

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

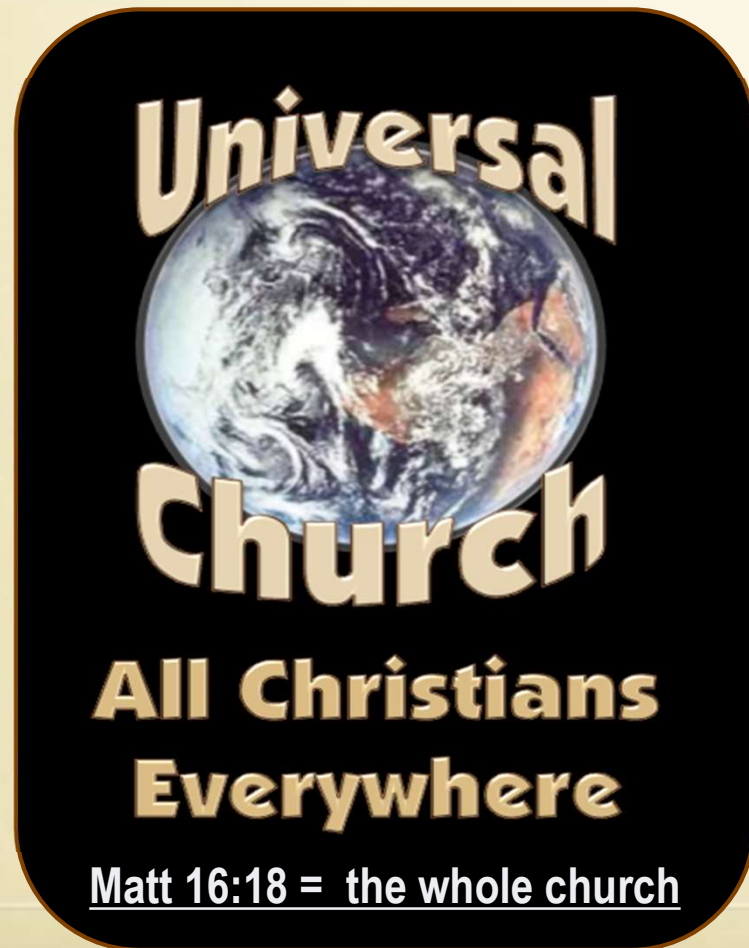
We should be able to answer if anyone asks

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

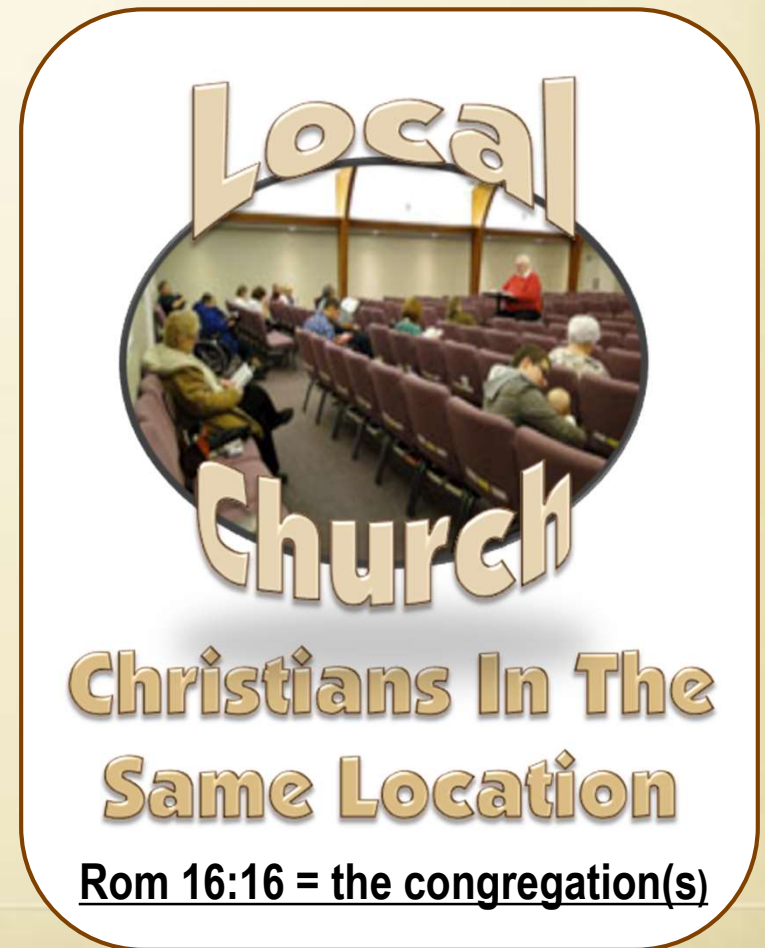
This teaching is known as sound doctrine

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

The word "church" is used 2 ways in the NT

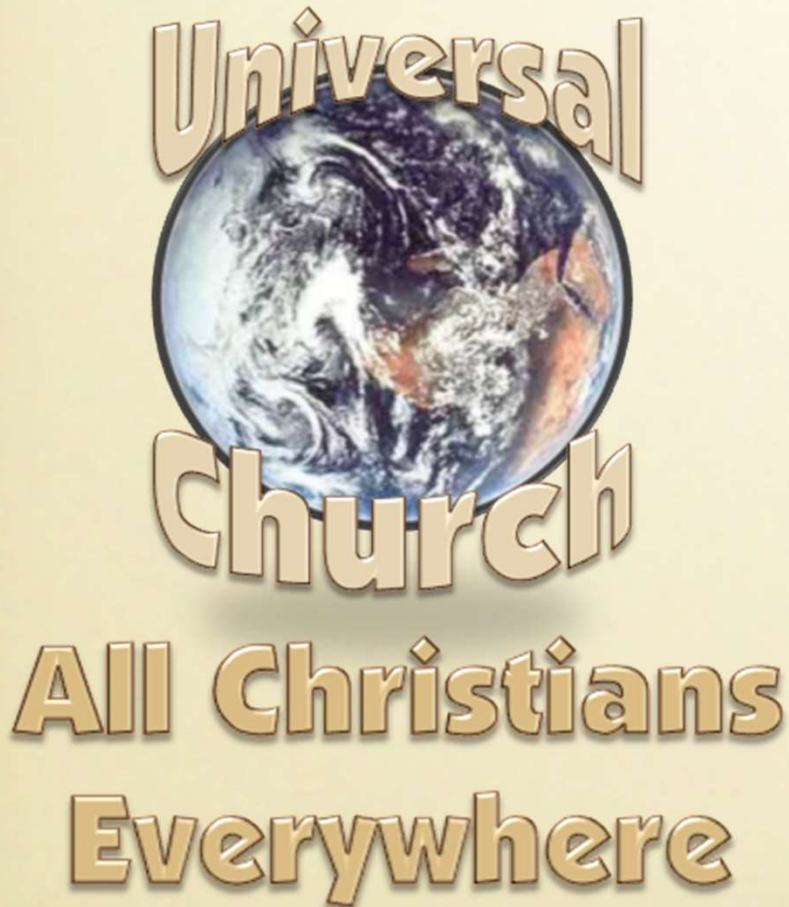


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Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

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...

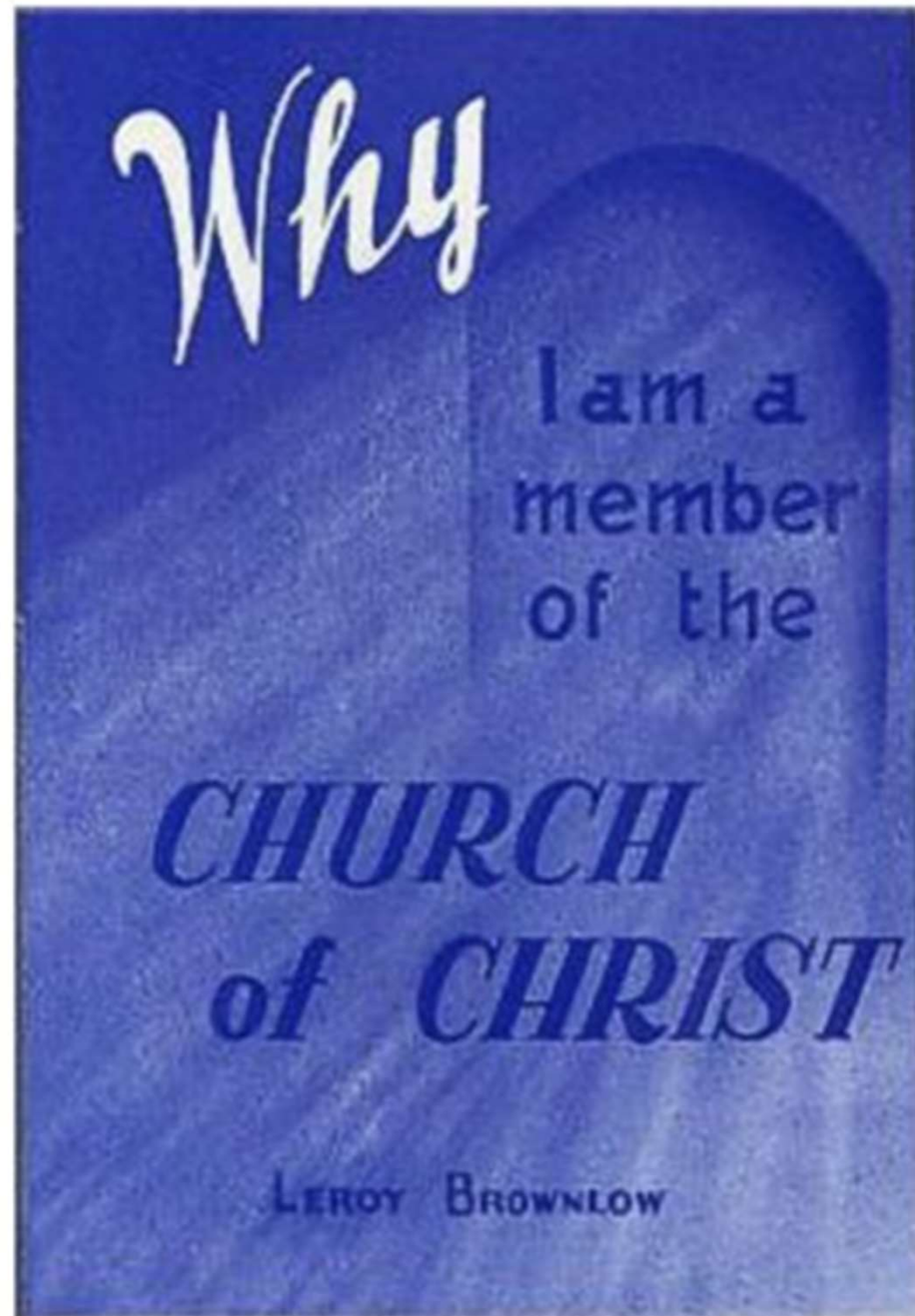
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Next Week

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

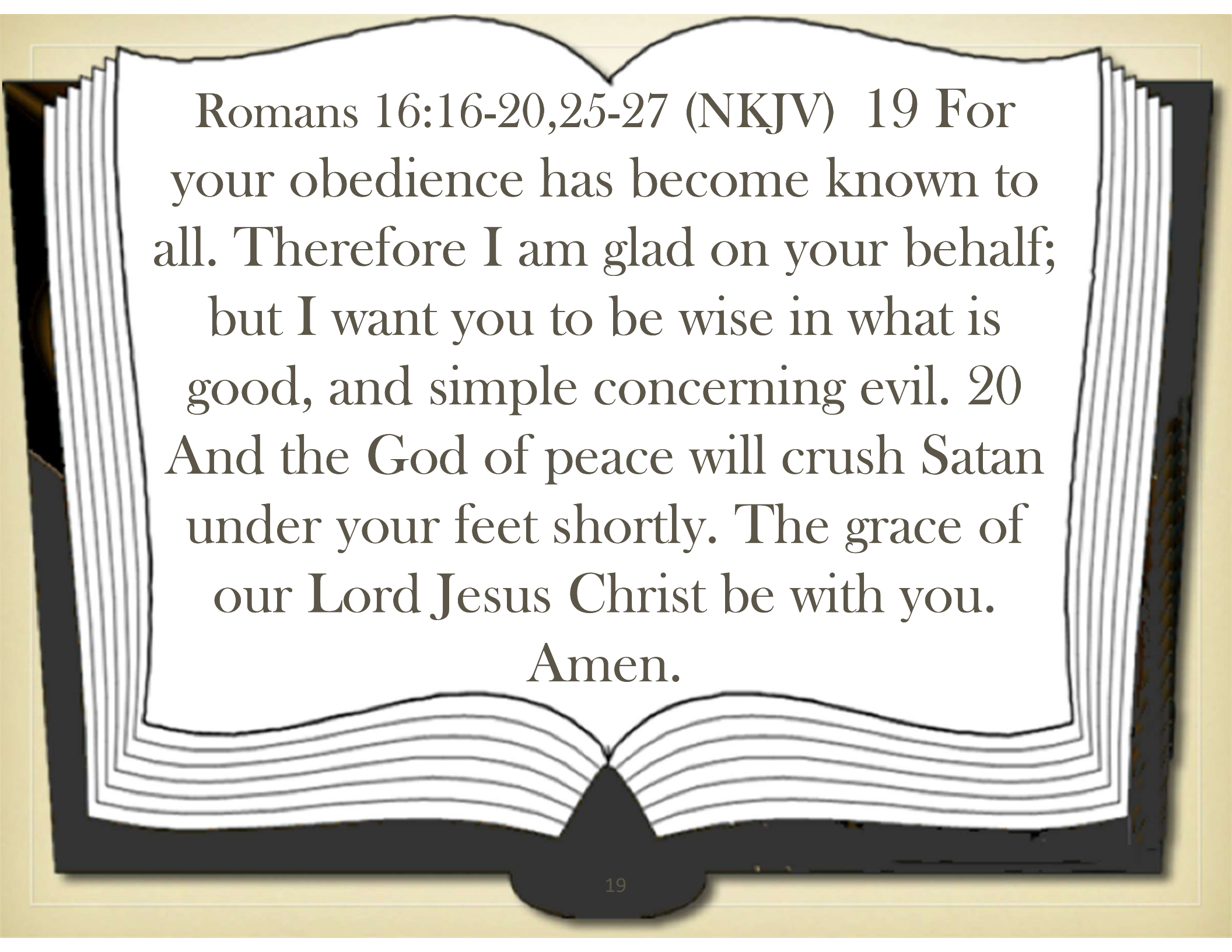


Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

- ★ 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 centered on the pages and reads: 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) 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

