD Almighty.

We learned this from Zechariah

He also prophesied that the
Lord's house would be
founded in Jerusalem

Jesus also proclaimed
Jerusalem will be the starting
place of his church in

Luke 24:46-49

Luke 24:46-49

46 Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day,

47 and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 And you are witnesses of these things.

49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry (wait) in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

What have we learned from Jesus

1) The disciples were to wait in Jerusalem for the start of the church

What have we learned from Jesus

2) Repentance and the
Remission of Sins were to be
preached in Jesus' name
starting in Jerusalem

What have we learned from Jesus

3) The disciples would be given power by the Holy Spirit as a sign of Jesus prophecy of the church's start was happening.

If Jesus' church started in Jerusalem, where did other churches start?

- 1. 1521 -- Lutheran Church -- Martin Luther (Wittenburg, Germany)**
- 2. 1534 -- Church of England (Episcopal) -- King Henry VIII (London, England)**
- 3. 1541 -- Presbyterian Church -- John Calvin (Geneva, Switzerland)**
- 4. 1607 -- Baptist Church -- John Smythe (London, England)**
- 5. 1739 -- Methodist Church -- John Wesley (Oxford, England)**
- 6. 1830 -- Mormons (Latter Day Saints) -- Joseph Smith (Fayette, N.Y.)**
- 7. 1843 -- 7th Day Adventists -- William Miller, Ellen G. White (New York)**
- 8. 1875 -- Christian Science -- Mary Baker Eddy (Boston, Massachusetts)**
- 9. 1881 -- Jehovah Witness -- Charles Taze Russell (Pittsburg, Pennsylvania)**
- 10. 1901 -- Pentecostal Church -- Charles⁸⁴ Parham / Agnes Ozman (Topeka, Kansas)**

These churches are built on the foundation of men not Christ

Churches (Denominations) Today

(No Biblical Authority for Teachings or Practices)

Names

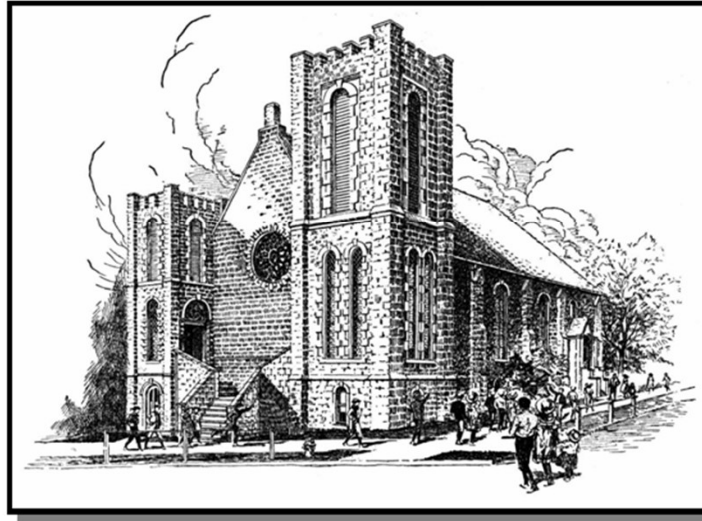
- Baptist
- Methodist
- Presbyterian
- Catholic
- Episcopal
- Lutheran
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormon)
- Seventh Day Adventist
- Jehovah's Witnesses

Organization

- Unqualified Elders and Deacons
- Deaconness
- Pope and Cardinals (Followed by Bishops and Priests)
- Clergy vs. Laity (Sometimes celibacy required of clergy)
- Gay and Lesbian Clergy
- Women Preachers
- Earthly Headquarters
- Pastor

Music

- Instrumental Music
- Special Choirs



Giving

- Tithing (Tenth)
- Not Weekly
- For Man-made Organizations

Lord's Supper

- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Twice a Year, or Once a Year
- Thursday Night
- Bread Only
- Only Priest Partake of Fruit of Vine

Baptism

- Sprinkling or Pouring
- Infant Baptism
- Not for Remission of Sins
- Holy Spirit Baptism

Eternity

- No Hell (Hell on Earth) or Hell Temporary
- Purgatory or Baptism for Dead
- Degrees of Heaven
- Degrees of Hell (Levels of Punishment)
- Not Until After 1,000 Year Reign of Christ on Earth

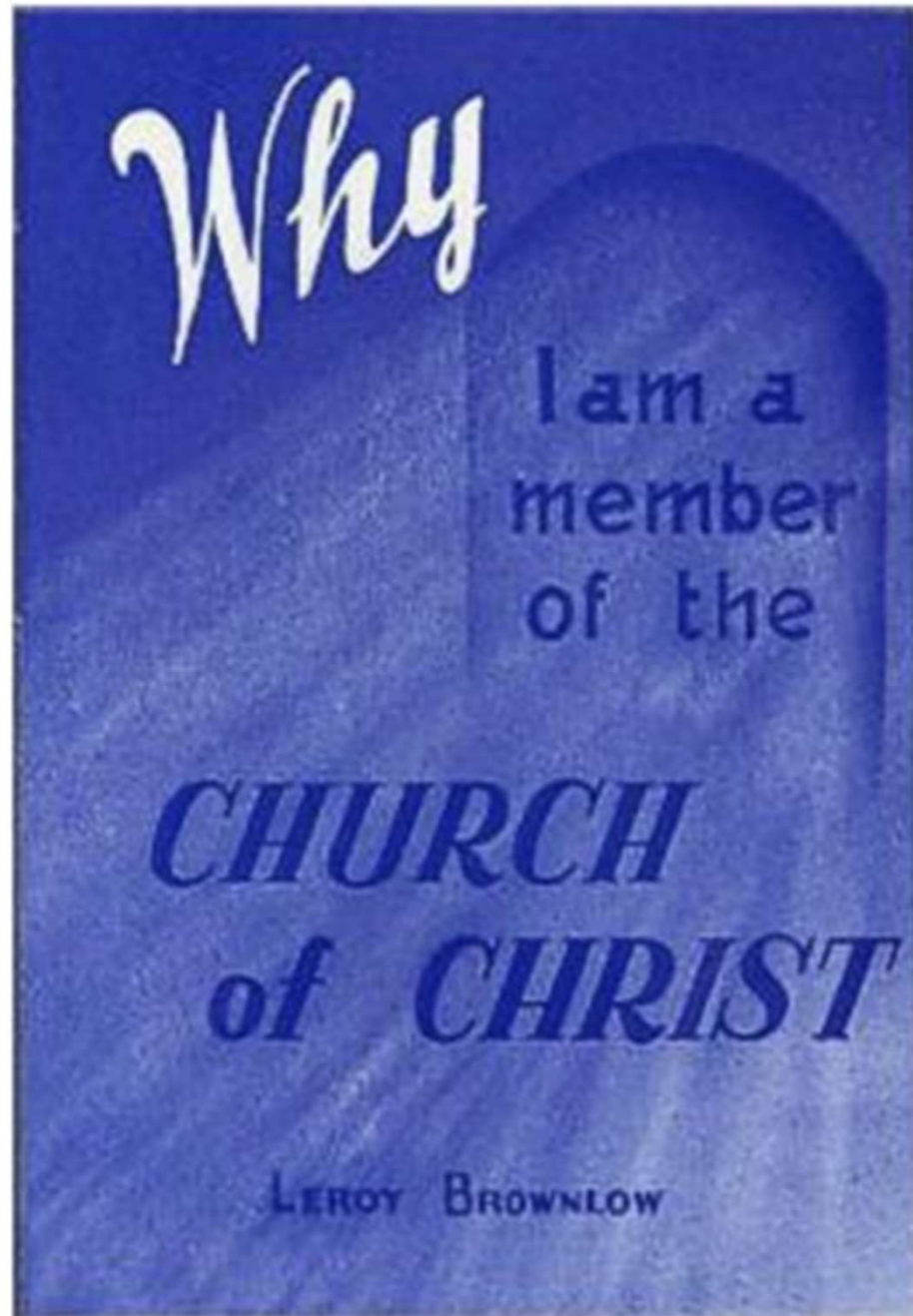
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
20-27**



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

**So Far We Have Studied The
Below Answers To This Question:**

Because it was founded by the scriptural builder	Christ
---	---------------

Because it was founded on the scriptural foundation	The Fact Christ Is The Son Of God
--	--

Because it was founded at the scripture place	Jerusalem
--	------------------

FULLNESS
OF CHRIST

Ep. 4:13

SPIRITUAL MATURITY

Hb. 6:1

UNITY

Jn. 13:34

EVANGELIZING

Ro. 10:14

SERVING

1 Jn. 3:18

WORSHIPPING

Jn. 4:23

FELLOWSHIPING

Hb. 10:25

DISCIPLINING

Mr. 28:20

PRESENCE

Ps. 27:4

CHRIST

Mt. 16:18; 1 Co. 3:11; Ep. 2:20

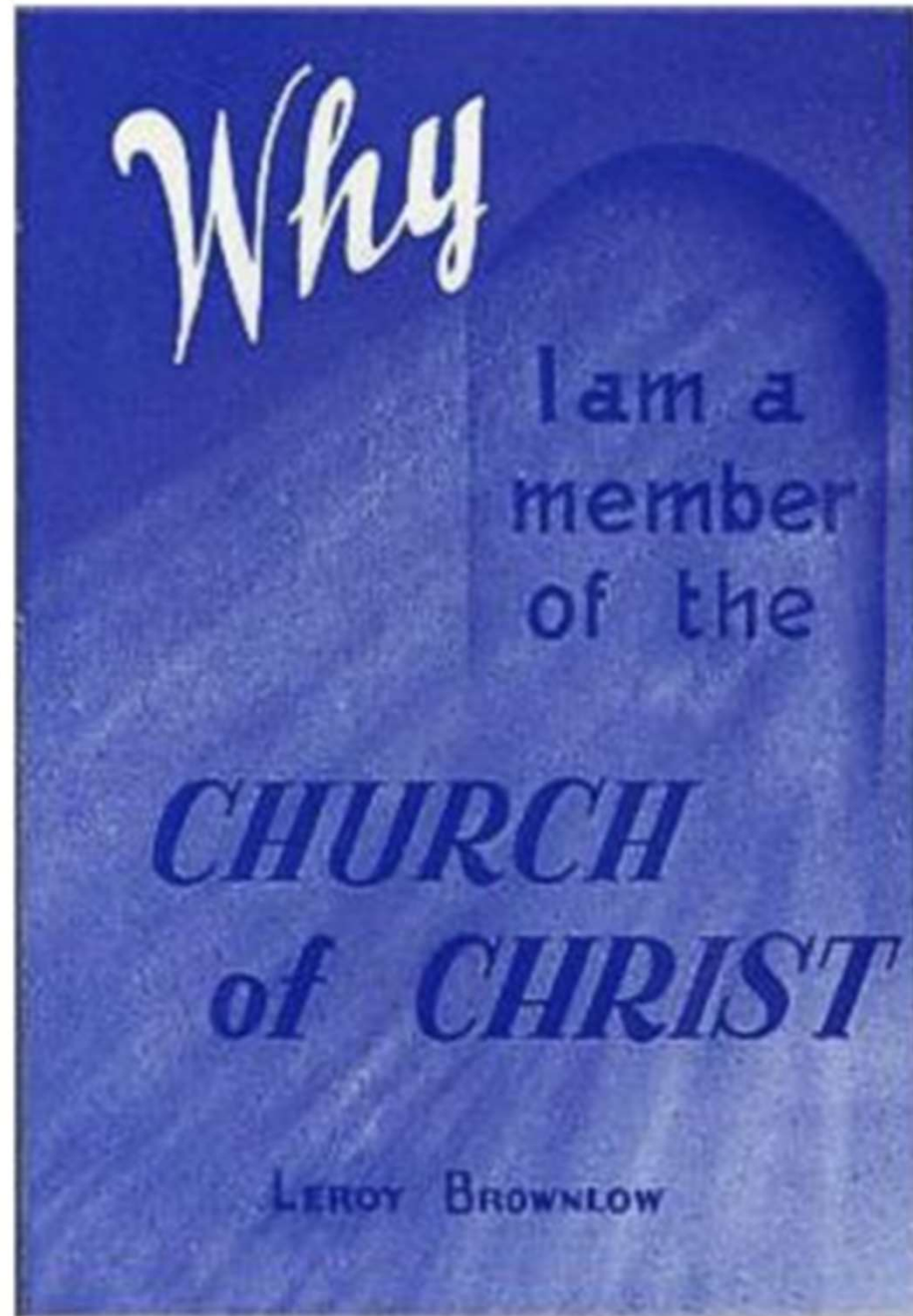
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

This Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
20 & 21**



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Today's Focus Answer To This Question:



Because it was founded at
the spiritual time –
Pentecost following the
resurrection of Christ

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it was founded
at the scriptural time –
**Pentecost Following
The Resurrection**

What Is Pentecost?