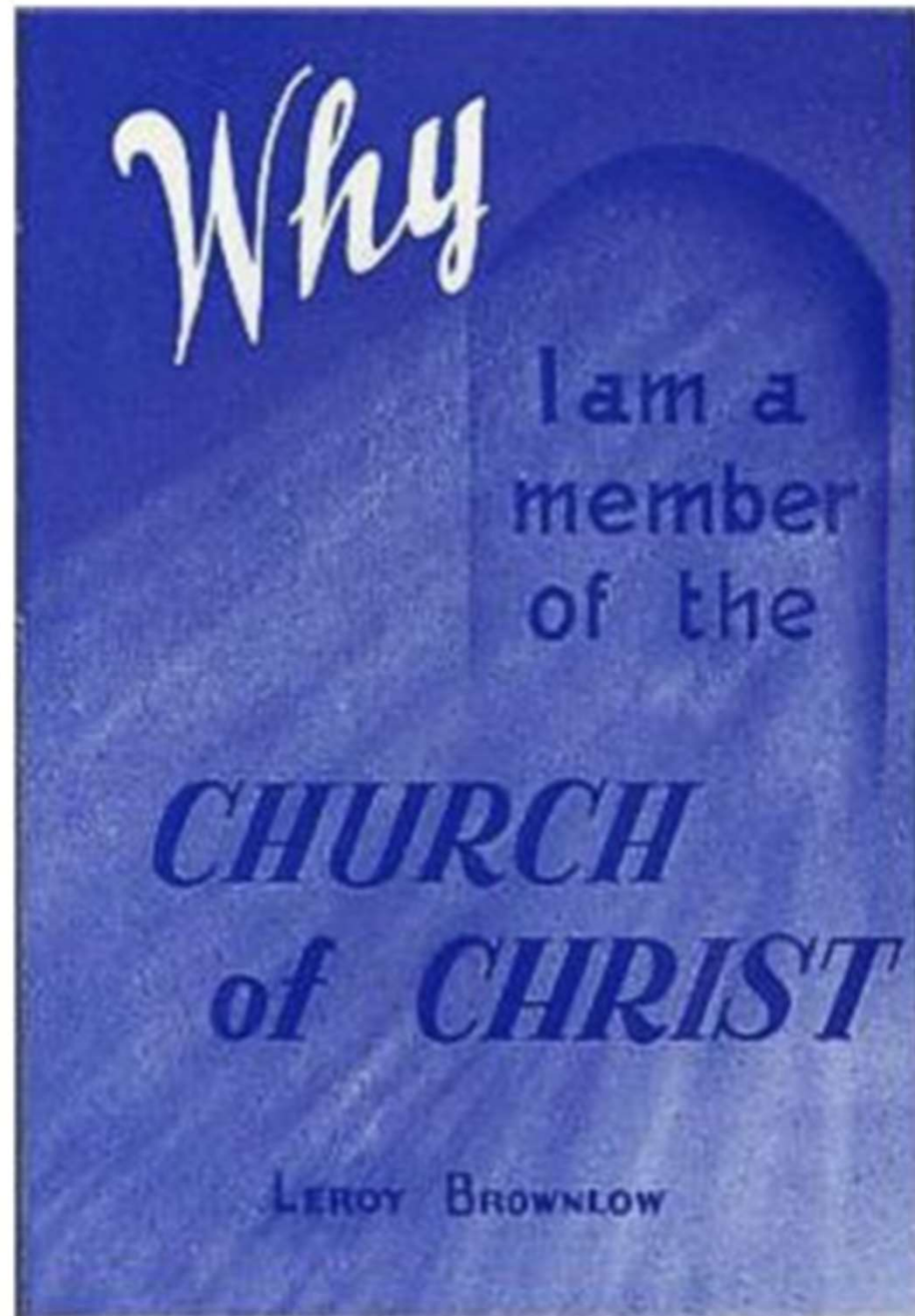
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Pages
3 - 9



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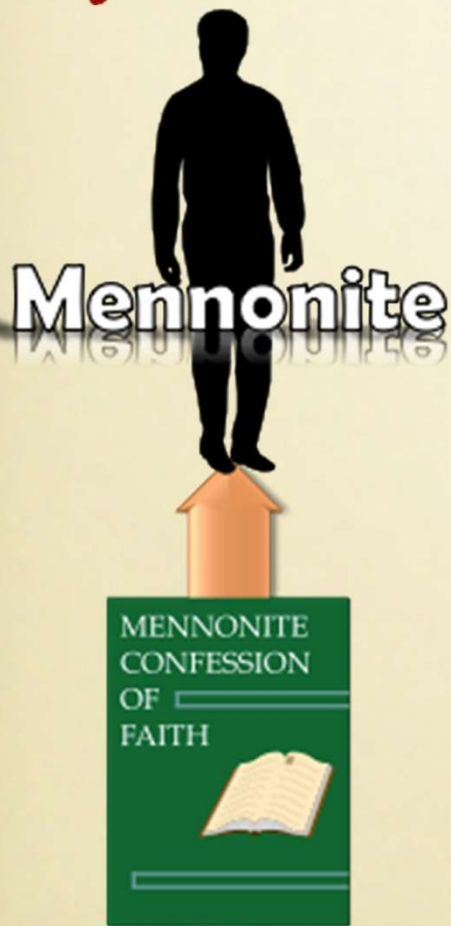
"Anti" Denominational



- ◆ **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



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)**

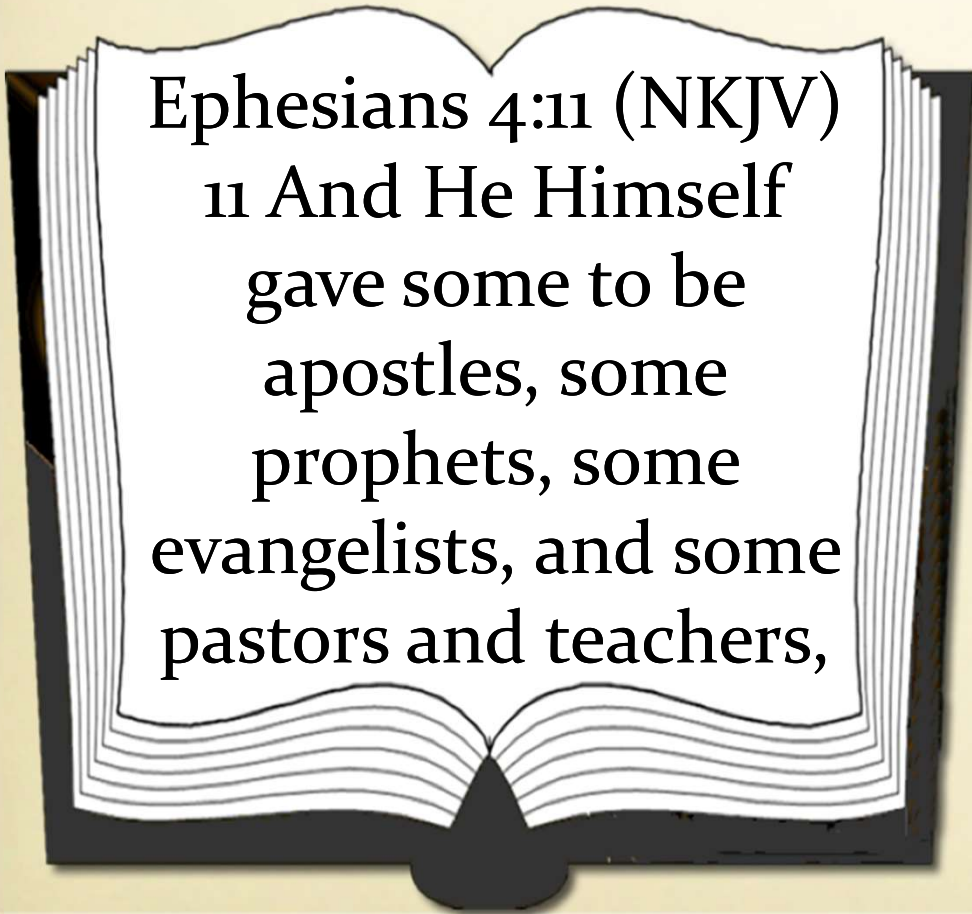
Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

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



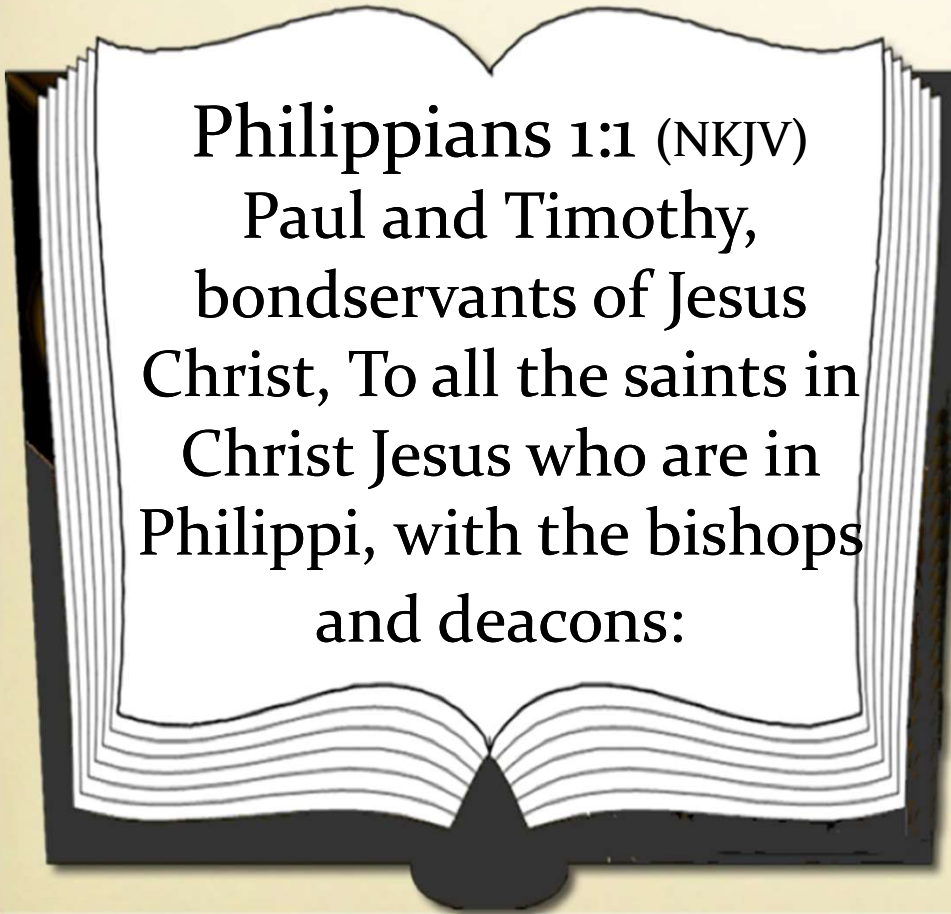
Ephesians 4:11 (NKJV)
11 And He Himself
gave some to be
apostles, some
prophets, some
evangelists, and some
pastors and teachers,