- * A holy feast that is celebrated during the third month of Sivan, **50 days AFTER** the Passover
- * Sivan falls within the secular months of May and June
- * Pentecost is also referred to as the Feast of Harvest, Feast of Weeks or the Feast of the First Fruits

Key Symbols

- | | |
|---|---|
| * The first fruit of the harvest that Israel was required to offer unto the Lord | * Leavening that Israel was instructed to use when making the bread |
| * 2 loaves of leavened bread baked with the flour from the first fruit of their harvest | * Priests that offered the loaves |

Reminder:

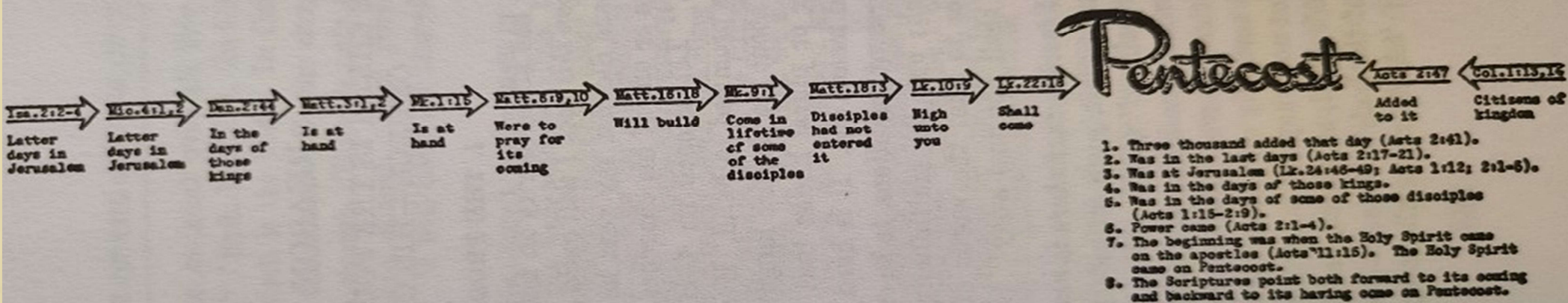
The Kingdom & The Church Are the SAME

THE TERMS USED INTERCHANGEABLY

Matthew 16:18–19 (NKJV)

¹⁸ And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock **I will build My church**, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ And I will give you **the keys of the kingdom** of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

Chart On Page 21 of your book



Scriptures Leading Up To Pentecost

Latter Days In Jerusalem – Isaiah 2:2-4

Latter Days In Jerusalem – Micah 4:1-2

In The Days Of Those Kinds – Daniel 2:44

Latter Days In Jerusalem – Isaiah 2:2-4

The Kingdom is at hand (almost here) – Matt 3: 1-2

The Kingdom is at hand (almost here) – Mark 1:15

Pray For The Kingdom To Come – Matt 6:9-10

Kingdom would arrive during the lifetime of some of the disciples – Mark 9:1

The disciples had not yet entered the Kingdom – Matt 18:3

The Kingdom is nigh (near) – Luke 10:9

96

The Kingdom shall arrive with power – Luke 22:18

Scriptures On Pentecost

About 3,000 souls added to the church – Act 2:41

Was in the last days – Act 2:17-21

Was at Jerusalem – Luke 24:46-49, Acts 1:12, Acts 2:1-5

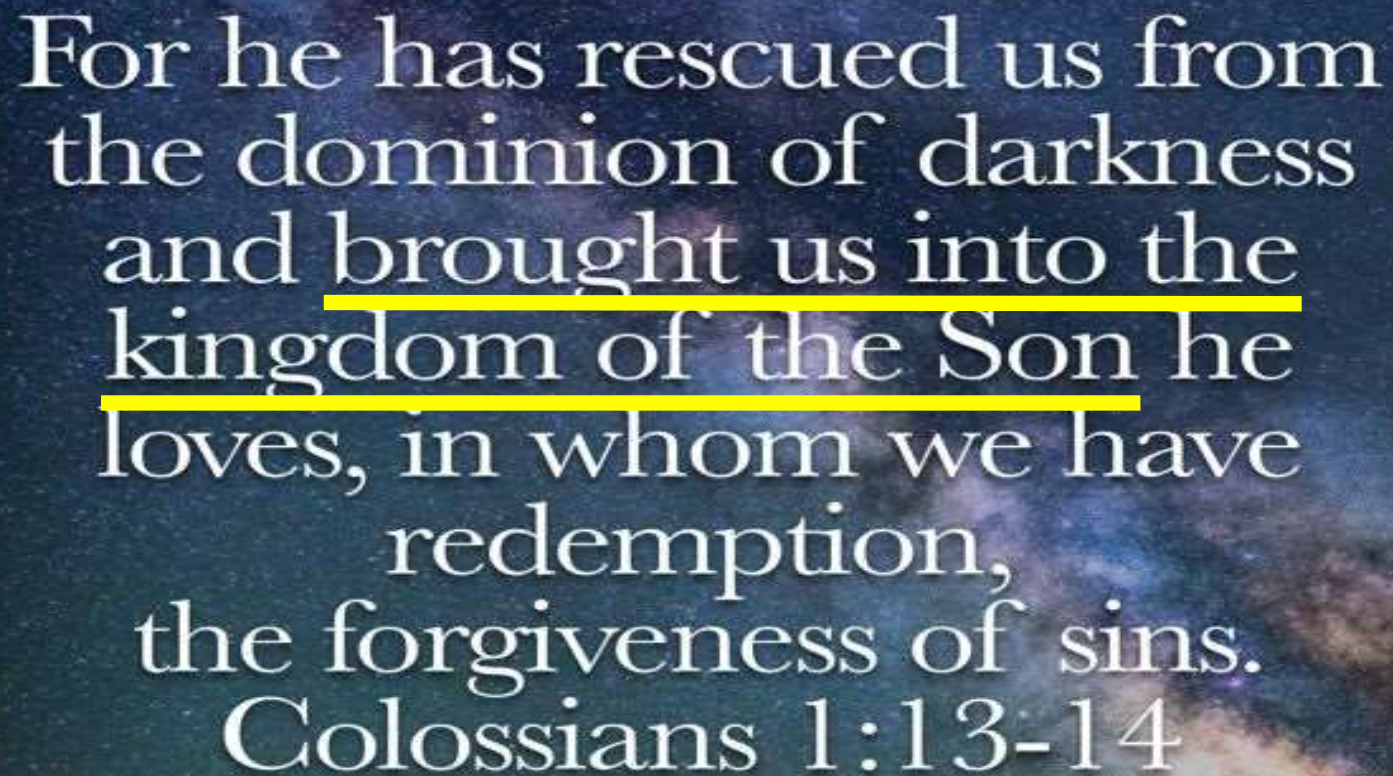
Was in the days of some of those disciples – Acts 1:15-2:9

Power came as predicted in Luke – Acts 2:1-4

The beginning is when the HS/Comforter came as promised in John – Acts 11:15

**Scriptures before and after Acts 2 point to this day
(The Pentecost after Christ's resurrection)**

Scriptures AFTER Pentecost



For he has rescued us from
the dominion of darkness
and brought us into the
kingdom of the Son he
loves, in whom we have
redemption,
the forgiveness of sins.
Colossians 1:13-14

Scriptures AFTER Pentecost



Our
CITIZENSHIP
IS IN HEAVEN

PHIL. 3:20-21

Scriptures AFTER Pentecost

Walk in a manner worthy of the God
who calls you into His own kingdom
and glory. (1 Thessalonians 2:12)



WHAT IS PENTECOST?



Pentecost (from the Greek word "Pentecoste" meaning "50th day") is the one of the most prominent feast days in the Christian calendar. It is often referred to as the **"birthday of the Church."**

It marks the day, nearly 2,000 years ago, when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, who had been living in fear for fifty days following the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday.

Emboldened by the Holy Spirit, the apostles set forth to tell all people in Jerusalem of the Resurrection. As they spoke in tongues given to them by the Holy Spirit, all nationalities present could understand them in their own mother tongue.

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ



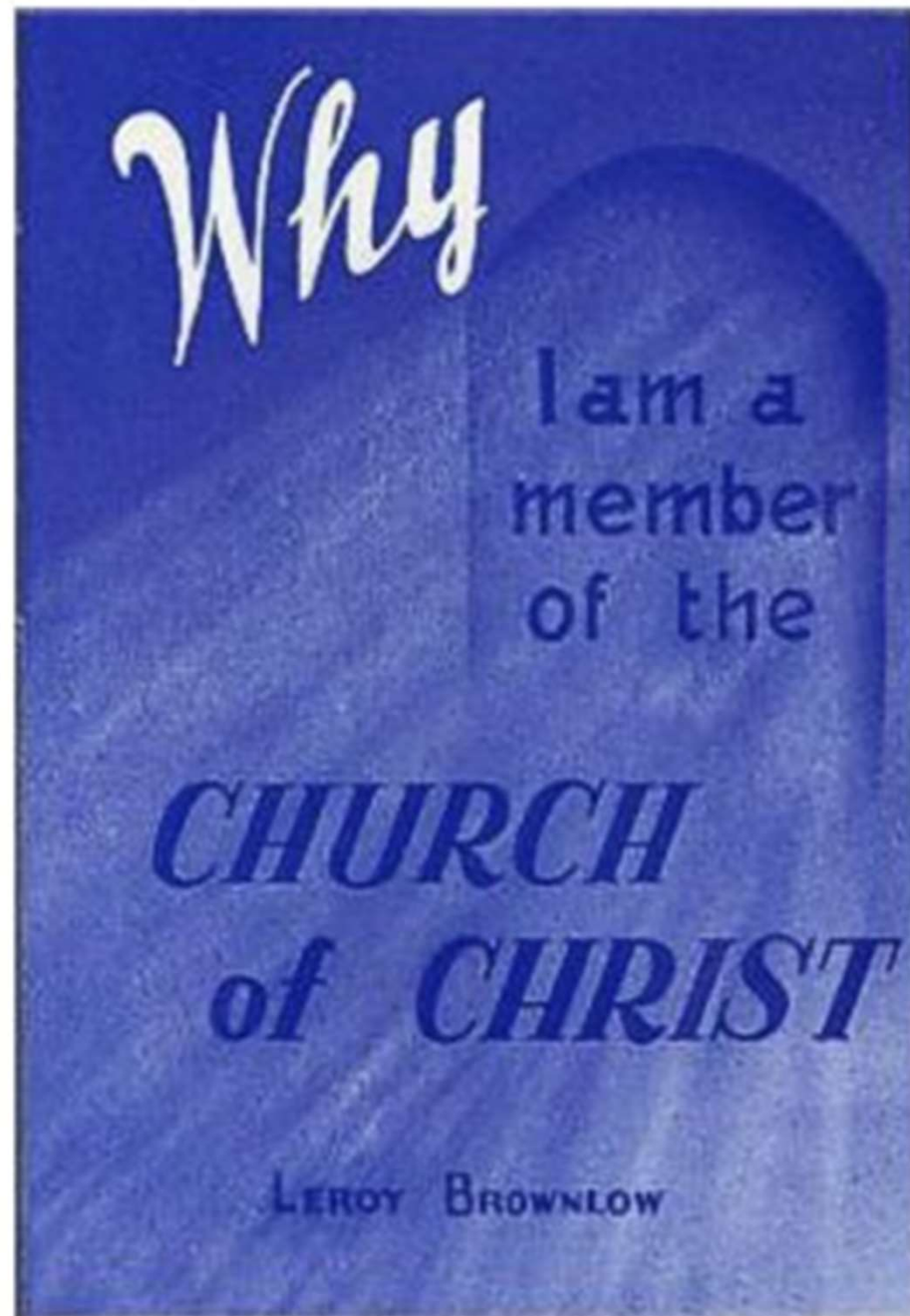
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
22-27**



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because Christ is the
Founder of ONLY
ONE church –
HIS CHURCH



Jesus said:

WILL BUILD MY CHURCH

AND THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT

Matthew 16:18



Knowing-Jesus.com

It is hard for many good people to
be convinced of the
ONENESS of the church

Just because there are many man
made churches today does not
cancel the words of Christ

Matthew 24:35 ASV

*Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my
words shall not pass away.*

Question:

Does The Bible
Say There Is
ONE CHURCH?

If so, where?

Paul says there is **ONE BODY** (Eph 4:4-6)

For there is **one body** and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father, who is over all and in all and living through all.

— Ephesians 4:4-6 NLT

Paul also says that **ONE
BODY** is the church
(Eph 1:22-23)

Ephesians 1:22-23

King James Version Bible

And hath put all things under his feet,
and gave him to be the head over all
things to the church, Which is his body,
the fulness of him that filleth all in all. ...

Paul say there is one church over and over again

1 Corinthians 12:20–22

King James Version Bible

But now are they many members, yet but one body. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of th...

For just as each of us
has one body with many
members, and these
members do not all have the
same function, so in Christ
we, though many, form one
body, and each member
belongs to all the others.

Romans 12:4-5



Jesus also refers to the oneness of the church



John 15:1-8

“I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you...”

1 Vinedresser (God) 1 Vine (Christ) & 1 Vineyard (church)



ONE Vine (Christ)

Note: Branches will be cut off the vine by God IF they don't make good fruit

ONE Vinedresser
(God)

Each Christian is a
branch
(branches produce fruit)

Think about it...

It is silly to think that a
branch will grow different
types of fruit:

Grapes, watermelon cucumber,
cantaloup, pumpkin, squash etc

This is another reason
denominations are wrong.

The Vine (Jesus) will not
grow branches that
produce DIFFERENT
types of fruit.

According to the bible:

There is no Baptist branch

There is no Methodist branch

There is no Episcopal branch

etc

The unity of the church is also presented in the Bible as the figure of a house or family

...I WRITE THAT YOU MAY KNOW HOW ONE OUGHT TO CONDUCT HIMSELF IN THE HOUSE OF GOD, WHICH IS THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD, THE PILLAR AND BASE OF THE TRUTH.

1 TIM. 3:15

We see in the bible a vivid picture of a family with God as Father, Christ as elder brother and all the saved as children

Romans 8:16–17 *"The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together."*

Other ways the bible explains
there is ONE CHURCH:

One Flock, One Shepherd (John 10:16)

One Body with Christ as the Head (Col 1:18)

Christ prayer to the Father that we might all be
ONE (John 17:20-21)

Why Do We Refer To Each Others As Members Of The Church? Because the bible does

1 CORINTHIANS 12:27

“Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.”



The ONENESS of the church shows through in this scripture as well as we look at the previous verse

1 Corinthians 12:26 KJV

And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.

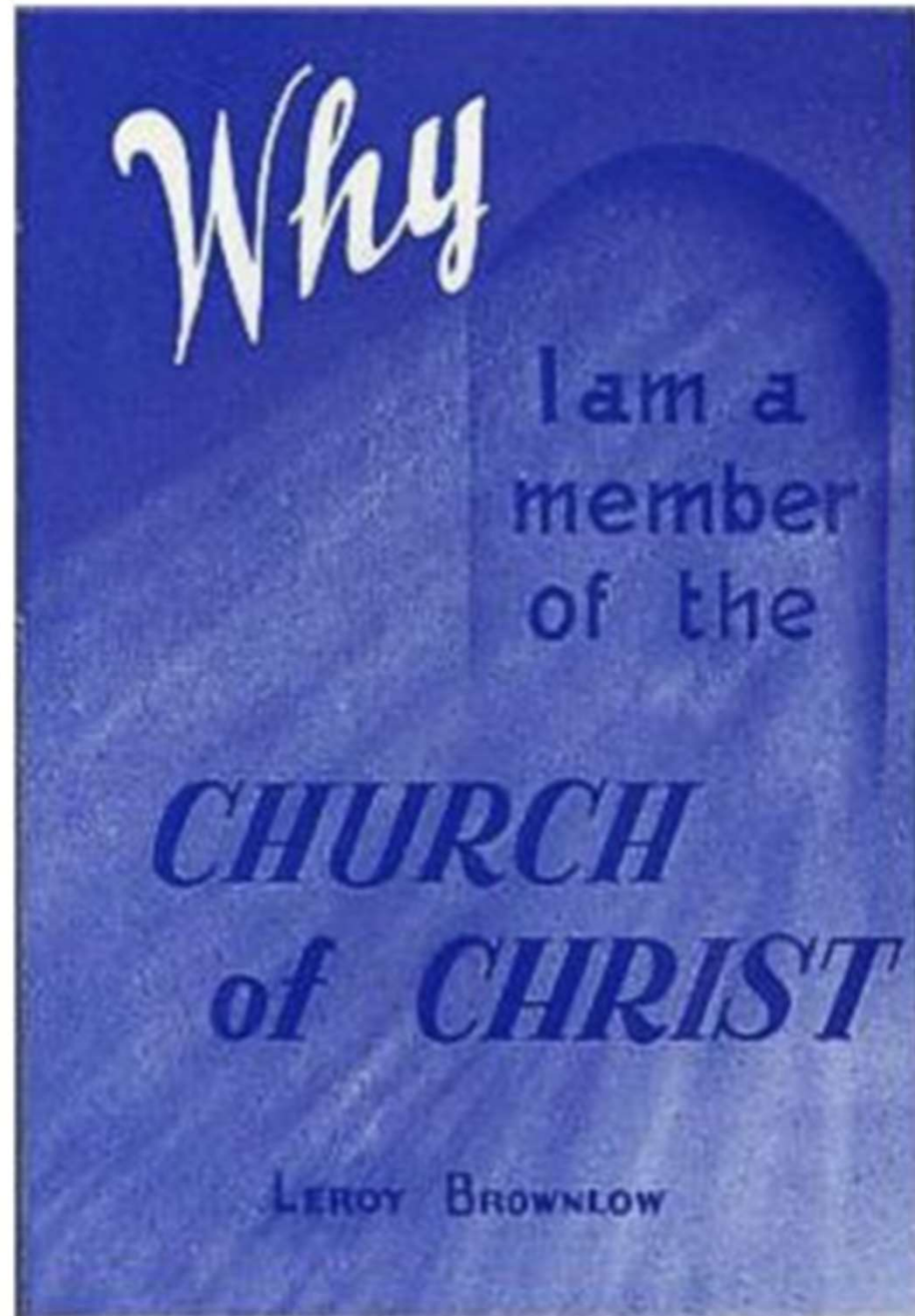
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
28-37**



Why I Am A Member of the
Church of Christ

Because It Is
Scriptural In
Name

Who Was The Word of God Given To & Why?

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:30-31

One Characteristic Of The True
Church Is The Name

What Members Call The church
Is Important

What Members Call
Themselves Is Important

What Members Call The church Is Important

There is much importance
attached to a name

(e.g. Jacob/Israel,
Abram/Abraham, etc)

Revelation

22:18-19

18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

What Members Call The church Is Important

It shows whether they are
followers of the Bible or not

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Recognize the pattern:

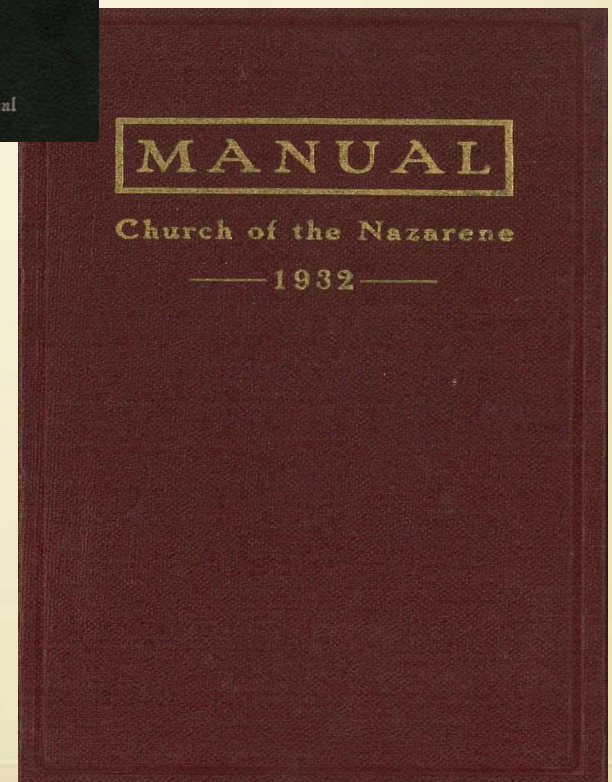
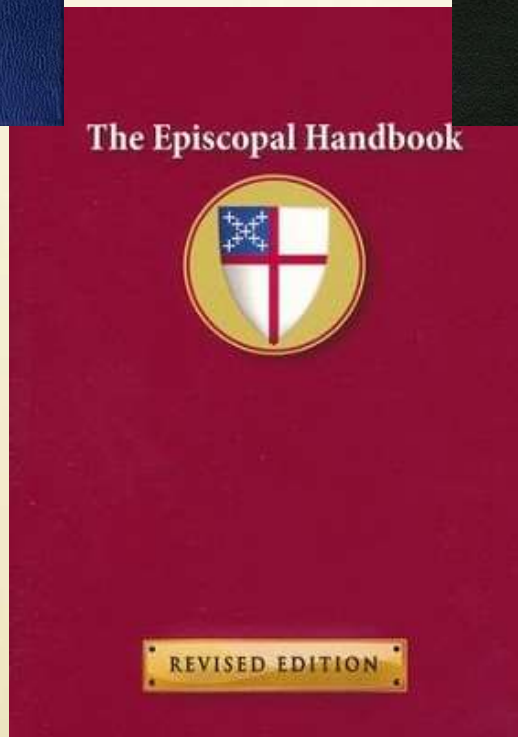
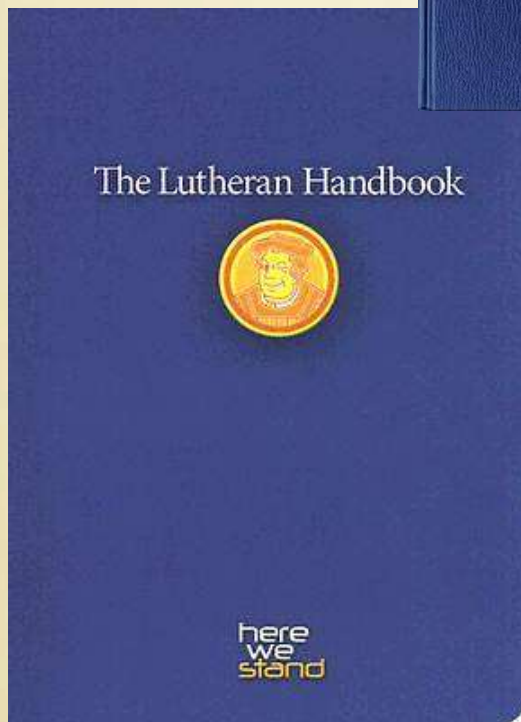
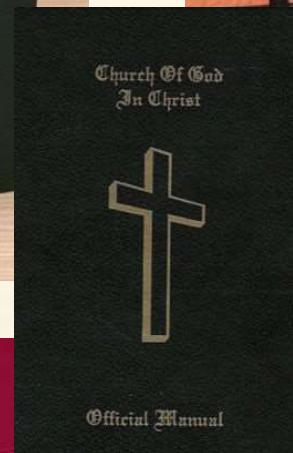
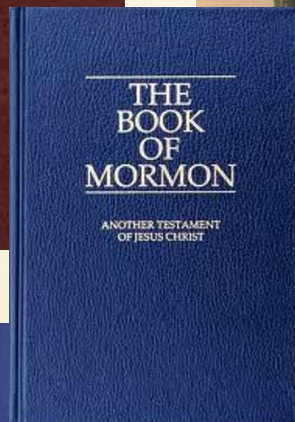
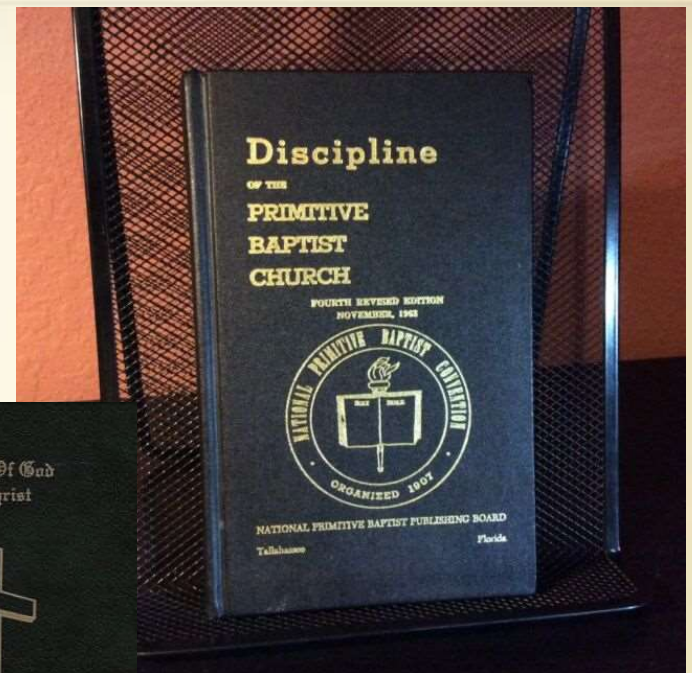
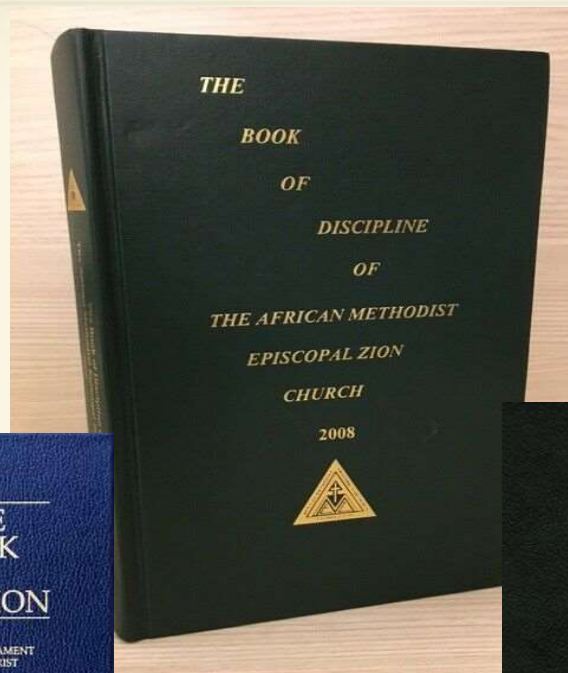
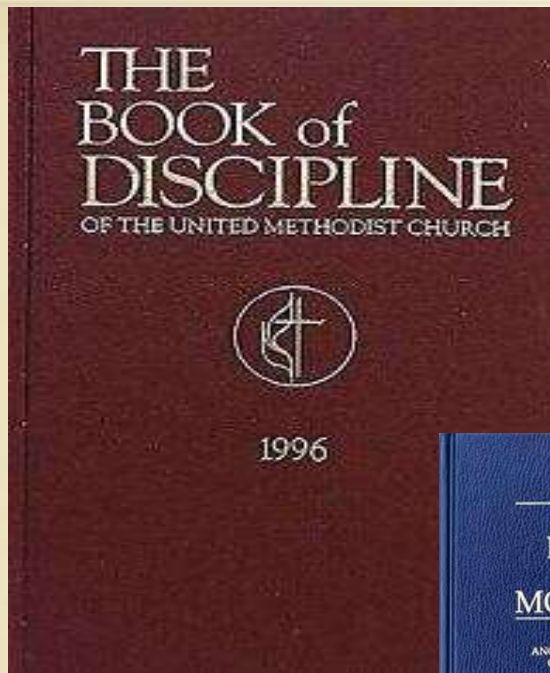
The bible often labels the church by its relationship with God or its Location



- ◆ "the church of God which is at Corinth" - (1 Cor. 1:2)
- ◆ "the church of the Thessalonians in God" - (1 Thess. 1:1).
- ◆ "the churches of Galatia" - (1 Cor. 16:1).
- ◆ "the churches of the saints" - (1 Cor. 14:33).
- ◆ "the churches of Christ" - (Rom. 16:16).
- ◆ "the churches" - (Acts 8:3; 15:41, etc., etc.).

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Description	Passage	Jesus	Relationship
"the church"	(Acts 8:3, etc.)	The One Who Calls	The Called Out
"the church of God"	(Acts 20:28)	Paid The Price	Purchased of God
"the body of Christ"	(1 Cor. 12:27)	Headship	Members
"the kingdom of God"	(Rom. 14:17)	Kingship	Citizens
"the family of God"	(1 Tim. 3:15)	Son	Children
"the temple of God"	(1 Cor. 3:16)	High Priest	Serve / Worship
"the church of the firstborn"	(Heb. 12:23)	Heir	Fellow Heirs



The members of the churches of
Christ speak of the church in
scriptural terms

We do not make up our own
names for the church that Jesus
built because it **HIS** church,
NOT OURS

How do we know what to call
ourselves?

We call ourselves what the bible
calls us

The word instructs us on who we
are, so we must listen to it

What does the bible us?
**By studying this we can identify
who is following the word or not.**

Name	Scripture
Disciples	Acts 20:7
Saints	1 Cor 1:2
Brethren	1 Cor 15:6
Sons of God	Rom 8:14
Children of God	1 John 3:1
Heirs of God	Rom 8:17
Priests	1 Peter 2:9
Christians	Act 11:26

The Name Members Call Themselves Is Important!

(1 Corinthians 1:14-15)

I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, **lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name.** (NKJV)

Why would Paul say this to the Christians at Corinth?

10 I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. **11** My

1 Corinthians

Chapter 1

you? Were you baptized in the name of the Lord? **14** I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, **15** so no one can say that you were baptized in my name. **16** (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas;

Paul proclaimed that it is
WRONG to call yourself

An “**Apollos – Christian**”

An “**Paul – Christian**”

An “**Cephas – Christian**”

There are **NO** divisions in Christ

So how could it be ok to call
people the names below?

An “Catholic – Christian”

An “Lutheran – Christian”


An “Presbyterian – Christian”

An “Methodist – Christian”

The church must be called what
the Bible calls it

Followers of Jesus must be
called what the Bible calls them

The Word was give for us to
follow



Salvation is found in no one else,
for there is no other name under heaven
given to mankind by which we must be saved.