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

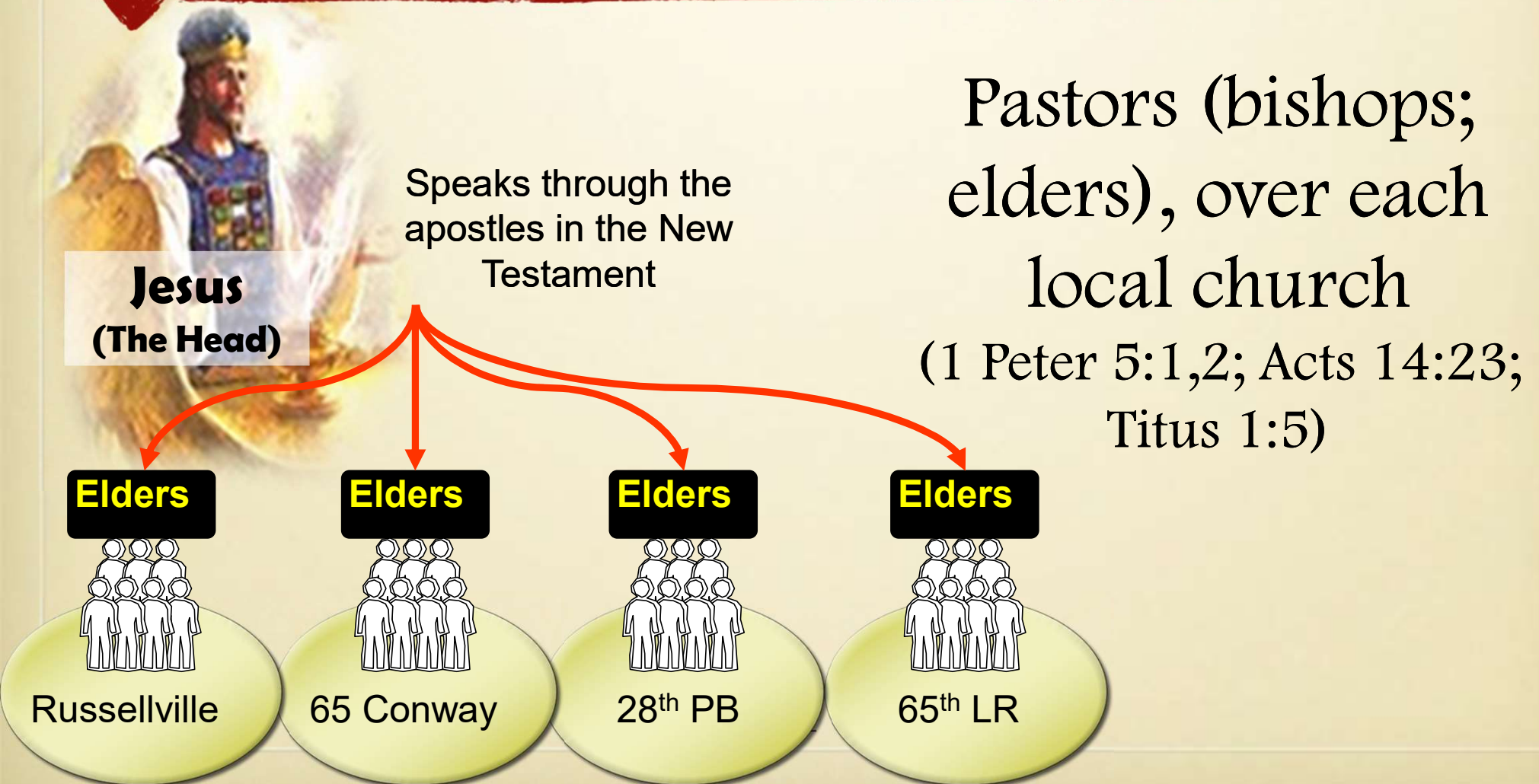


Philippians 1:1 (NKJV)
Paul and Timothy,
bondservants of Jesus
Christ, To all the saints in
Christ Jesus who are in
Philippi, with the bishops
and deacons:

- ◆ **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

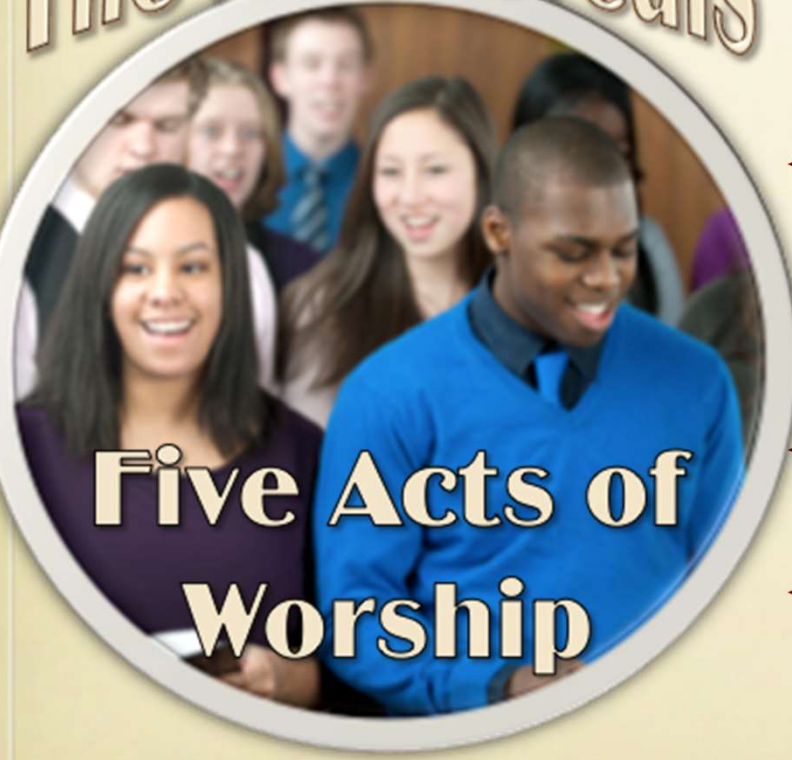
The Organization Is Found In NT



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

The Worship Is Scriptural

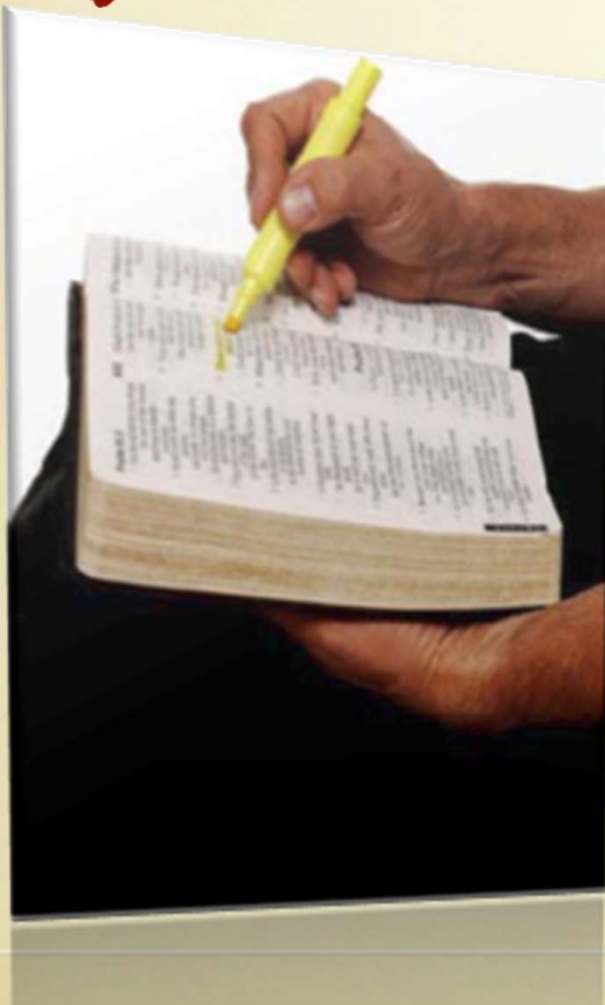
The N.T. Reveals



- ◆ **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 –

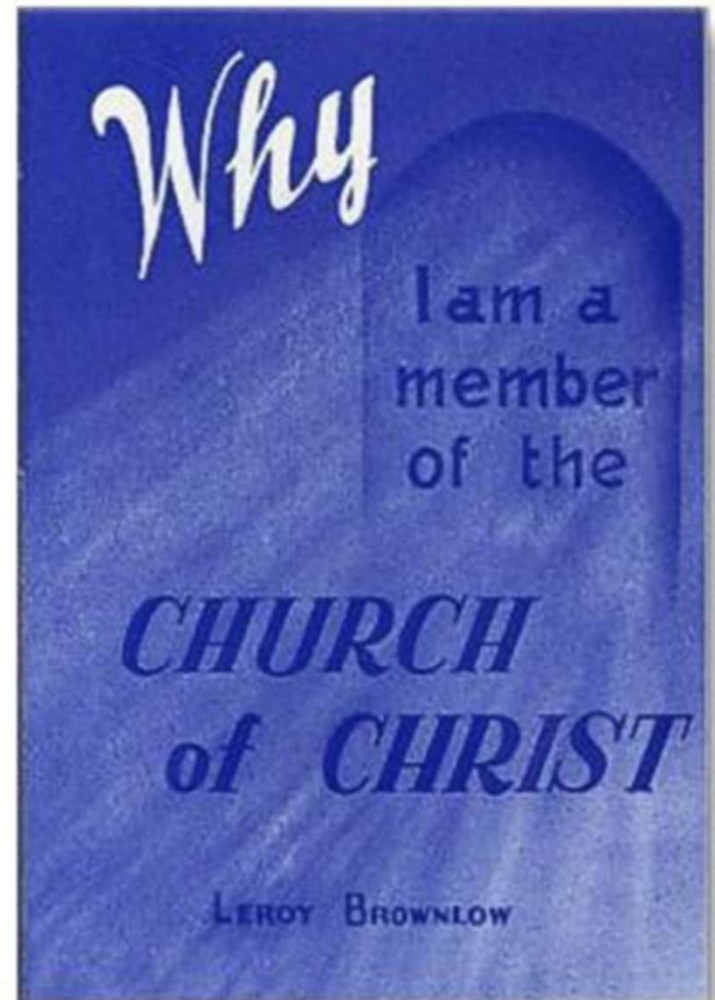
Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ



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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, colorful clouds in shades of blue, purple, pink, and orange. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow that reflects on the water. In the foreground, a dark pier or dock extends into the water, with a small structure or boat at its end. The overall scene 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.

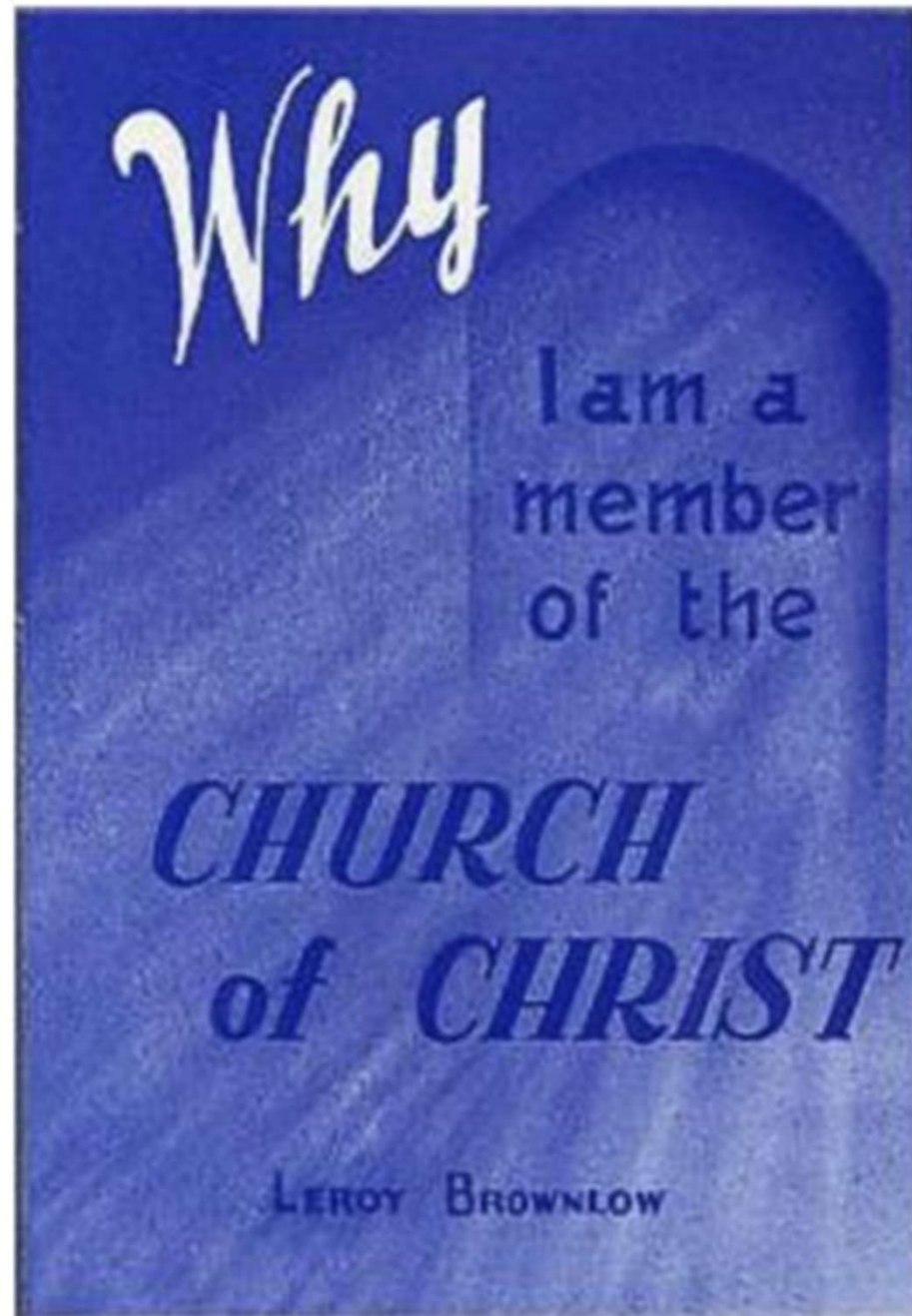
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Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
10-12**