Acts 4:12

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ



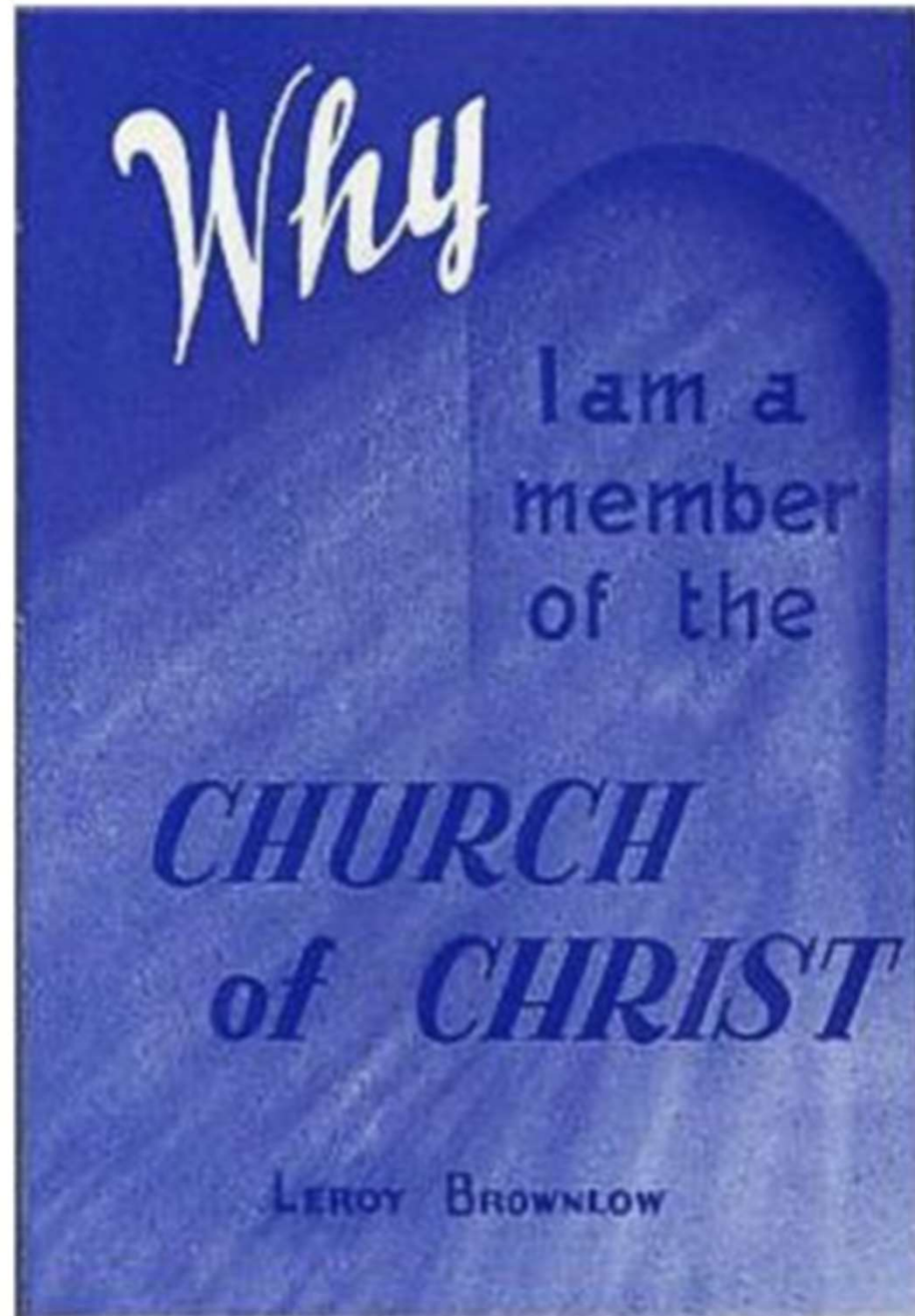
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
28-37**

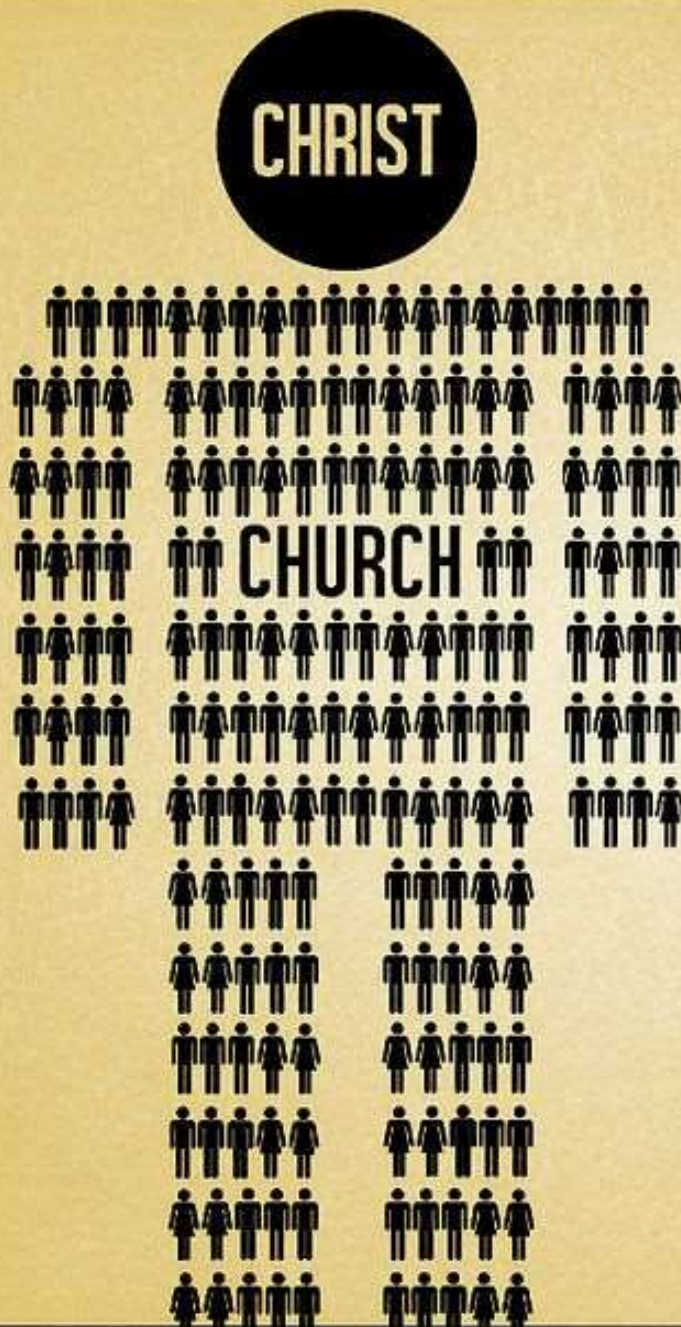


Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because is it
Scriptural In
Organization

This means its roles & hierarchy are defined only by the bible
In this lesson we will discuss the HEAD & ROLES of the church.

The church only has ONE Head



God placed all things
under his feet and
appointed Him to be
head over everything
for the church,
which is His body,
the fullness of Him
who fills everything
in every way.

Ephesians 1:22-23

Roles
In the
church

Ephesians 4:11-13

¹¹ It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹² to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

The Roles In The church

Apostle

Prophet

Elder

Evangelist

Teacher

Deacon*

The Roles In The church

There is no such thing as the role or title of “reverend”.
The bible says only God deserves reverence
(Psalm 111:9)

The Evangelist preaches on a regular basis, NOT the Elder/Pastor. His role is to train, correct & mature the church
(2 Tim 4:5, Titus 1:5)

*Unlike the other roles, Deacon is a role that is based in service and not necessarily edifying the church
(Acts 6:1-15)

Roles In The church – Apostle

Apostles – Jesus gave them the “keys of the kingdom,” and by the gift of his Spirit allowed them to be involved in the starting of his church (John 14:16, 17, 26; 15:26, 27; 16:7-15). To them, as representing his church, he gave the commission to “preach the gospel to every creature” (Matt. 28:18-20).

After his ascension he communicated to them, according to his promise, supernatural gifts to qualify them for the discharge of their duties (Acts 2:4; 1 Cor. 2:16; 2:7, 10, 13; 2 Cor. 5:20; 1 Cor. 11:2). Judas Iscariot, one of “the twelve,” fell by transgression, and Matthias was substituted in his place (Acts 1:21).

Saul of Tarsus was afterwards added to their number (Acts 9:3-20; 20:4; 26:15-18; 1 Tim. 1:12; 2:7; 2 Tim. 1:11).

Roles In The church – Apostle

Qualifications of the Apostle are listed below:

- An Apostle must have seen the resurrected Lord with his own eyes and been able to testify of him and of his resurrection from personal knowledge (John 15:27; Acts 1:21, 22; 1 Cor. 9:1; Acts 22:14, 15).
- It was essential that they should be unmistakably inspired by the Holy Spirit, which protected them against all error and mistake in their public teaching, whether by word or by writing (John 14:26; 16:13; 1 Thess. 2:13).
- An Apostle had the power to work miracles (Mark 16:20; Acts 2:43; 1 Cor. 12:8-11).

Roles In The church – Apostle

A) The Apostles therefore could have had no successors. They are the only authoritative teachers of the Christian doctrine.

B) The office of an apostle ceased with its first holders.

C) The need for the role of the Apostles is no more, because today Christians have the written word of God. (1 Cor 13:10, James 1:25)

D) In fact, Revelation 2:2 says that some have claimed that they are Apostles and have been found to be liars.

Roles In The church – Prophet

Prophets – The New Testament gives examples that there were prophets in the church. Our Lord is frequently spoken of as a prophet (Luke 13:33; 24:19). He was and is the great Prophet of the Church.

There was also in the church a distinct order of prophets who made new revelations from God.

- 1 Corinthians 12:28
- Ephesians 2:20; 3:5

The role of Prophet is different from that of teacher. Teachers share and explain truths already been revealed. The role of prophet reveals truths that previously had not been revealed

151

The role of prophet ended when prophecy ended.

Roles In The church – Prophet

Paul explains this in 1 Cor 13:8-10. **Prophecies would end when that which is “perfect” (God’s Word) was completed.**

- **James 1:23-25** explains that God’s Word is the perfect law of liberty.
- **Hebrews 1:1-2** say we are to listen to Christ now & not prophecy
- **Revelation 22:18-19** say don’t add or take away

Since prophecy has ceased, there are no prophets today.

Christians have the Word of God (the bible) to explain to them what God would have them to do.

Hebrews 1:1-2 shows that in these last days God spoke to man through Jesus, who is the Word of God (John 1:14).

**Prophecy is like
scaffolding.**

**Scaffolding is only
needed when building
the house.**

**It's no use after the
house is completed**



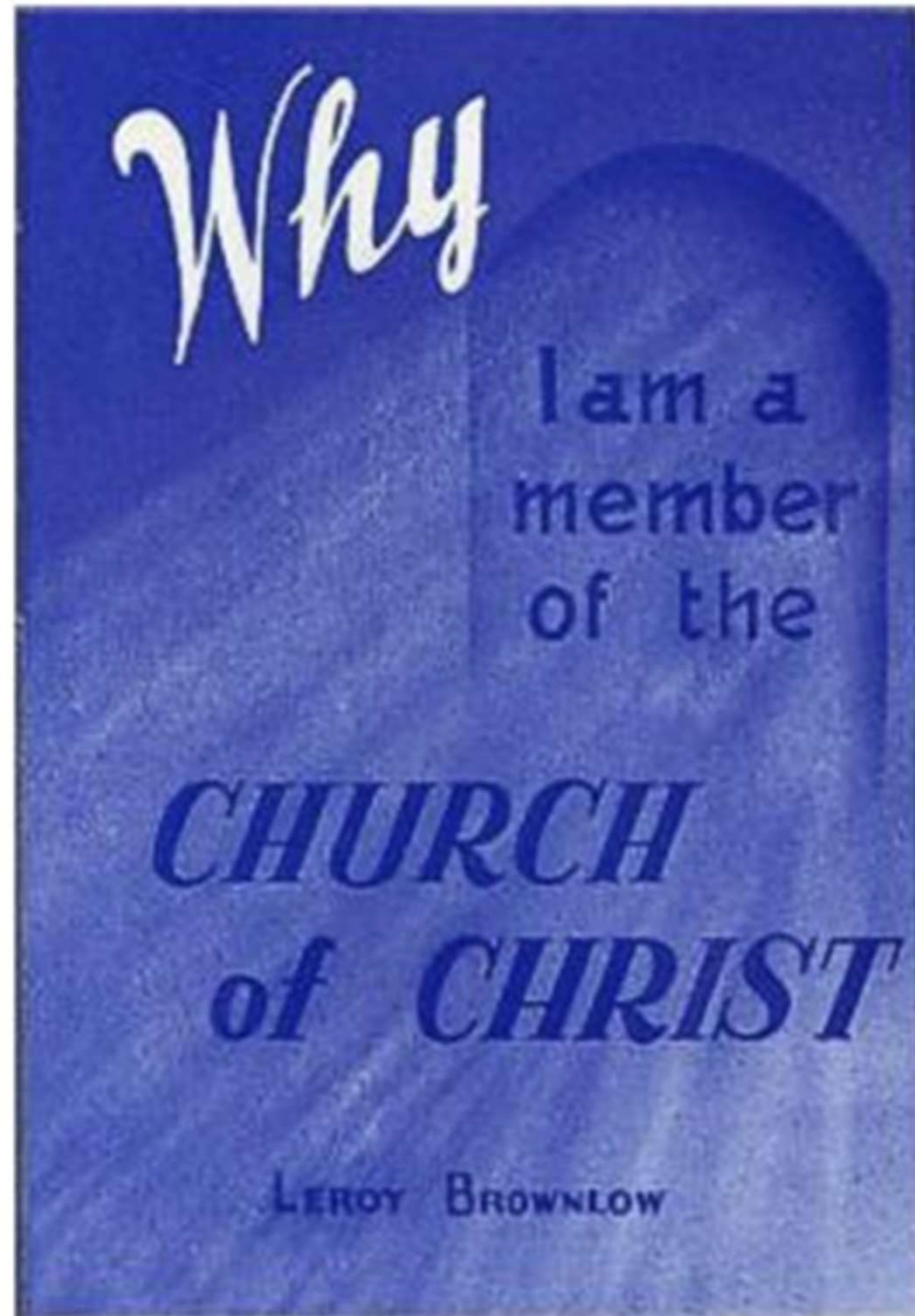
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
28-37**



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because is it Scriptural In Organization – Part II

In this lesson we will discuss the roles of:
Elders

Roles In The church – Elder

Elder –

- The Bible states that elders are those who have the responsibility of overseeing the church. As given by biblical example (Titus 1:5) each local congregation is to ordain (appoint) qualified elders to lead the flock.
- An elder only has authority at the congregation where he has been appointed.
- Prior to the church's existence, this term often was used when referring to an assembly of wise older men in a city or community (Luke 22:66, Acts 22:5). However, after the birth of the church the term was given to denote a specific role in the church. One important fact is that Elders are accountable to God for being an example and guiding the congregation (Heb 13:17, 1 Pet 5:1,2).
- Most importantly, the **qualifications for Elders are listed in 1 Timothy 3:1-6**. Man does not have the authority to change or ignore any of these qualifications.

Roles In The church – Elder

In the Bible, Elders are also known as:

- **Bishop** – this term indicates the type of work being undertaken. It is reference to the duty that lay upon him which is to supervise the congregation (Titus 1:5-7; Acts 20:17-28; Phil. 1:1). [Greek: episcopos].
- **Pastor** – this word literally mans “a shepherd”, one who tends or herds a flock . This is used metaphorically of Christian “pastors,” Eph 4:11. **A Pastor is NOT a Preacher/Evangelist.** The Bible distinguishes these two roles as totally separate. Although there is nothing wrong with an Elder preaching the Word, it is NOT his main/sole responsibility. There is much more to overseeing the congregation than preaching, just like there is much more to being a shepherd than merely feeding the flock. The flock must be protected, disciplined, etc
- **Presbyters** - (1 Timothy 4:14)
- **Overseers or Shepherds** (Acts 20:28)

Roles In The church – Elder

No matter which title a person in this role is commonly known as in a congregation – he is still your brother in Christ.

A person in this position is to be honored (1 Tim 5:17), but never worshipped or set higher than others in the church.

In fact, these men are called brother in casual conversation like everyone else.

Roles In The church – Elder

1. While it is true that some congregations existed for a time with no elders, no congregation ever existed in the bible with only 1 elder (Acts 20:17, Acts 11:30, Acts 14:23, Eph 4:11, Tit 1:5)
2. Based on the bible's example, each congregation is independent and self-governing.
3. Therefore, an elder was only ordained to oversee 1 congregation.

Roles In The church – Elder

KEEP IN MIND

**The man wanting to be an Elder is ALREADY DOING
THE WORK OF AN ELDER**

**The man's willingness to serve God should not
solely depend on if he is ordained as an Elder**

A man can STILL serve God even if he is not an Elder

Roles In The church – Elder

Qualifications Explained – 1 Tim 3:1

This is a true saying, If a man **DESIRE** the office of a bishop, he **DESIRES** a good work.

Desire in this scripture's context means:
Craving something to the extend that one is willing
to put forth much effort to get it.

These men do not crave the honor of being an Elder,
but they crave to do the WORK of an Elder.

To qualify requires DESIRE + WORK

Roles In The church – Elder

Qualifications Explained – 1 Tim 3:2

A bishop then must be blameless

The word **MUST** is the same Greek word used in Acts 16:30 (What must I do to be saved)

It means Necessity or Strict Requirement

The word **BLAMELESS** means

The man must live in a way that no accusation of impure motives, or of bad conduct, or of unsound teaching can be proved by any accuser.

Roles In The church – Elder

Qualifications Explained – 1 Tim 3:2
the husband of one wife

By This Requirement We Know:

The man must not be a polygamist (have multiple wives)

The man must not be an adulterer

The man must have a wife

The person must be man

Roles In The church – Elder

Does an Elder become disqualified upon the death of his wife?

1. This same question may also be asked related to this children. If his children die does he now become disqualified?
2. To have a wife or children is NOT a moral or character requirement. And if after he acquires this experience of how to be a husband to a wife or father this children, does he lose that experience after they die? **Surely not!**
3. The wife is a protection, guard and helper to the Elder. If she dies the Elder himself may be come less effective.

Answer: NO he does not become disqualified when his family dies, but it is wise for him to step down as his effectiveness is hindered. Most importantly, he CAN still continue to serve God without the office!

Roles In The church – Elder

Qualifications Explained – 1 Tim 3:2
vigilant

Vigilant:

The man must watch over himself, his life AND the flock.
And not easily grow weary or discouraged in doing so.

Acts 20:28 - Take heed therefore unto yourselves,
and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost
hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God,
which he hath purchased with his own blood.

Roles In The church – Elder

Qualifications Explained – 1 Tim 3:2
sober, of good behavior

Sober:

Having self control, not excitable, rash and able to exercise good judgement in tough circumstances.

Of Good Behavior:

The man should be polite. He should not be sour or rude.
He should live a well ordered life

Roles In The church – Elder

Qualifications Explained – 1 Tim 3:2
given to hospitality, apt to teach

Given to hospitality:

Hospitable, generous to guests, neighborly and kind
Willing to welcome people into the home

Apt to teach:

Able to teach and skillful in doing so. He must be
knowledge of the bible well enough to teach it effectively

*Titus 1:9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able
by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.*

Roles In The church – Elder

Qualifications Explained – 1 Tim 3:3
not given to wine, no striker

Not given to wine:

The man should not be a drunkard, abuser of alcohol

No striker:

Not a bruiser, ready to fight, contentious, quarrelsome,
quick tempered nor violent

Roles In The church – Elder

Qualifications Explained – 1 Tim 3:3
not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient,

Not greedy of filthy lucre:

Not a money lover, not stingy, not willing to engage in
wrong doings to attain money, trustworthy

1 Tim 6:10 - For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

But patient:

Equitable, fair, mild, gentle, considerate and willing to
yield, longsuffering and able to extend mercy

Roles In The church – Elder

Qualifications Explained – 1 Tim 3:3
not a brawler, not covetous;

Not a brawler:

Not noisy, fussing and prone to fight. This disqualifies men who are always brawling with their own family or others

Not covetous:

Not loving money or possess with an excessive desire to gain something. Not jealous, envious or ruled by a desire to “keep up with the Jones's”

Roles In The church – Elder

Qualifications Explained – 1 Tim 3:4

One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;

One that ruleth well his own house:

To be over, to preside over all persons of the household forming a family. He must be able to manage well his dependents, private affairs and belongings. This includes being a good steward over his time, money and talents in the house hold

His wife should not rule over him

Roles In The church – Elder

Qualifications Explained – 1 Tim 3:4

One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;

One that ruleth well his own house:

To be over, to preside over all persons of the household forming a family. He must be able to manage well his dependents, private affairs and belongings. This includes being a good steward over his time, money and talents in the house hold.

His wife should not rule over him

Children in the house should respect & be obedient to him

Roles In The church – Elder

4. Can a congregation be scriptural without Elders?

- a) Yes we find congregations in the bible existing without elders (Acts 14:21-23, Titus 1:5)
- b) Paul established a congregation in Philippi composed of women only (Acts 16:12-15) and we know that women cannot be Elders
- c) New congregations composed of babes in Christ don't have men qualified to be Elder or Deacons
- d) In such cases is better to be **scripturally unorganized** than to become **unscripturally organized**. When there's no Elders, the Evangelist leads in order to grow men who may qualify as seen in Timothy

Roles In The church – Elder

4. What is the minimum age for an Elder? Can someone 30 years old qualify?

- a) While no specific age is given in the Scriptures, the minimum age of the proposed elder is determined by the qualifications.
- b) All biblical references to Elders indicate they were men of age and experience, NOT necessarily OLD MEN.
- c) Elder refers to age in the faith not age on this earth.
- d) The word Elder means OLDER not oldest.

Roles In The church – Elder

Does an man have to have “children” to be an Elder?

1. When an elder, will the man oversee multiple people or just one?
2. When an elder, will the man have to know how to get people to get along and have harmony?
3. When an elder, will the man have to help settle disputes and maintain peace?
4. Does “children” mean more than one?

Answer: Yes according to the scripture, the elder must have more than one child. Raising multiple children in the household provides the elder a higher variety of experience in dealing with people. The man who only has one child STILL CAN serve God though. Just not in this office.

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because is it Scriptural In Organization – Part III

In this lesson we will discuss the roles of:
Evangelist

Roles
In the
church

Ephesians 4:11-13

¹¹ It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹² to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

The Roles In The church

Apostle

Prophet

Elder

Evangelist

Teacher

Deacon*

The Roles In The church

There is no such thing as the role or title of “reverend”.
The bible says only God deserves reverence
(Psalm 111:9)

The Evangelist preaches on a regular basis, NOT the Elder/Pastor. His role is to train, correct & mature the church
(2 Tim 4:5, Titus 1:5)

*Unlike the other roles, Deacon is a role that is based in service and not necessarily edifying the church
(Acts 6:1-15)

Roles In The church – Evangelist

Evangelists - One who proclaims a message [Greek: Keruso].

- According to the Bible, Evangelists had neither the authority of an apostle, nor the gift of prophecy, nor the responsibility of pastoral supervision over a congregation.
- They were preachers, having it as their special function to carry the gospel to places where it was previously unknown, while also “setting things in order (Titus 1:5)” for congregations that were not yet organizationally mature.
- The work of the Evangelist is a vast responsibility. This role is often misunderstood and therefore the person in this role is often limited to doing only part Evangelist’s work. Paul encouraged Timothy, whom he had left at Ephesus, to do the work of an Evangelist” (2 Tim 4:5).

Roles In The church – Evangelist

The below listed work of the Evangelist is listed in 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy and Titus:

- Preach (2 Timothy 4:1-8)
- Train (2 Timothy 2:2)
- Discipline (Titus 3:10)
- Set things in Order (Titus 1:5)
- Defend the Gospel (2 Timothy 1:13)

Roles In The church – Evangelist

Depending on the make-up and maturity of each congregation, some of these Evangelist duties may not be needed. (e.g. a mature congregation with well established elders may not need the evangelist to focus on Discipline). The evangelist fills whatever the congregation's needs are in order to prepare the saints for work (Ephesian 4:11-13).

In the bible, the Evangelist is also called:

- Minister - This word has been used to describe the function of an Evangelist which is to convey a message or handle a responsibility. 1 Thessalonians 3:2, Colossians 1:7, Colossians 4:7
- Preacher - Romans 10:14, 1 Timothy 2:7, 2 Timothy 1:11

Examples of Evangelists: (2 Tim 4:5, Eph 4:11, Acts 21:8)

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because is it Scriptural In Organization – Part IV

In this lesson we will discuss the roles of:
Teachers

Roles
In the
church

Ephesians 4:11-13

¹¹ It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹² to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

The Roles In The church

Apostle

Prophet

Elder

Evangelist

Teacher

Deacon*

Roles In The church – Teacher

Teachers – Listed in Ephesians and 1 Corinthians, men and women teachers are a very important part of the church.

- Many in the church fit this category of service to the Lord. From the Sunday school teachers, to those who perform in home Bible studies. The word of God must be taught and studied.
- Teachers are given no Bible authority over the congregation. Their job is just to share the Word of God.
- The role is to teach for the Word of God is to be used for doctrine, reproof (to use as supporting evidence), correction and instruction in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16). This is act of teaching is borrowed from Timothy to illustrate how the Word should be used to teach.

Teachers are simply called brother or sister. No special title is needed or required to address this person

Roles In The church – Teacher

James 3:1-2

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.

For we all stumble in many ways.

And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body.

Roles In The church – Teacher

Romans 12:6-7

Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them:

if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving;

the one who teaches, in his teaching;

Roles In The church – Teacher

Colossians 3:16

**Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
teaching and admonishing one another in
all wisdom,**

**singing psalms and hymns and spiritual
songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to
God.**

Roles In The church – Teacher

Romans 2:21

You then who teach others, do you not
teach yourself?

**While you preach against stealing, do you
steal?**

Roles In The church – Teacher

Titus 2:3-5

3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;

4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,

5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

Roles In The church – Teacher

Acts 18:18-28

Pricilla and Aquilla teach Apollos

Acts 18:18-28

Pricilla and Aquilla teach Apollos

A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent.

1 Timothy 2:11-12

Why we do not have Women teaching
Adult bible classes
But the scriptures authorize women to
teach children



2. The Bible is absolute truth

2 Timothy 4:3-4 (NKJV)

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because is it Scriptural In Organization – Part V

In this lesson we will discuss the roles of:
Deacons

Roles In The church – Deacon

Deacon – this is the Greek word diaconos, meaning a “runner,” “messenger,” “servant.”

- The term “deacon” occurs in only two passages in the (Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:8–13). But the Greek word diaconos from which it is taken is found 30 times.
- In most cases diaconos, is translated as “servant” rather than “deacon.” In the Greek world, diaconos, was used to describe the work of a servant—a person who waited on tables, etc.
- Deacons are officially recognized as having a role in the church by their **qualifications listed in 1 Timothy 3:8-12**.
- Deacons must be some of the most dedicated servants of the Lord, proving their dedication through their home and community life.

Roles In The church – Deacon

1 Timothy 3:8-12

⁸In the same way, deacons are to be worthy of respect, not double tongued, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. ⁹They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience.

¹⁰They must first be tested; and then if they prove blameless, let them serve as deacons. ¹¹In the same way, their wives are to be worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything. ¹²A deacon must be faithful to his wife and must manage his children and his household well.

Roles In The church – Deacon

1 Timothy 3:8-12

⁸In the same way, deacons are to be **worthy of respect**,

Worthy of Respect

This term normally refers to something that is honorable, dignified, esteemed, or worthy, and is closely related to “respectable,” which is given as a qualification for elders (1 Tim. 3:2).

Roles In The church – Deacon

1 Timothy 3:8-12

⁸not double tongued,

Those who are double-tongued say one thing to certain people but then say something else to others, or say one thing but mean another.

They are two-faced and insincere.

Their words cannot be trusted, so they lack credibility.

Roles In The church – Deacon

1 Timothy 3:8-12

⁸not indulging in much wine,

A man is disqualified for the office of deacon if he is addicted to wine or other strong drink. Such a person lacks self-control and is undisciplined.

Roles In The church – Deacon

1 Timothy 3:8-12

⁸not pursuing dishonest gain,

If a person is a lover of money, he is not qualified to be a deacon, especially since deacons often handle financial matters for the church.

Roles In The church – Deacon

1 Timothy 3:8-12

⁹keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience,

The phrase “the mystery of the faith” is simply one way Paul speaks of the gospel (cf. 1 Tim. 3:16). Consequently, this statement refers to the need for deacons to hold firm to the true gospel without wavering.

Yet this qualification does not merely involve one’s beliefs, for he must also hold these beliefs “with a clear conscience.” That is, the behavior of a deacon must be consistent with his beliefs.

Roles In The church – Deacon

1 Timothy 3:-12

¹⁰must be tested / blameless,

“Blameless” is a general term referring to a person’s overall proven character.

The candidate’s personal background, reputation, and knowledge of the word should be examined.

Moreover, the congregation should not only examine a potential deacon’s moral, spiritual, and doctrinal maturity, but should also consider the person’s track record of service in the church.

Roles In The church – Deacon

1 Timothy 3:-12

¹²faithful to his wife (husband of one wife),

This is referring to the faithfulness of a husband toward his wife.

He must be a “one-woman man.”

That is, there must be no other woman in his life to whom he relates in an intimate way either emotionally or physically.