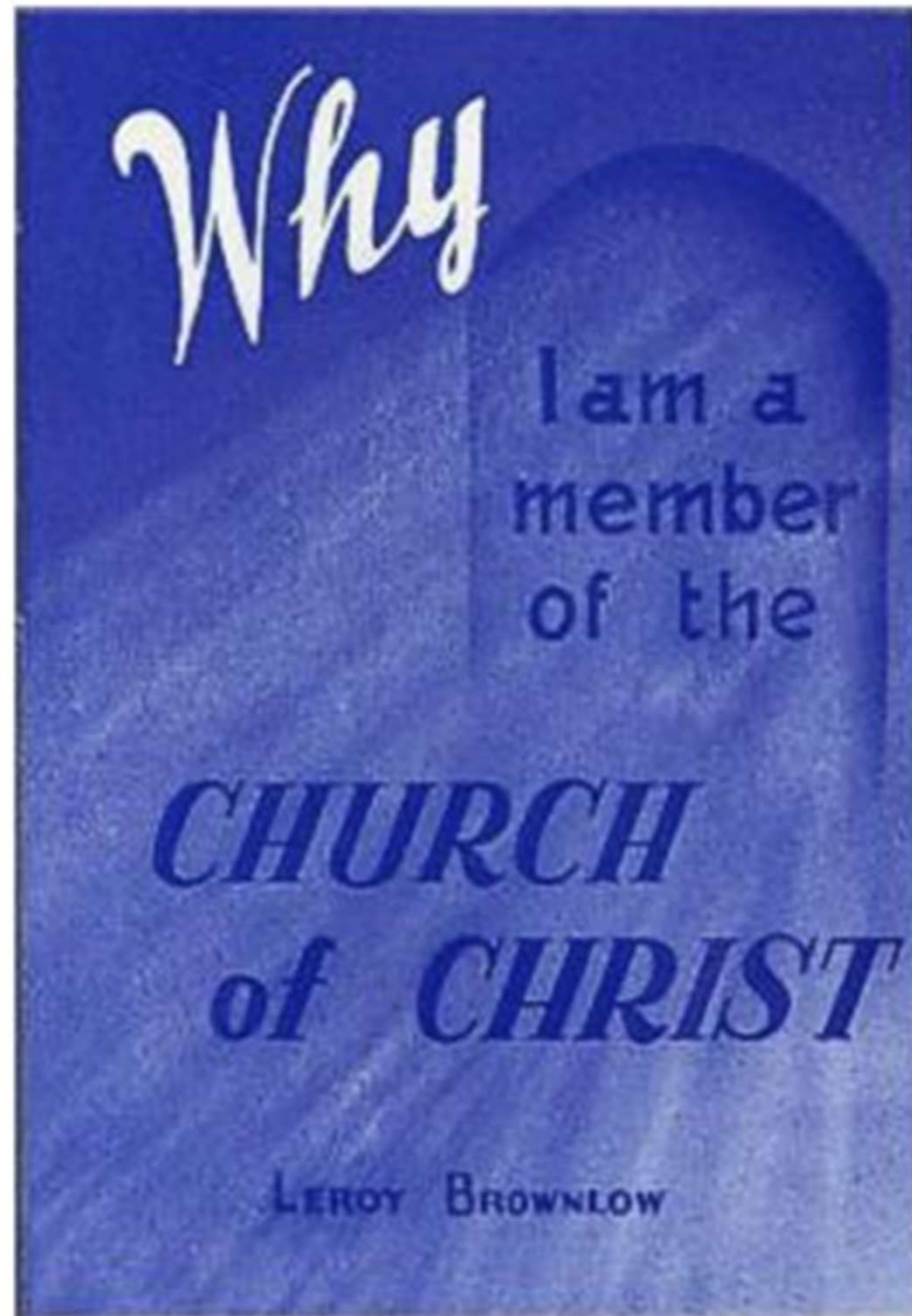
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This Week

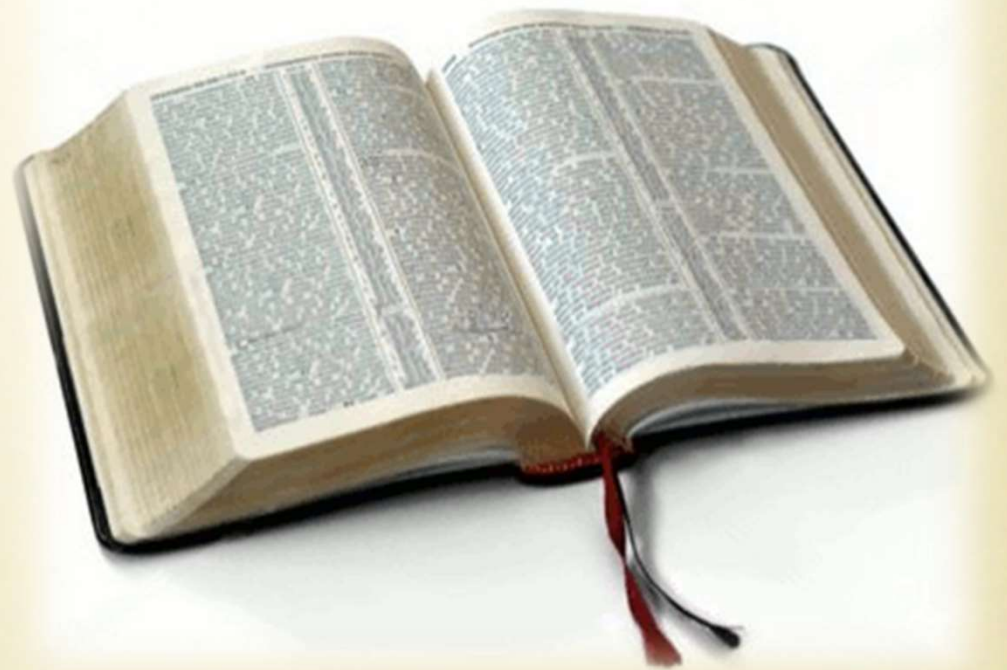
We Will

Discuss

**Pages
10-12**

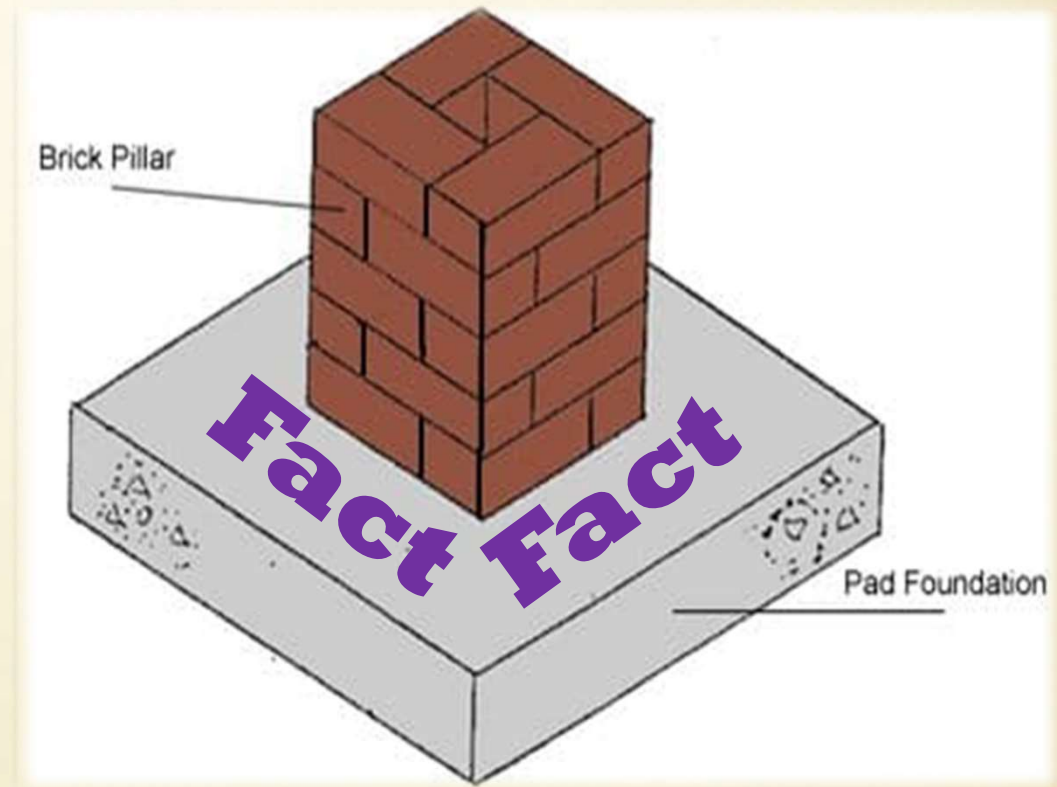


What Does Scriptural Mean?
Something
that is
supported by
or in
agreement
with what the
Bible teaches



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

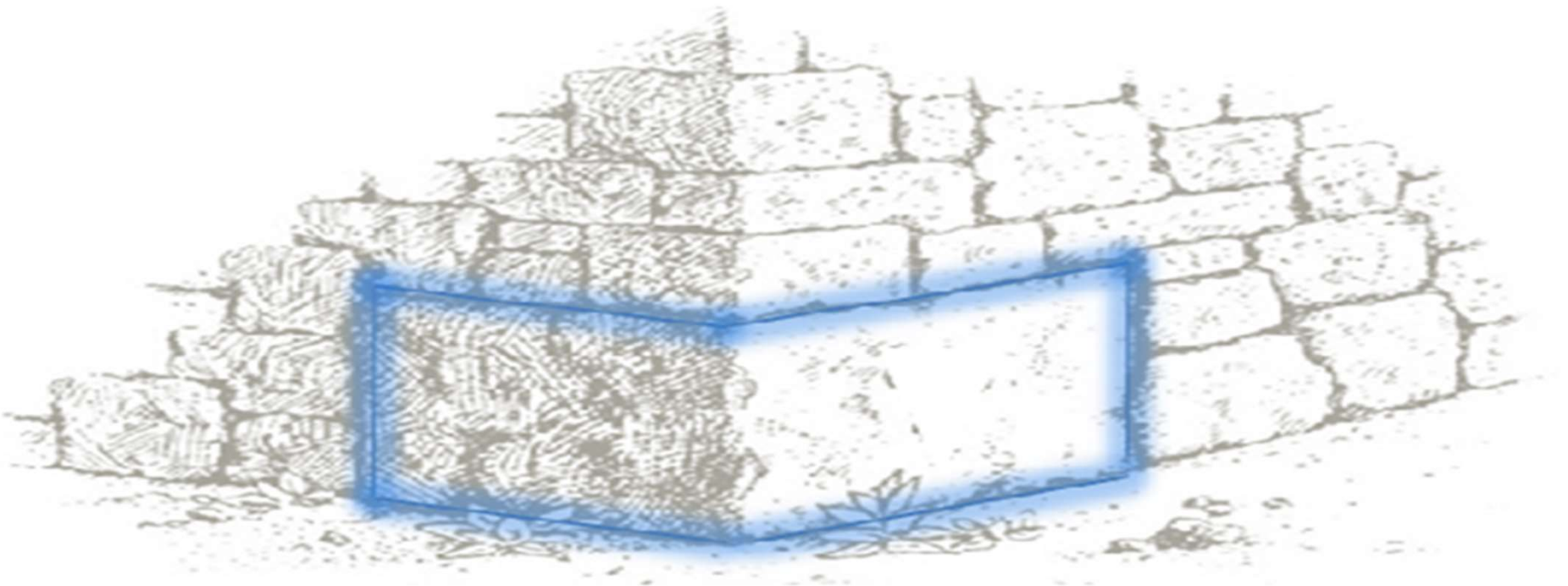
How Buildings Were Built In Bible Times

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



CaughtOnTapeTV

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)