Roles In The church – Deacon

1 Timothy 3:-12

¹²Manage children and household well,

A deacon must be the spiritual leader of his wife and children.

In addition, he must lead and oversee his home well.

This includes all aspects of the home (time, money, etc).

Roles In The church – Deacon

1 Timothy 3:-12

¹¹Godly Wife,

According to Paul, deacons' wives must “be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things” (v. 11).

Like her husband, the wife must be dignified or respectable.

Secondly, she must not be a slanderer or a person who goes around spreading gossip.

Roles In The church – Deacon

1 Timothy 3:-12

¹¹Godly Wife,

A deacon's wife must also be sober-minded or temperate. That is, she must be able to make good judgments and must not be involved in things that might hinder such judgment.

Finally, she must be “faithful in all things” (cf. 1 Tim. 5:10). This is a general requirement which functions similarly to the requirement for elders to be “above reproach” (1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:6) and for deacons to be “blameless” (1 Tim. 3:10).

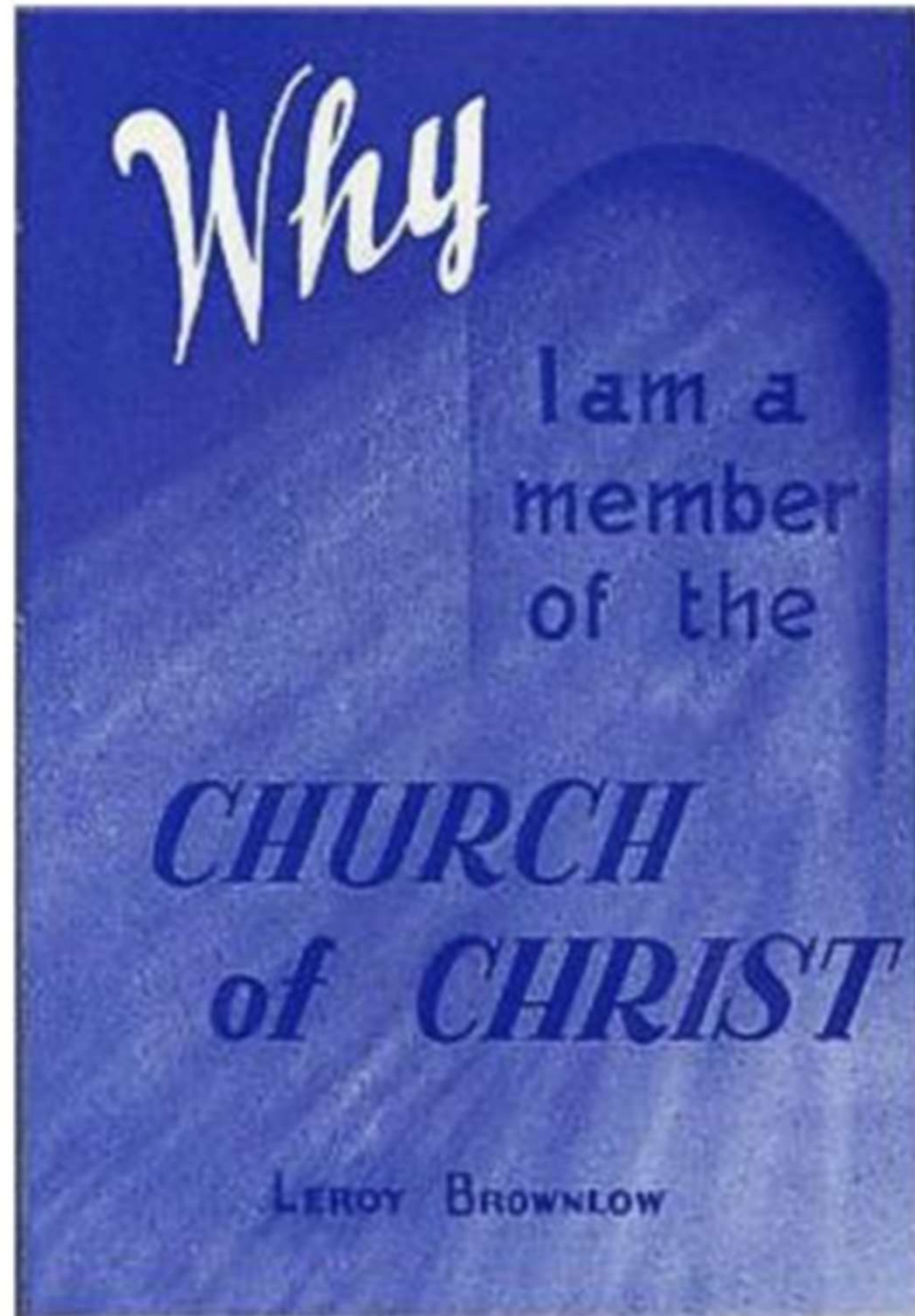
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
45-50**



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

The Bible Is Its ONLY Creed

A creed is a set of beliefs
which guide someone's
actions.

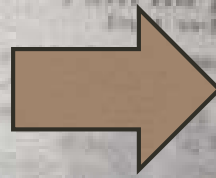
In the time of the apostles and for the first three centuries the Bible was the **ONLY** creed.

- ◆ So why would we need anything else as a guide?
- ◆ If I want to be part of the church I read about in the bible, do I need to follow **ONLY** what they followed?
- ◆ I want the **SAME** guide the church in the bible used if I want the **SAME** salvation the church was promised!

All Scripture is inspired by
GOD and is useful to teach us
what is true and to make us
realize what is wrong in our lives.

It corrects us when we are wrong
and teaches us to do what is right.

God uses it to prepare and equip
his people to do every good work.



**The Bible
completely
equips us
to do
EVERY
good work**

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Job 38:4

Where were you when
I laid the foundations of the earth?

EVERYTHING?



“God’s divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness.” 2 Peter 1:3

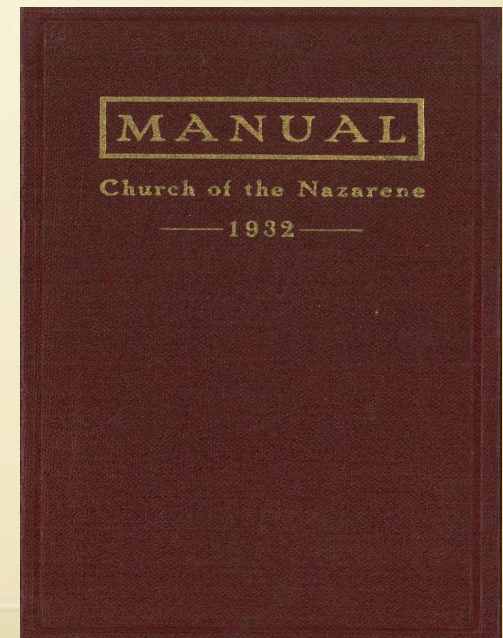
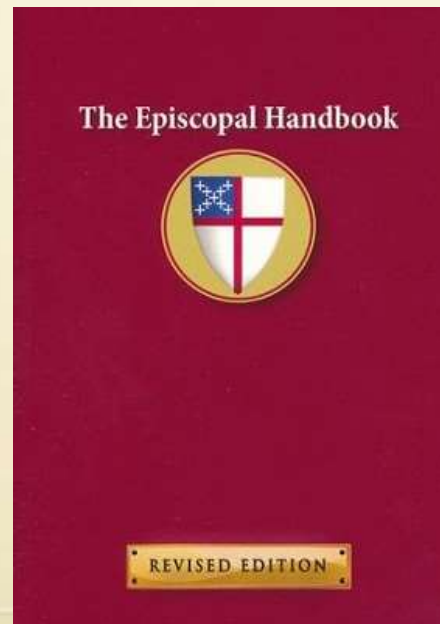
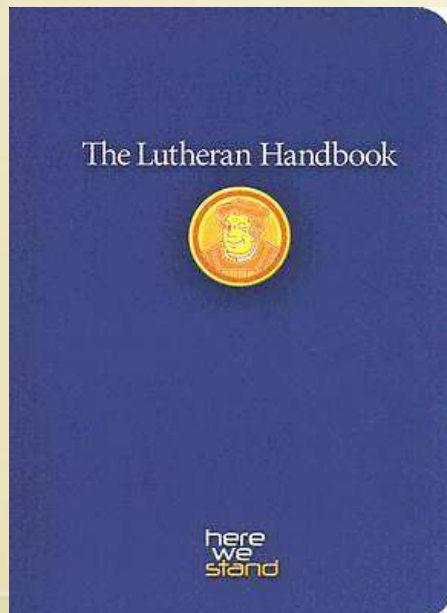
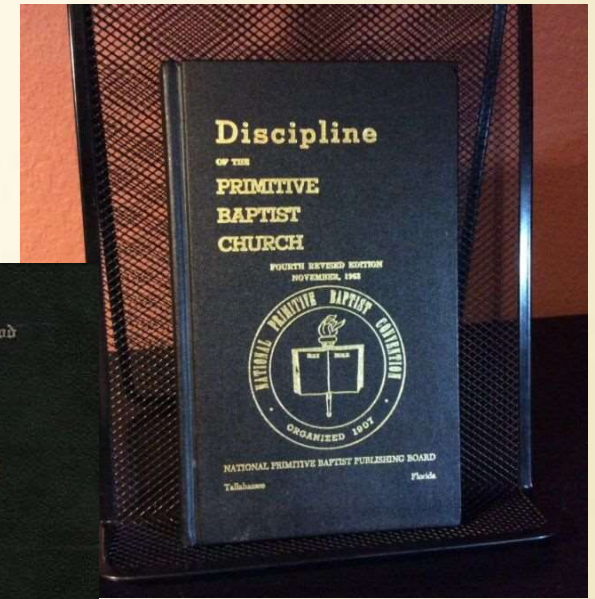
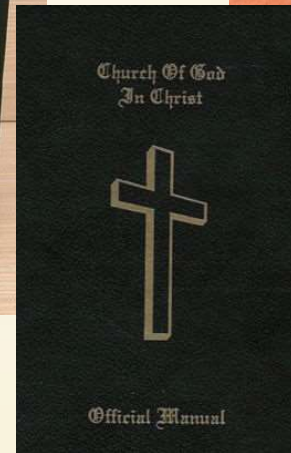
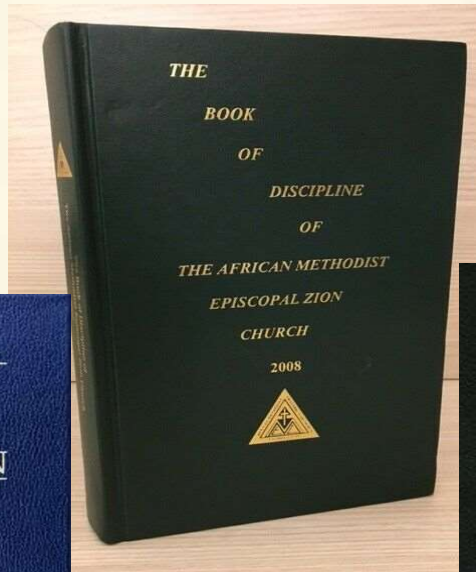
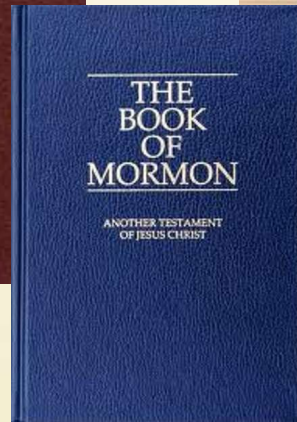
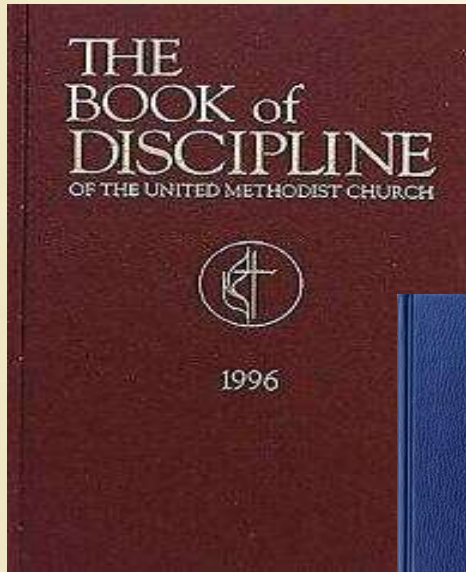
In the time of the apostles and for the first three centuries the Bible was the **ONLY** creed.

- ◆ So why would we need anything else as a guide?
- ◆ If I want to be part of the church I read about in the bible, do I need to follow **ONLY** what they followed?
- ◆ I want the **SAME** guide the church in the bible used if I want the **SAME** salvation the church was promised!

Human Creeds

- ◆ Human creeds are written for the same purpose that scripture was written...To Guide People To “Good” Works
- ◆ Why pledge your loyalty to a human creed tries to have the same purpose as the scriptures (God’s Word)?
- ◆ Is it safe to follow Human Creeds?

Examples of Human Creeds




Human Creeds continued

- ◆ Human creeds revised every few years because of their imperfections, errors, mistakes, changing times, etc.
- ◆ While Human creeds become obsolete, the bible continues to live and function because it is the TRUTH.
- ◆ The bible tells us that people will try to bring for human creeds that go against what bible scriptures say.

1 Timothy 4:1-13

1 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. **2** Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. **3** They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. **4** For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, **5** because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

6 If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters,  you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. **7** Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. **8** For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. **9** This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance. **10** That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe.

11 Command and teach these things. **12** Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. **13** Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching.

The Bible was NEVER meant to be added
to or taken away from

**BUT WHOSO LOOKETH INTO
THE PERFECT LAW OF LIBERTY,
AND CONTINUETH THEREIN,
HE BEING NOT A FORGETFUL HEARER,
BUT A DOER OF THE WORK, THIS MAN
SHALL BE BLESSED IN HIS DEED.**

JAMES 1: 25

Perfect means complete in this scripture.

The Bible was NEVER meant to be added to or taken away from

Galatians 1:6-9

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—which is really no gospel at all.

Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. **But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned!**

The Bible was NEVER meant to be added to or taken away from

Warning about altering the Bible

Revelation 22:18-19

¹⁸ For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

The Bible was NEVER meant to be added
to or taken away from

Do Not Add To What I
Command You And Do Not
Subtract From It, But Keep
The Commands Of The
Lord Your God That I Give
You.