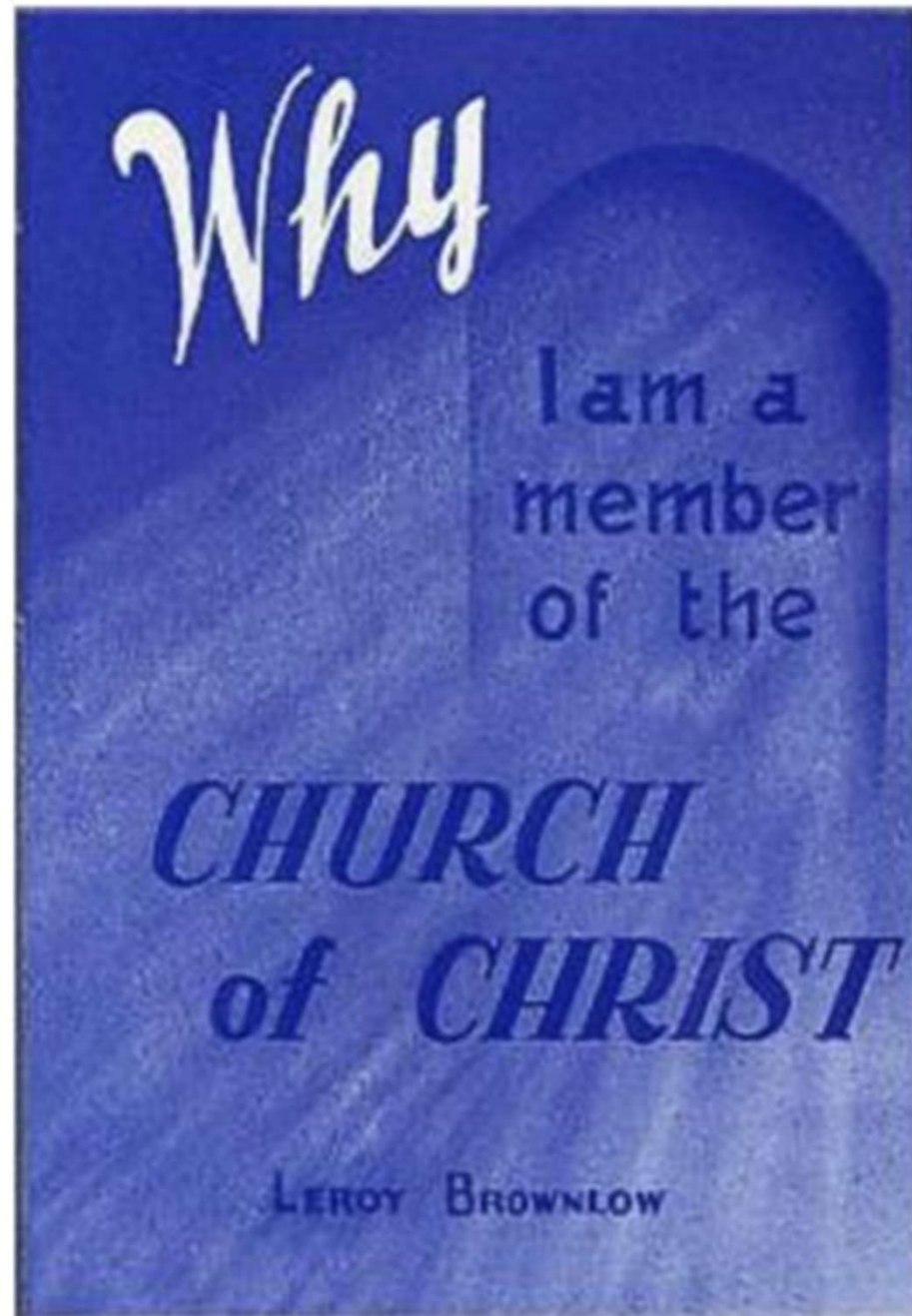
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Next Week

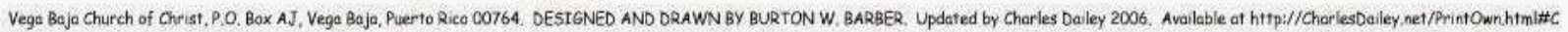
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**Pages
13-19**



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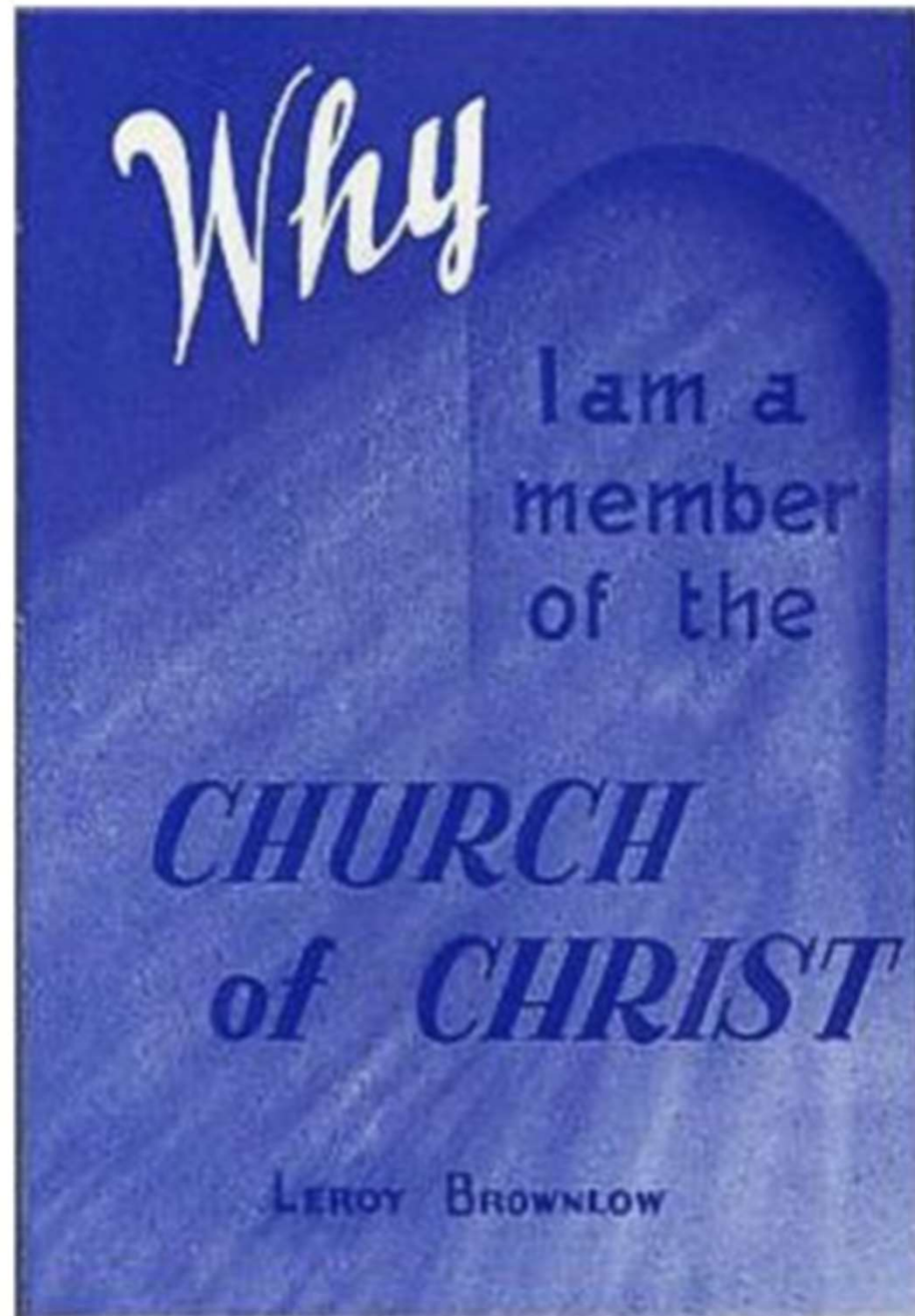
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This Week

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**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

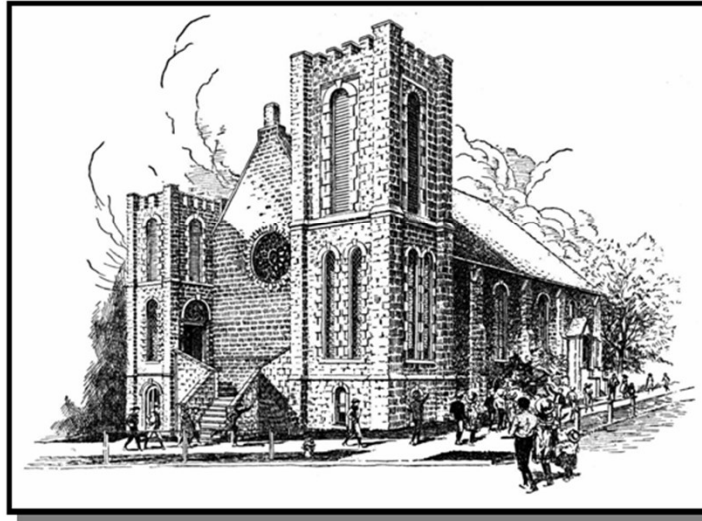
- Baptist
- Methodist
- Presbyterian
- Catholic
- Episcopal
- Lutheran
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormon)
- Seventh Day Adventist
- Jehovah's Witnesses

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

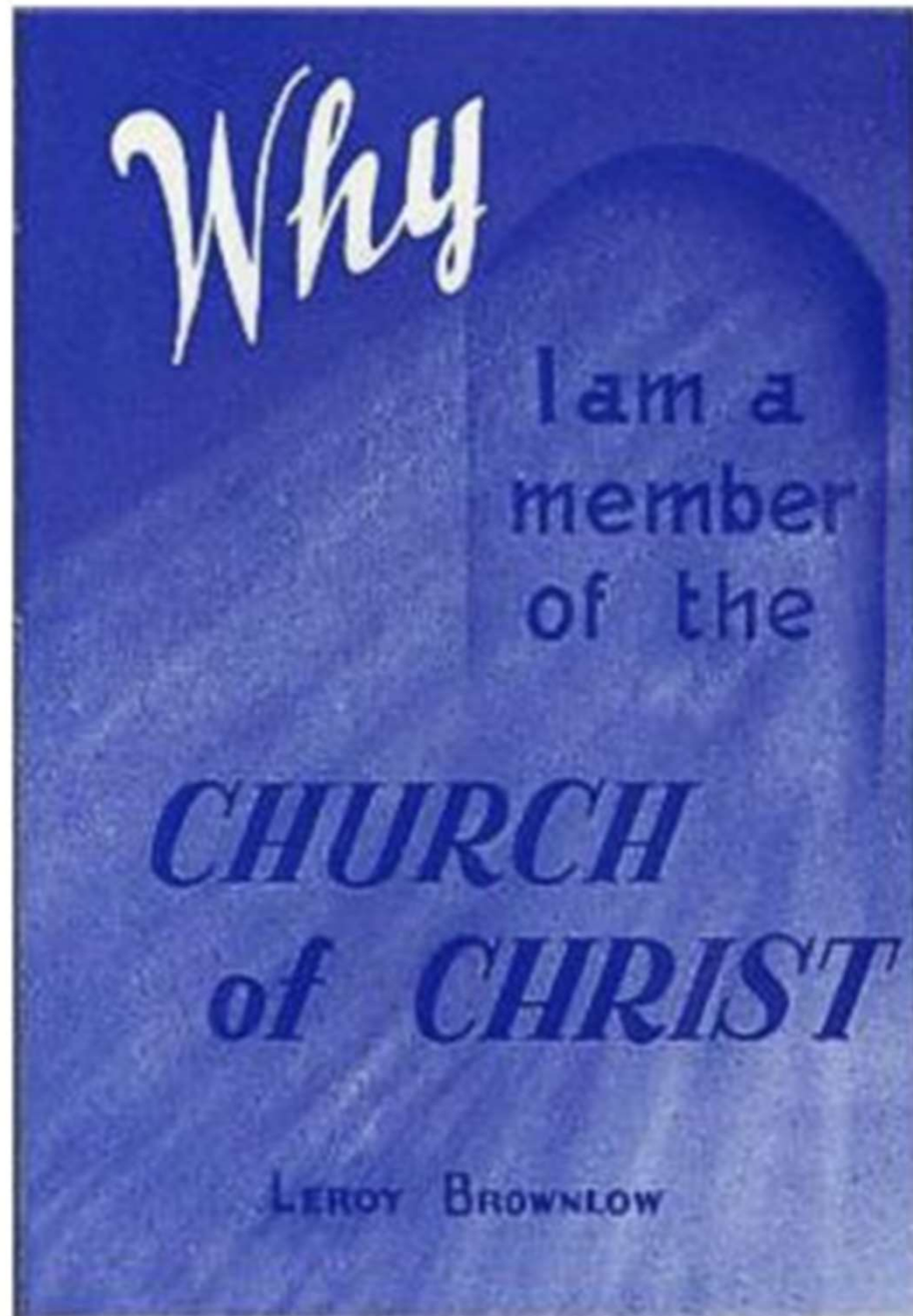
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Next Week

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

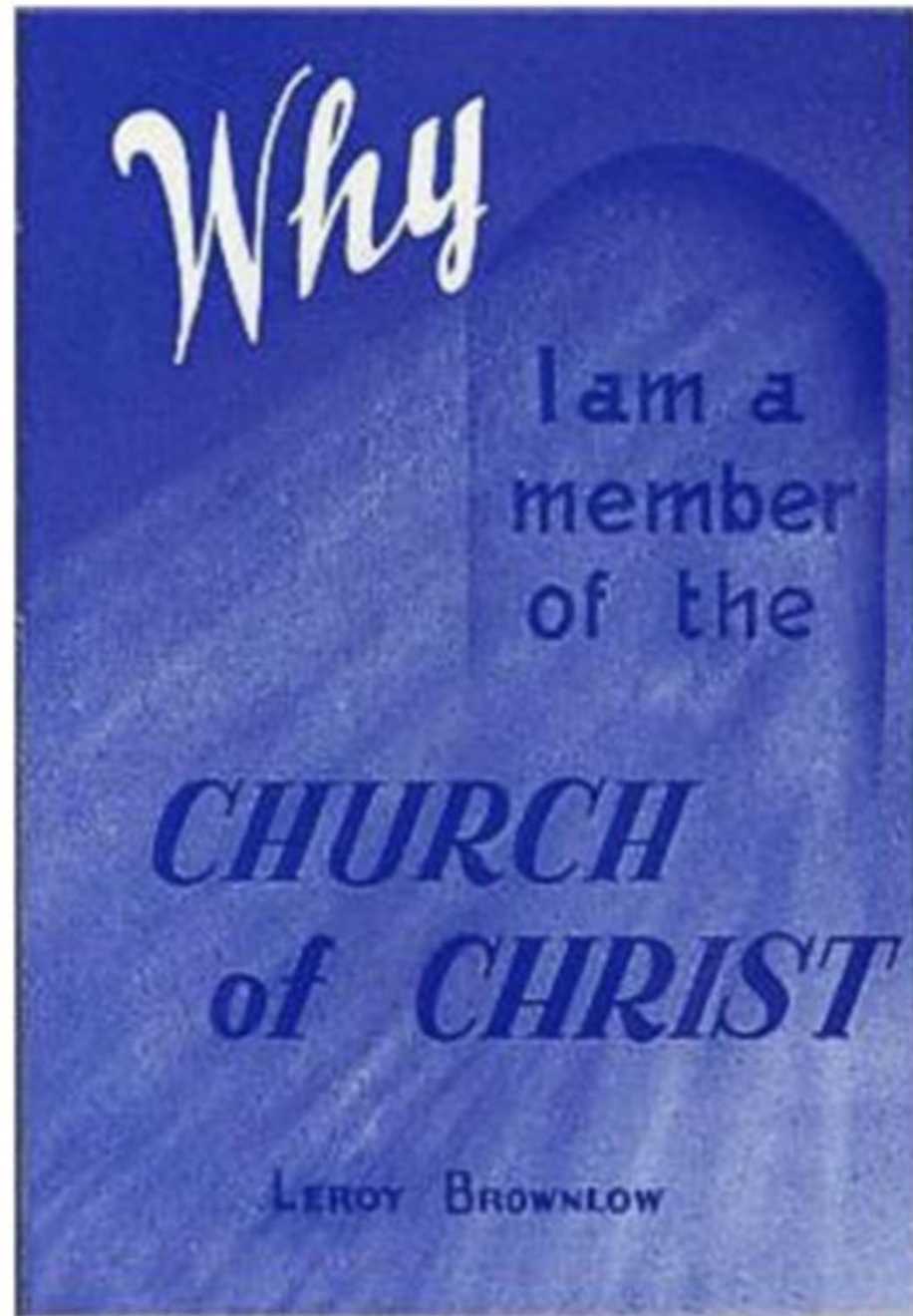
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This Week

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:

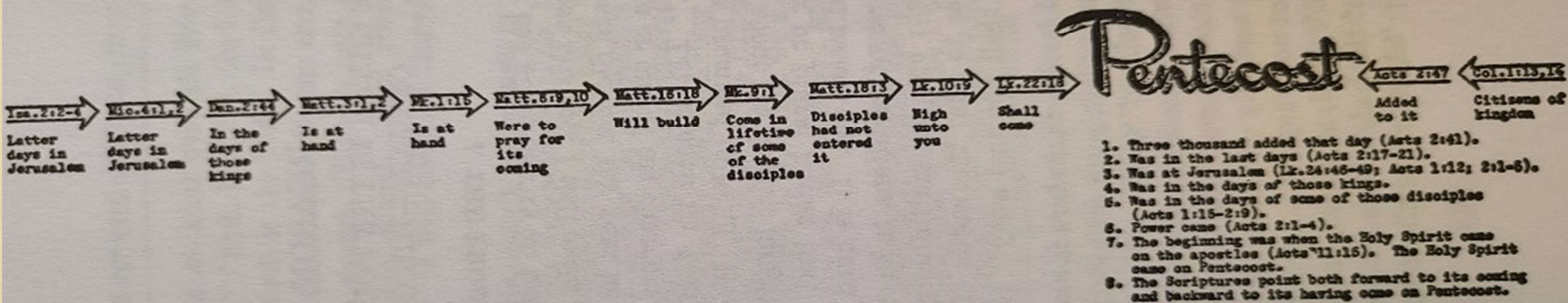
The Kingdom & The Church Are the SAME

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



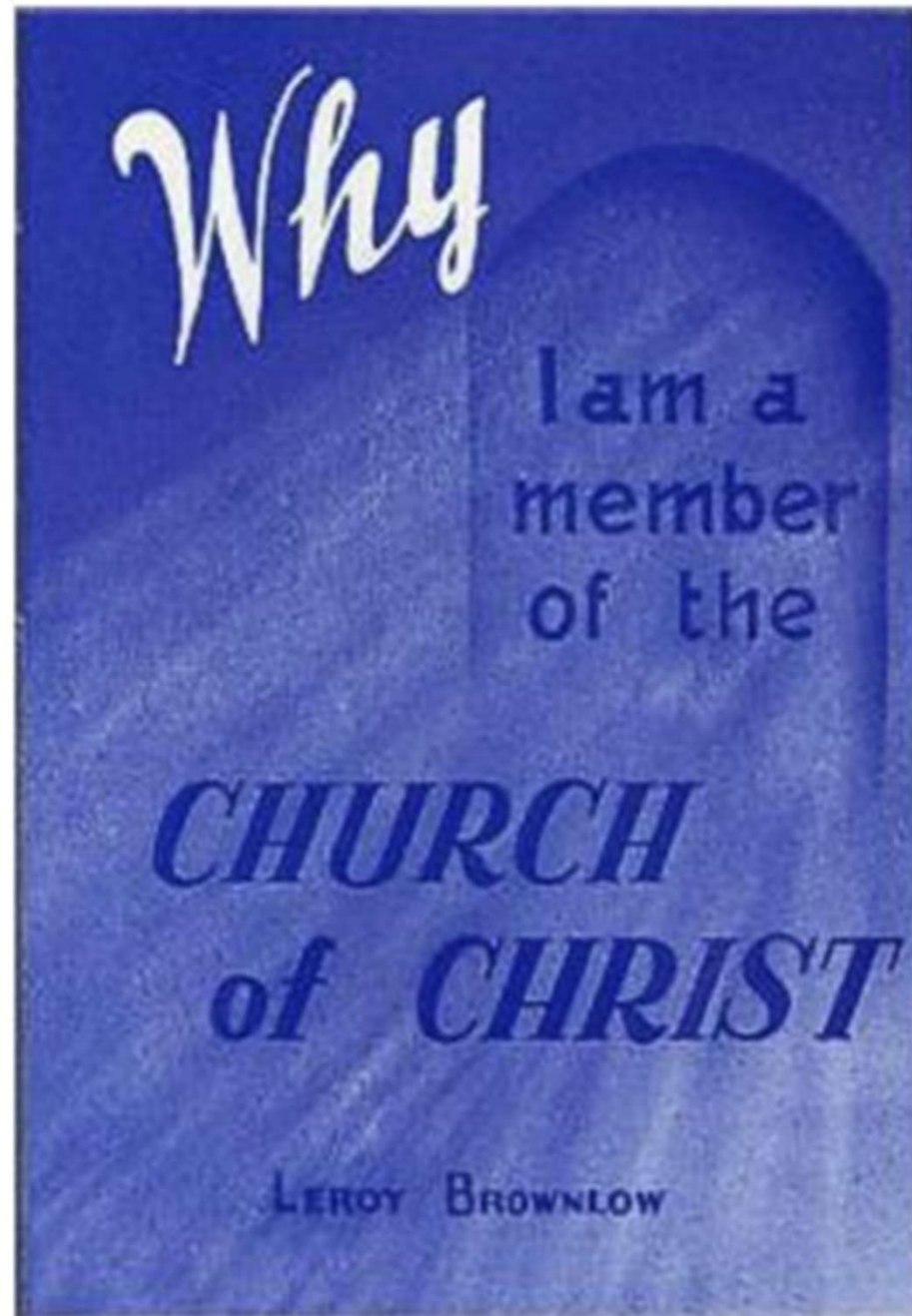
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Next Week

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.

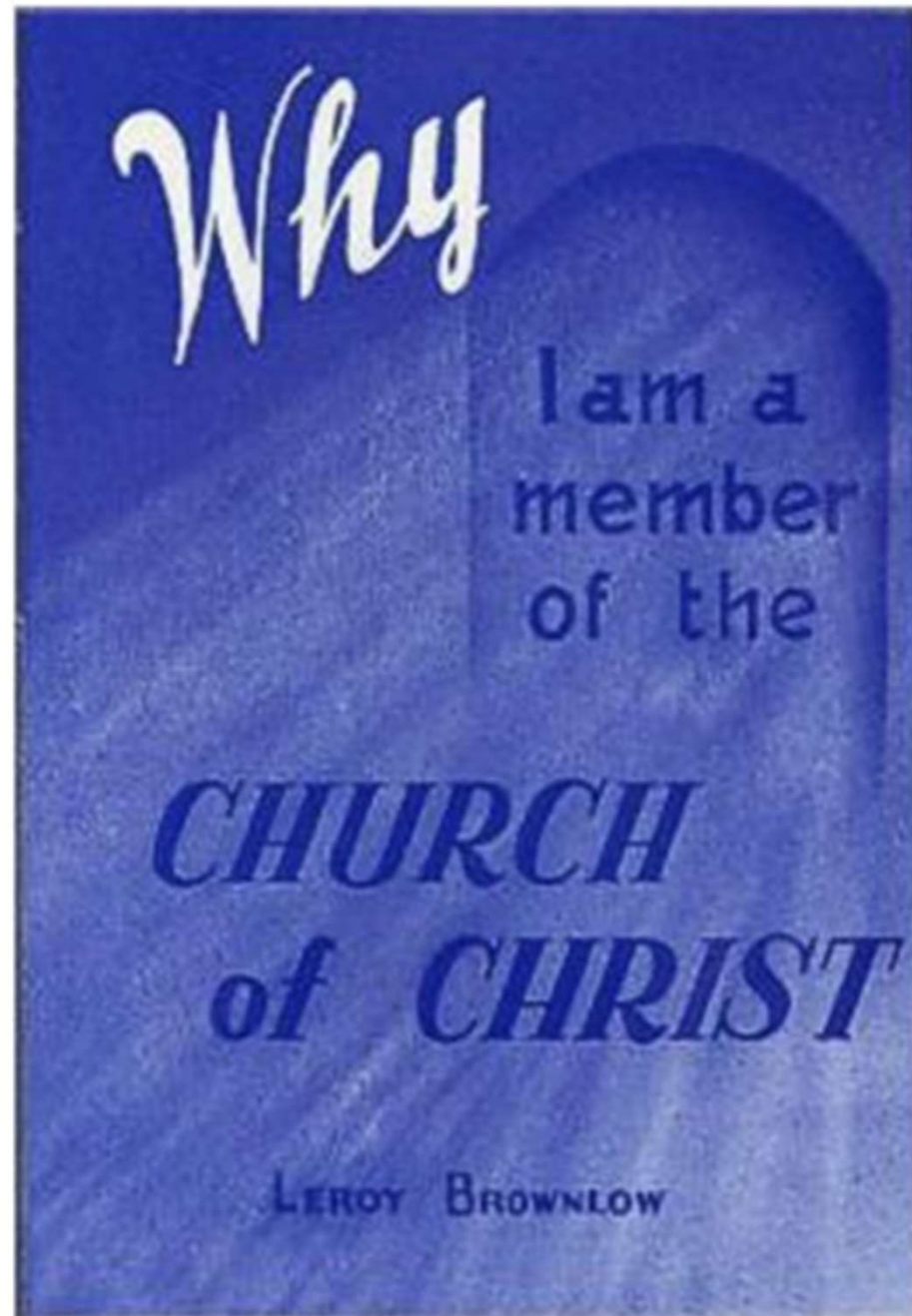
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Next Week