Deuteronomy 4-2

Remember

- ◆ Those who have pledged loyalty to human creeds are unable to defend the bible
- ◆ Human creeds cause division. Each creed serves as a wall to divide people who say they are seeking to follow God. And we know division is sin (1 Cor 1:10)
- ◆ Division promotes/encourages infidelity (John 17:17-21)

We are to be Sanctified & Unified by THE WORD (John 17:17-21)

17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

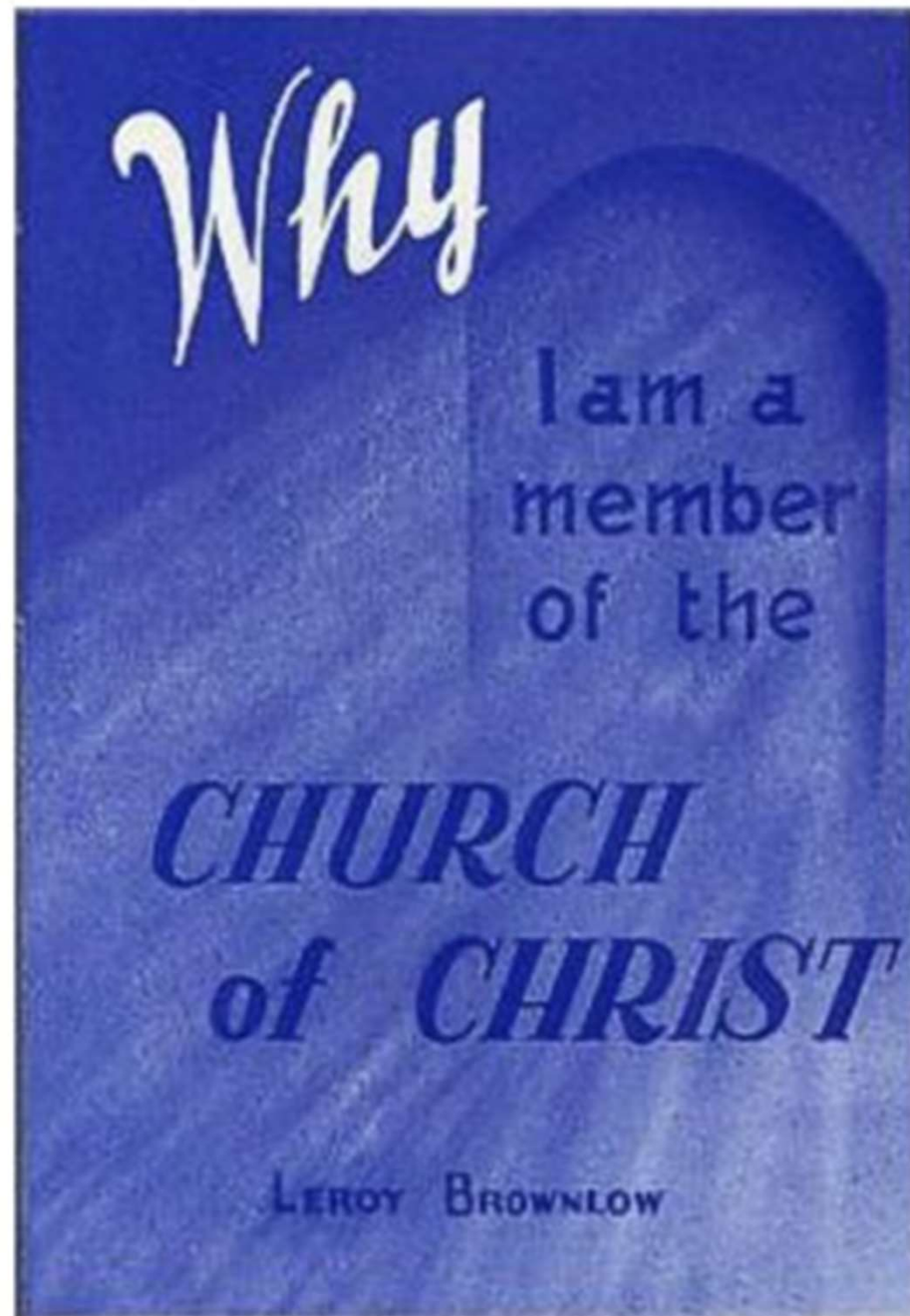
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
51-59**



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it believes the Bible IS the
Inspired Word of God & True



**It's sad much of the religious world
had started to doubt the bible**

It's sad much of the religious world had started to doubt the bible

- ◆ 48% rejects the bible's account of the world's creation
- ◆ 33% no longer believe there is a devil
- ◆ 24% reject the atonement of Christ's sacrifice
- ◆ 12% don't believe Christ rose from the dead
- ◆ 33% don't believe the story of Adam & Eve
- ◆ 38% do not believe the Old Testament prophets were able to predict future events

If the Bible is not true, then there is no
acceptable, trustworthy history

That Which Was From The
Beginning, Which We Have
Heard, Which We Have Seen
With Our Eyes, Which We
Have Looked At And Our
Hands Have Touched--this We
Proclaim Concerning The Word
Of Life.

1 John 1-1

The Bible Has Harmony Over Time

- ◆ The Bible has 66 books that are in harmony, written by about 40 different writers over the period of many centuries.
- ◆ It is amazing that Old testament writers wrote things that are in perfect agreement with New testament writers. These writers lived hundreds of years apart.
- ◆ It must have been God's divine plan for writings hundreds of years apart to ²²⁹be in agreement. Only God could make that happen

If the Bible is not true, then there is no
acceptable, trustworthy history

2 Peter 1:21 KJV

**FOR THE PROPHECY CAME NOT IN OLD TIME BY
THE WILL OF MAN: BUT HOLY MEN OF GOD SPAKE
AS THEY WERE MOVED BY THE HOLY GHOST.**

STILLFAITH.COM

“Thus saith the Lord”

- ◆ This phrase is found over 2,000 times in the Bible
- ◆ By using this phrase over and over, the Bible itself claims to be from the Lord
- ◆ God in His Word says, these writings are authored by Him!

The Bible must be the work of God because of the fulfillment of prophecies

1. It was prophesized that Christ would be born of a virgin
(Isaiah 7:13-14)
✓ It was fulfilled in Luke 1:26-35
2. It was predicted Christ would be betrayed by a close friend
(Psalm 41:9)
✓ It was fulfilled in Mark 14:43-49
3. It was predicted that Jesus would be scourged & mocked
(Isaiah 50:6)
✓ It was fulfilled in John 19:1

If one is a believer in GOD, they should be
believers in HIS WORD

In the beginning was the Word, and
the Word was with God, and the
Word was God. The same was in the
beginning with God. All things were
made by him; and without him was
not any thing made that was made.

JOHN 1:1-3

The reason I am a member of the church...

The church of Christ
BELIEVES the Bible
is the true
WORD OF GOD

PROPHECIES FULFILLED CONCERNING JESUS CHRIST


Chronologically Arranged

NATURE	PROPHECY	FULFILLMENT
Seed of the woman	Gen. 3:15	Gal. 4:4; Rev. 12:5
Generation, human	Gen. 12:3; 18:18; 49:10; Is. 11:1	John 1:45; Acts 3:25; 13:23; Gal. 3:8
Time of His advent	Dan. 9:24, 25	John 1:41; 4:25, 26
Born of a virgin	Is. 7:14; Micah 5:3	Matt. 1:23; Luke 1:26-35
Descendant of Shem	Gen. 9:27	Luke 3:36
Of Abraham	Gen. 12:3; 18:18	Matt. 1:1, 2; Luke 3:34; Acts 3:25
Of Isaac	Gen. 17:19; 21:12	Matt. 1:2; Luke 3:34; Rom. 9:7
Of Jacob	Gen. 28:14; Num. 24:17	Matt. 1:2; Luke 3:34
Of the Tribe of Judah	Gen. 49:10; Micah 5:2	Matt. 1:2; 2:6; Rev. 5:5
Of the House of David	Is. 9:7; Jer. 23:5	Matt. 1:1, 6; Luke 3:31; John 7:42
Birthplace	Micah 5:2	Matt. 2:1-6; Luke 2:4; John 7:42
Massacre of Innocents	Jer. 31:15	Matt. 2:17, 18
Flight into Egypt	Hosea 11:1	Matt. 2:15
Ministry in Galilee	Is. 9:1, 2	Matt. 4:15, 16
A Prophet	Deut. 18:15	John 1:45; 6:14; Acts 3:22; 7:37
Priest like Melchisedek	Ps. 110:4	Heb. 5:6; 6:20; 7:17, 21
Purification of the Temple	Ps. 69:9	John 2:17
Rejected by Jews and Gentiles	Ps. 2:1	John 6:66; Acts 4:25, 26
Spiritual graces	Ps. 45:7; Is. 11:2	Luke 4:18
Triumphal entry into Jerusalem	Is. 62:11; Zech. 9:9	Matt. 21:1-10; John 12:14-16
Betrayal by a friend	Ps. 41:9	Matt. 26:15; Mark 14:10, 21
For thirty pieces of silver	Zech. 11:12, 13	Matt. 26:15; Mark 14:10, 21
Trial and Crucifixion		
Silence against accusation	Ps. 38:13; Is. 53:7	Matt. 26:63; 27:12-14
Vicarious suffering	Is. 53:4-6, 12; Dan. 9:26	Matt. 8:17; Rom. 4:25; 1 Cor. 15:3; Heb. 9:28; 1 Pet. 3:18
Death with malefactors	Is. 53:9-12	Matt. 27:38; Luke 23:40-43
Piercing of hands and feet	Ps. 22:16; Zech. 12:10	John 20:27
Insult, mocking	Ps. 109:25; 22:6, 7	Matt. 27:39; Mark 15:29
Offered gall and vinegar	Ps. 69:21	Matt. 27:34, 48; John 19:29
Lots cast for vesture	Ps. 22:18	Mark 15:24; John 19:24
Not a bone to be broken	Ex. 12:46; Ps. 34:20	John 19:36
Burial with the rich	Ps. 16:9; Is. 53:9	Matt. 27:57-60
Resurrection	Ps. 16:10; Hosea 6:2	Matt. 27:63; 28:6; Acts 2:27-31
Ascension	Ps. 68:18; 110:1	Luke 24:51; Acts 1:9; Eph. 4:8-10; Heb. 1:3

Daniel's Vision of Five Kingdoms

Dan 2:31-45

Messianic Prophecy of the First Coming of Christ

Gold	Babylon	605-539
Silver	Persia	539-333
Bronze	Greece	333-31
Iron, Clay	Rome	31 BC-325 AD
	<p>"upon this bedrock I will build My ..."</p> <p>Church</p> <p>"Jesus the rejected cornerstone"</p>	33 AD

"In the days of these kings God will set up His Kingdom (the church)"

**Dan 2:44; Isa 2:1-4; Joel 2:28; Acts 2:1-4
Mk 1:15; 9:1; Col 1:13; Heb 12:28; Rev 1:6-9**

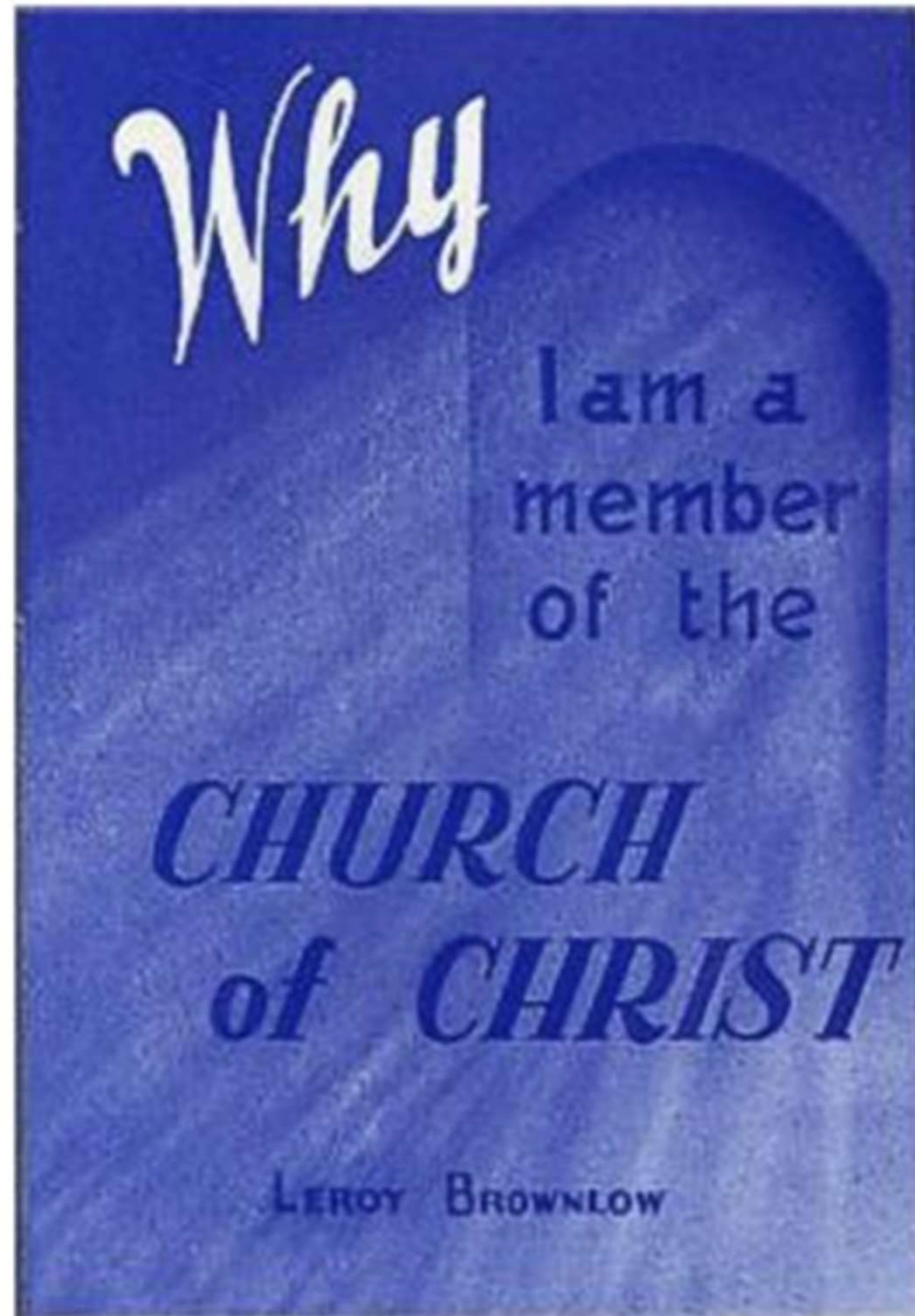
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
60-69**



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it believes the
Bible is to be
“Rightly Divided”

**Study to shew thyself
approved unto God, a
workman that needeth
not to be ashamed,
rightly dividing the word
of truth.**