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:

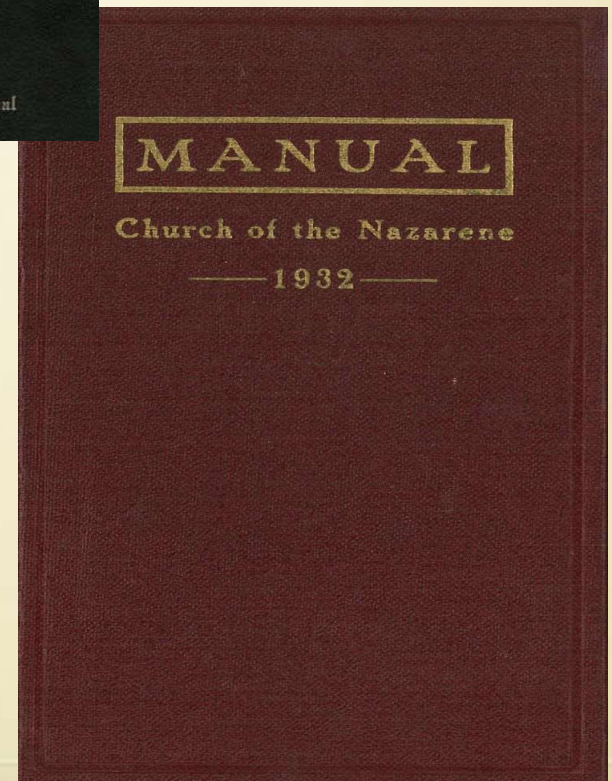
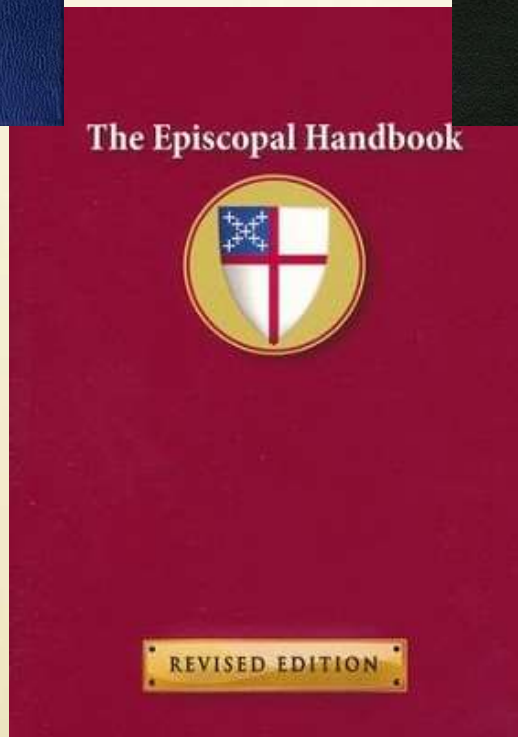
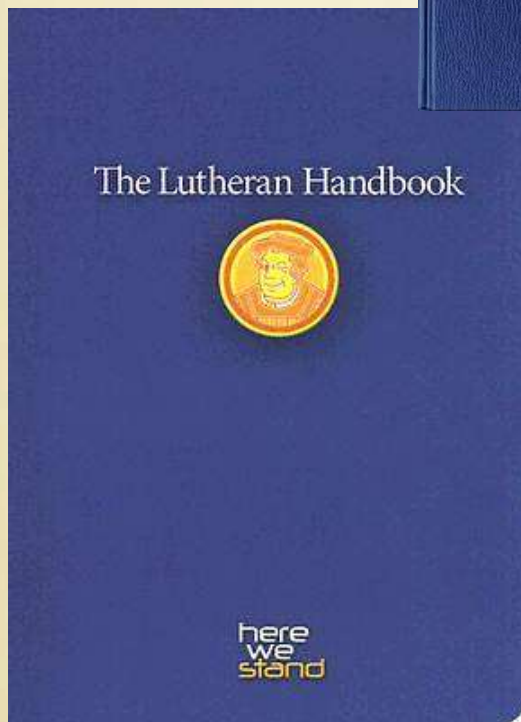
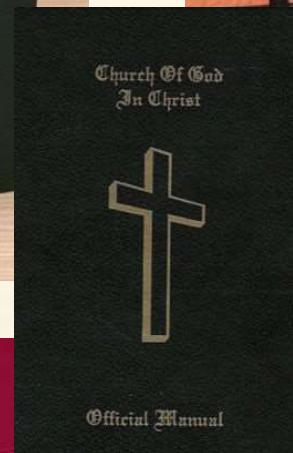
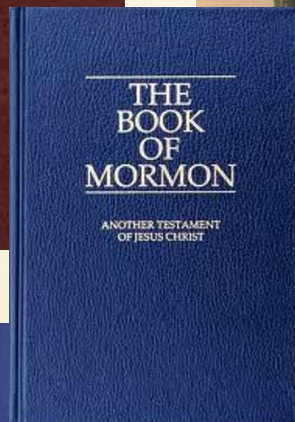
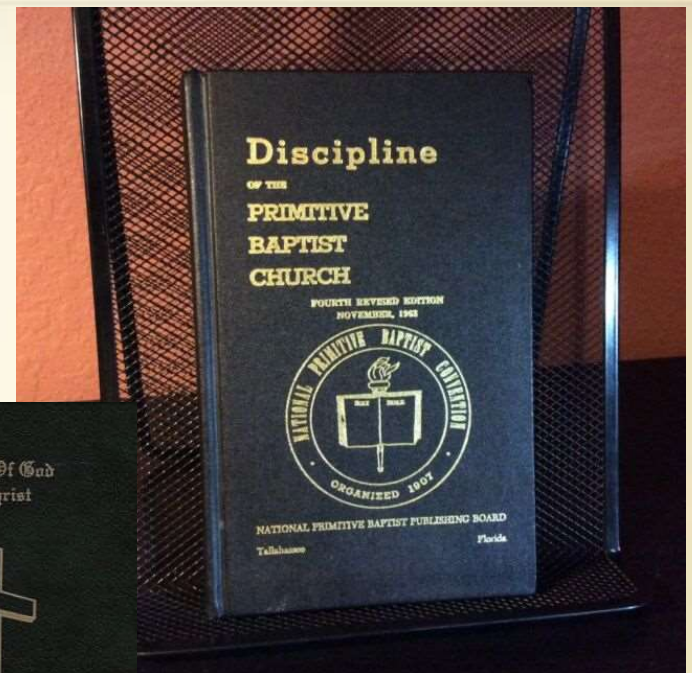
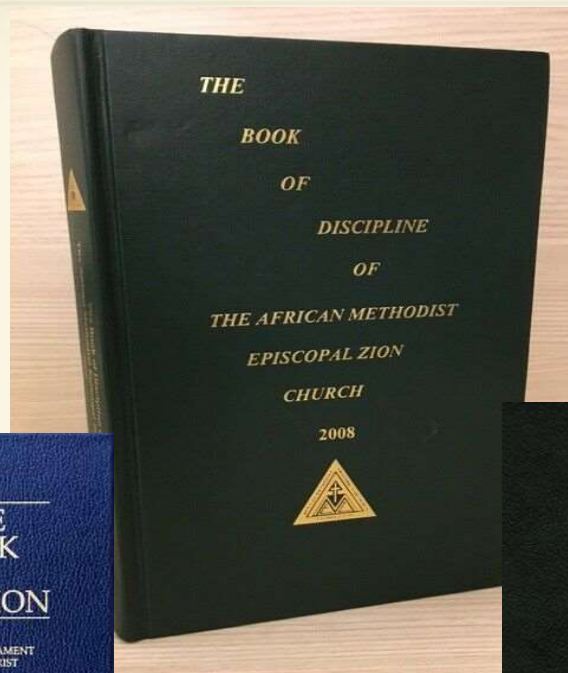
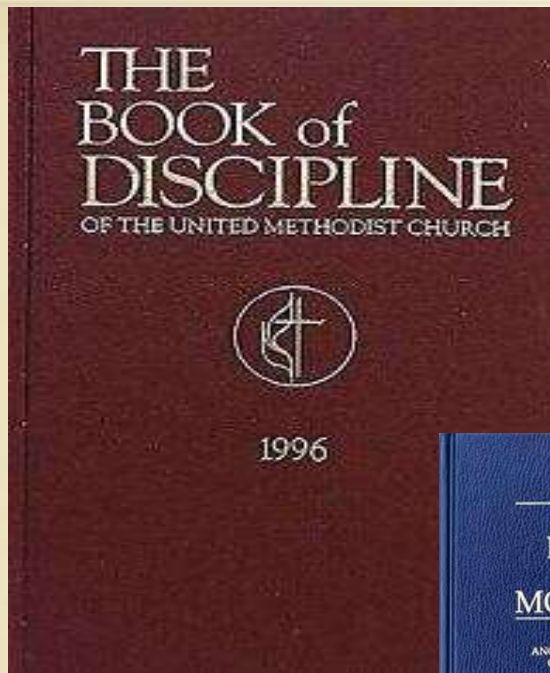
The bible often labels the church by its relationship with God or its Location



- ◆ "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



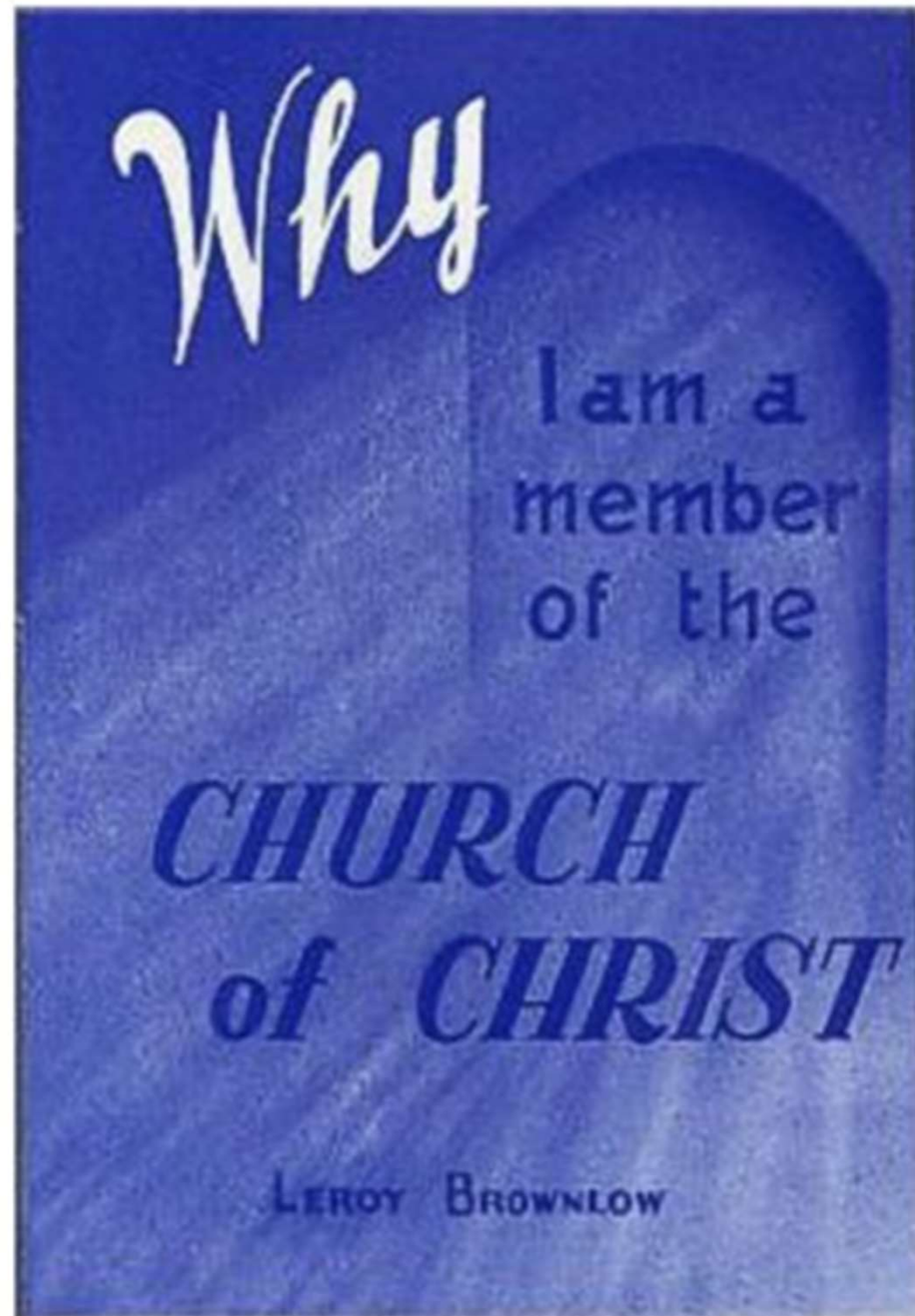
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Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
28-37**