2 Timothy 2:15

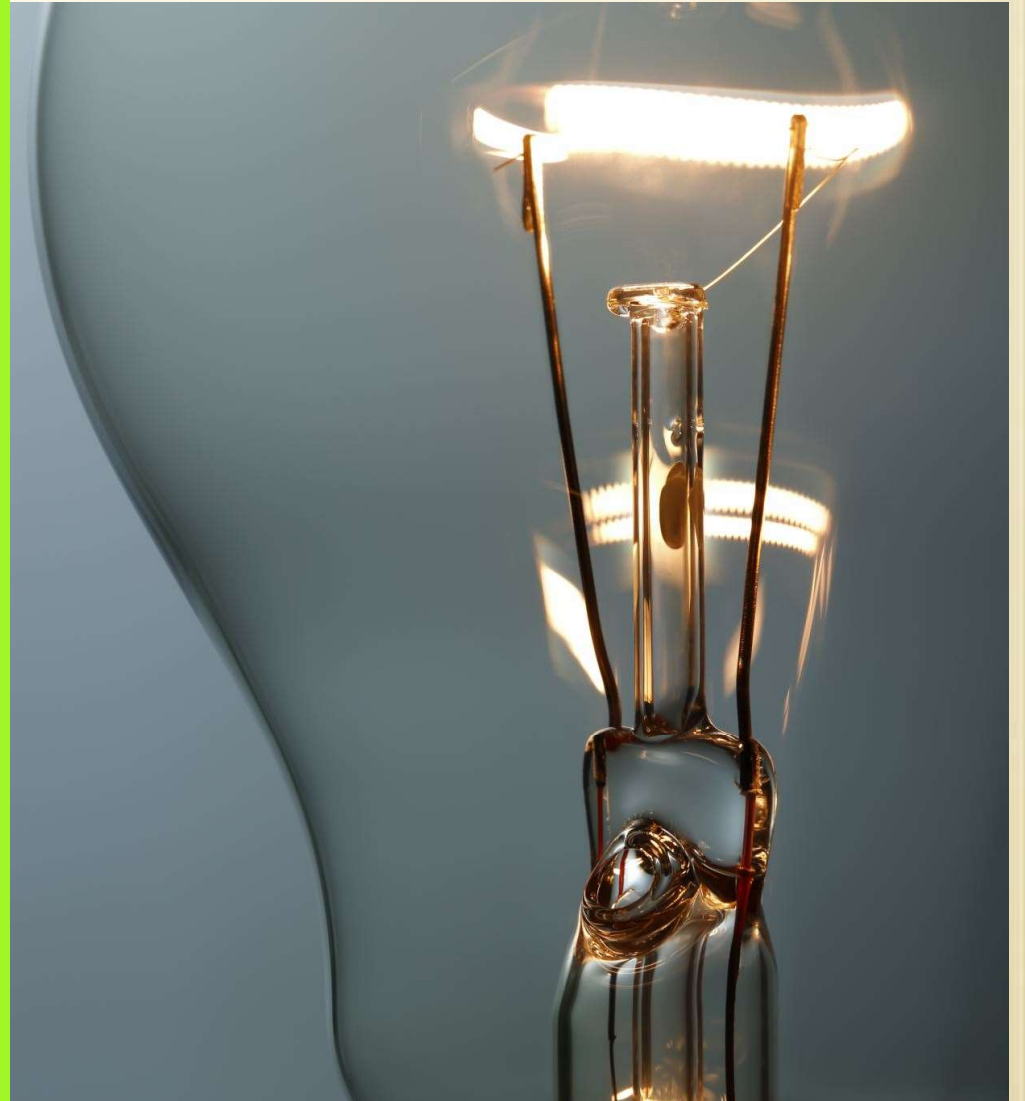


Something to think about

How to Rightly Divide

It is impossible to obey every instruction from the Lord in the Bible. There are instructions from the Lord that conflict with earlier instructions, instructions that are no longer feasible, or instructions that were simply not written to us.

We would never think of following God's instructions to Noah to build an ark, or to Peter to walk on water. We must understand the context of the instructions and obey those which are intended for our obedience.





The Foundational Principle for Properly Interpreting THE BIBLE

2 Timothy 2:15 (ASV)

**Give diligence to present thyself approved unto
God, a workman that needeth not to be
ashamed, **handling aright** the word of truth.**



**Greek word literally means:
"to cut in a straight line"**

- cutting a straight furrow in a field**
- cutting a road in a straight direction**

***Guide the word of truth along a straight
path, holding it on a straight course.***

Many 'Religious People' are NOT familiar with the Bible's structure

The Bible is NOT just a collection of good statements to be used carelessly.

Each book / group of books have a purpose.

Knowing the above things will help people
“rightly divide” the bible.

The Bible IS to be “Rightly Divided”.

We do this by using each book for its intended purpose

**The correct classification
of the books of the bible
will make bible study
easier.**

**There are also different time periods
(DISPENSATIONS) in the bible.**

**These dispensations show how
differently God interacted with
Man throughout history.**

**Different laws were in effect
during each⁴⁵ time period.**

Three Dispensations of Time

Patriarchal

2500 Years
Spoken Law Given to Patriarchs

- Adam
- Noah
- Abraham
- Isaac
- Jacob (Israel)
- Moses
- Israelites in Egyptian Bondage 430 Years
- Moses Delivers
- Law Given at Sinai
 - Exodus 20:1-17
 - Deut. 4:10-13
 - Deut. 5:1-3

Mosaical

1500 Years
Law of Moses for Jews Only

- 15 Judges
 - 3 Kings (Saul, David, Solomon)
 - Divided Kingdom (Judah & Israel)
 - 16 Prophets
- Prophecies of a New Kingdom and a New Covenant to Come
(Isa. 2:2; Dan. 2:31-44; Jer. 31:31)

Christian

2000 Years
Law of Christ for All

- Church Established (Acts 2)
- Church Spread (Acts 8)
- Jews & Gentiles (Acts 10 and 11)
- Church/Kingdom (Col. 1:13-14)
- New Covenant with New High Priest (Heb. 8:7-13; 9:11-15; 10:1-18)
- Will End With 2nd Coming (1 Thes. 4:13-18; 2 Pet. 3:10-13; Matt. 7:21-23)



Ten Commandments
First Covenant - Law of Moses

Genesis

Law of Moses Ends
(Col. 2:14-17)

Law a Schoolmaster
(Gal. 3:23-25)

The Life of Christ
Matthew, Mark, Luke, John

Exodus - Malachi



Law of Christ Begins
Second Covenant—Law of Christ

Acts - Revelation

Patriarchal AGE

ADAM

GARDEN OF EDEN
CAIN & ABEL
WICKEDNESS
NOAH
THE GREAT FLOOD
ABRAHAM
ISAAC
JACOB
JOSEPH
BONDAGE

2511 Years

GOD SPOKE TO THE FATHERS

Heb 1:1

FAMILY RELIGION
ANIMAL SACRIFICE
FAMILY ALTAR

Mosaic AGE

MOSES

MT SINAI
WILDERNESS
CONQUEST
JUDGES
UNITED KINGS
DIVIDED KINGS
(Prophets)
JUDAH ALONE
CAPTIVITY
RESTORATION
CHRIST'S MINISTRY

1481 Years

LAW CAME BY MOSES

JOHN 1:17

JEWISH AGE

WAS ABOLISHED COL. 2:14
WAS TUTOR GAL. 3:24-25
ANIMAL SACRIFICE;
SABBATH DAY;

Christian AGE

CHRIST

The **Kingdom**

Colossians 1:13

Or

The **Church**

Acts 2:47

30 A.D. until ?

GRACE & TRUTH CAME BY JESUS CHRIST

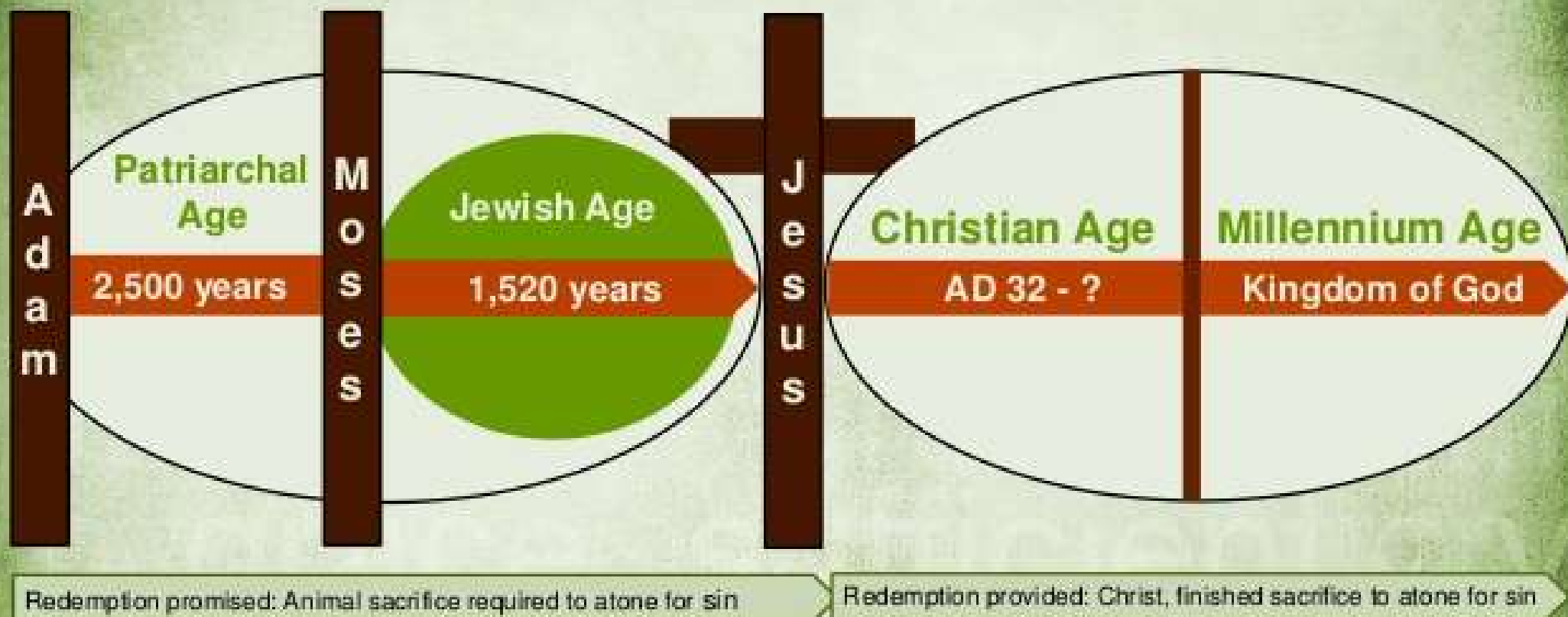
JOHN 1:17

GOSPEL

ROMANS 1:16 1 COR. 15:1-4
CHURCH; LORD'S DAY
LORD'S SUPPER

THE 3 DISPENSATIONS OF BIBLE HISTORY

The Dispensations: A Brief Timeline



Innocence

(Gen 1:28-3:6)

Conscience

(Gen 3:7-6:7)

Human Gov't

(Gen 9-11)

Promise (Gen 12-19)

Law

(Exod 19:1-8 & Acts 2)

Grace

(Isa 11:1; Matt 1:1; John 1:17, Acts 2; Rev 20; Eph 1:22-23; 2:3-10; 4:1-6)

Millennial (Eph 1:10; Rev 20)

PATRIARCHAL Dispensation

- 1.** Patriarchal got its name from the father of the family or tribe as God communicated w/ heads of family. At this time there was no written law.
- 2.** This time period has been called the family system of religion
- 3.** This lasted from Adam through when Moses gave the law at Mt Sinai, starting with the 10 commandments (**Exodus 20:1-17**)

MOSAIC / JEWISH Dispensation

(includes 10 commandments & rest of the OT laws)

1. This system of law was the fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham that he will make his descendants "a great nation" ([Gen 12:2](#))
2. This was the first written law / system of religion
3. One purpose of this time period was to keep Abraham's descendants separate until Christ came ([Gal 3:16-19](#)).
4. The law of Moses was referred to as the "middle wall of partition" because it ²⁵¹separates Jews from other nations ([Eph 2:14](#))

MOSAIC / JEWISH Dispensation

(includes 10 commandments & rest of the OT laws)

5. The law was a shadow of good things to come (**Heb 10:1**)
6. The law was a tutor to bring us to Chris (**Gal 3:24**)
7. The law had faults/wasn't perfect (**Heb 8:7**) (**Rom 8:3**)
8. God intended for this time period to be temporary (**Gal 3:16 & 19**)

CHRISTIAN Dispensation

- 1.** Christ came to take away/fulfill the law of Moses (**Heb 10:9, Col 2:14, Luke 4:21**) - we can't try to enforce OT law today
- 2.** Christ was born under the law of Moses (**Gal 4:4-5**), so he obeyed that while giving his new law. In addition, the thief on the cross lived under the law of Moses, NOT the Christian dispensation
- 3.** The new law could not come into effect until his death (**Matt 5:17, Heb 9:16,17**)

CHRISTIAN Dispensation

- 1.** There is no more “middle wall of partition” as Christ law has been given to all nations (**Matt 28:19, Eph 2:14, Eph 3:6**)
- 2.** Even Moses said that someday we all would need to obey Christ and NOT his law (**Deut 18:15**)
- 3.** There was a time that man was supposed to listen to the prophets, but NOW we listen to Christ (**Heb 1:1-2**)

CHRISTIAN Dispensation

During this time period, all nations are invited to follow God through Christ (1 Cor 11:1-2, John 15:5).

How do we follow God under through Christ? We become part of Christ's ONE Body (Eph 4:4). This body is also called the kingdom and the church.

How does the bible we become part of the church?

How does the bible say we become part of the church, the saved, the kingdom of God?

- ✓ **Hear** (Romans 1:16; 10:14, 17)
- ✓ **Believe** (John 8:24; Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:6)
- ✓ **Repent** (Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30)
- ✓ **Confess** (Romans 10:9-10; Matthew 10:32-33)
- ✓ **Be baptized** (Acts 2:38; 22:16; Mark 16:16)
- ✓ **Live faithfully** (Revelation 2:10; Matthew 6:33; Romans 12:1-2; I Corinthians 15:58)

BEWARE

OF THOSE WHOSE FAITH IS
BASED ON THEIR OWN IDEAS,
FEELINGS AND WHAT THEY
THINK IS RIGHT - RATHER THAN
ON WHAT GOD'S WORD SAYS!

Do you really want the TRUTH?

Study God's Word

2 Timothy 2:15