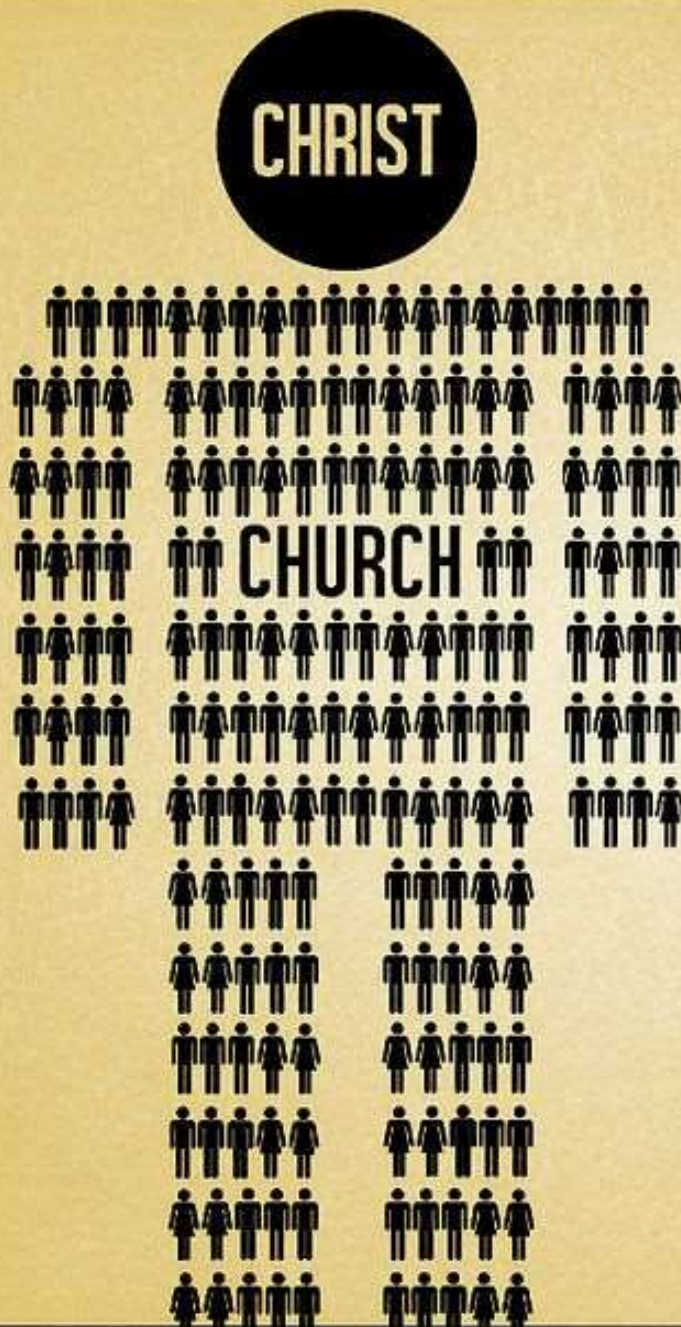


Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

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**



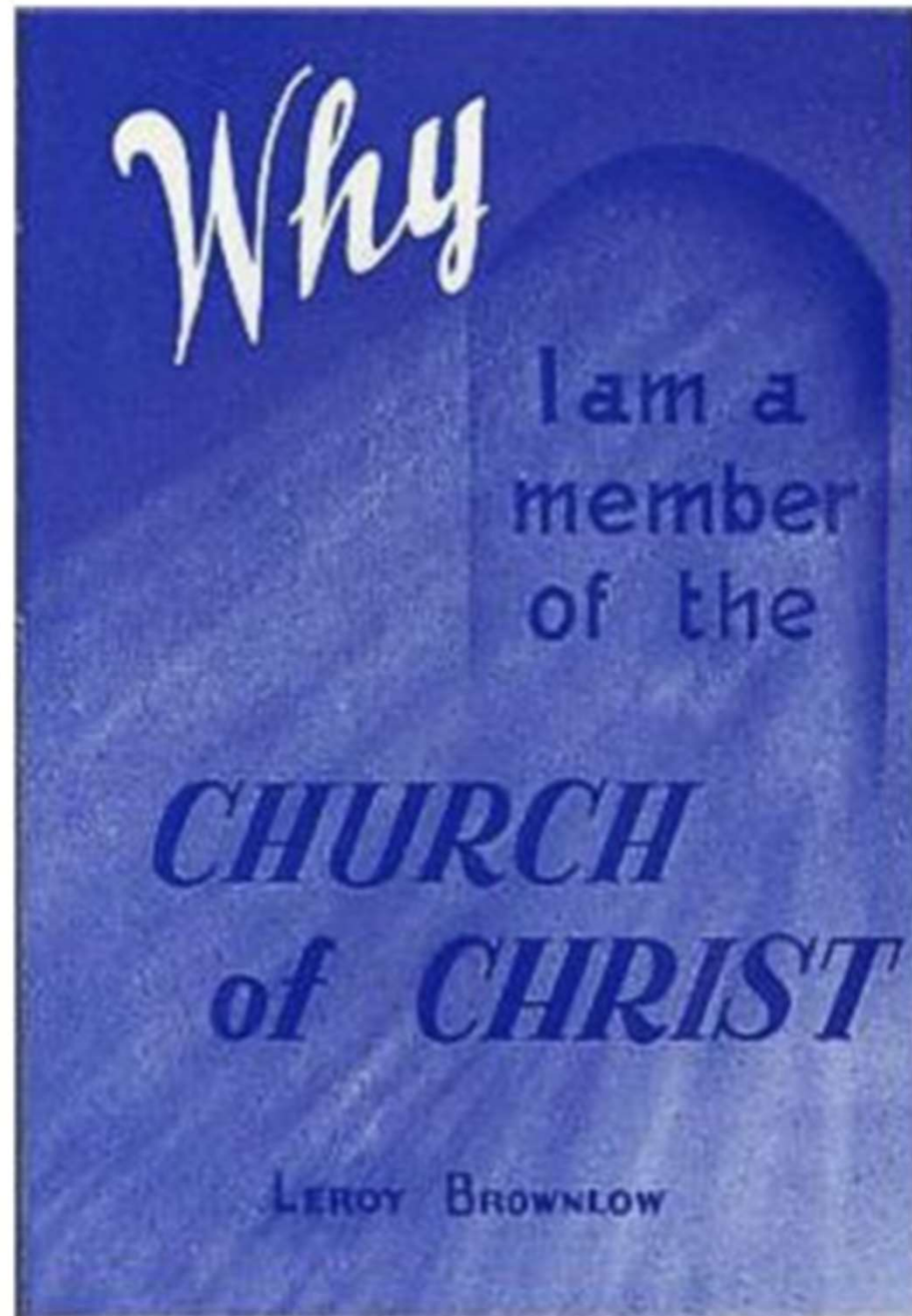
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Next Week

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 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).

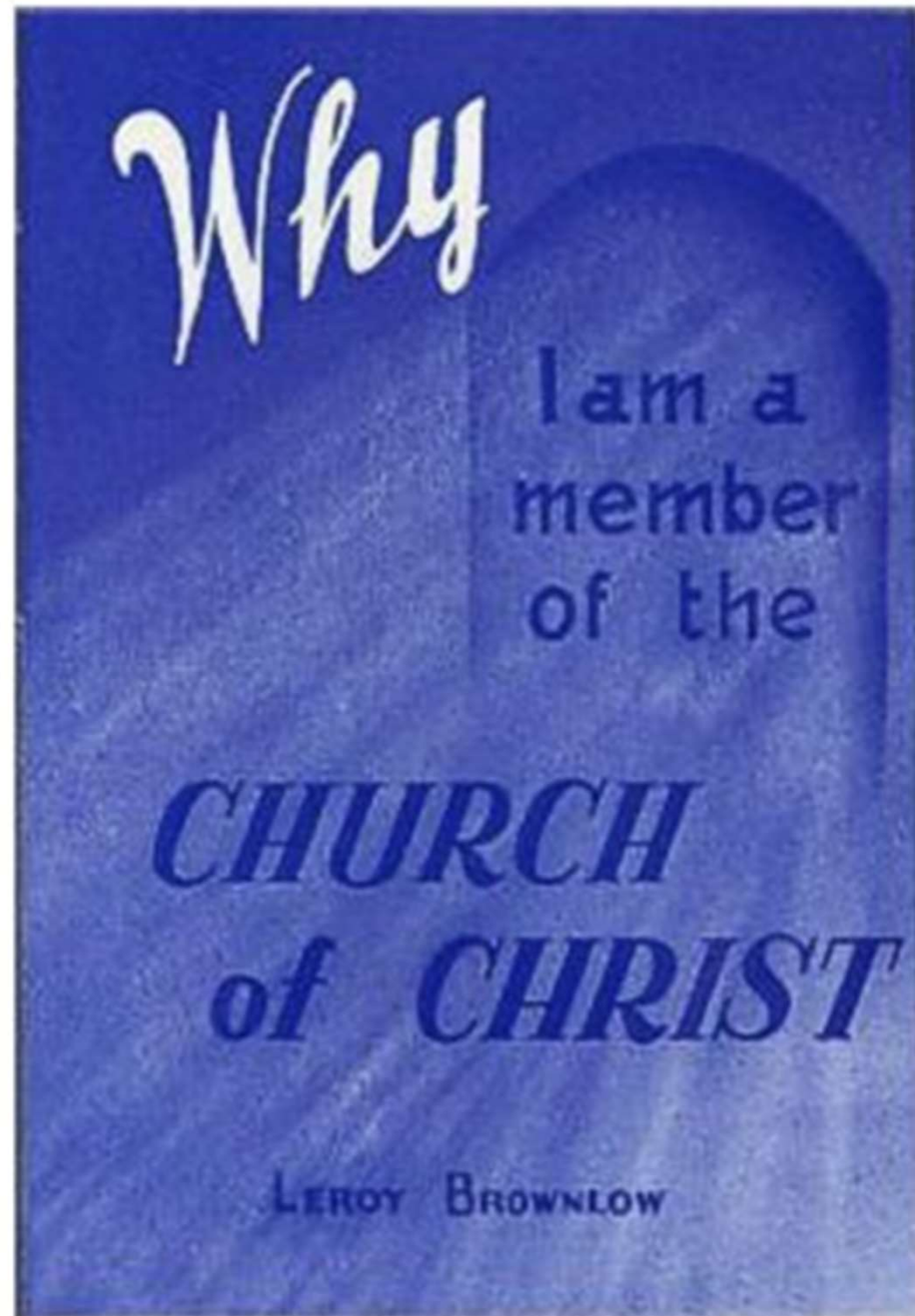
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Next Week

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.

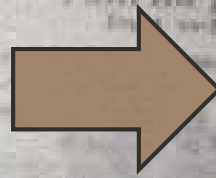
In the time of the apostles and for the first three centuries the Bible was the **ONLY** creed.

- ◆ 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

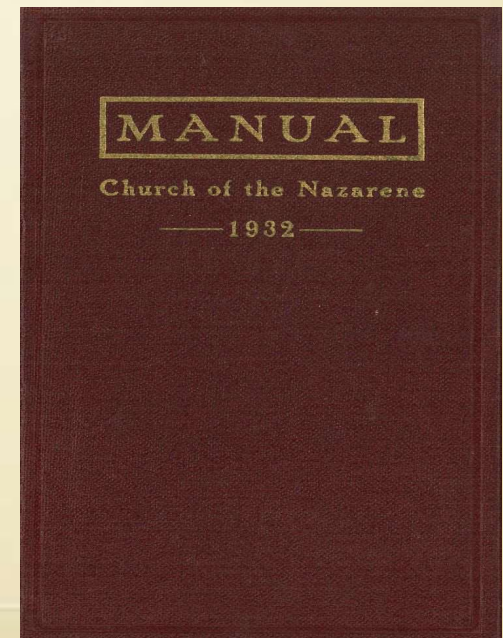
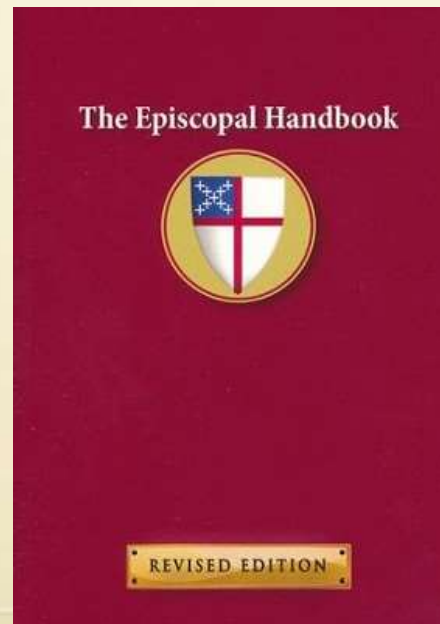
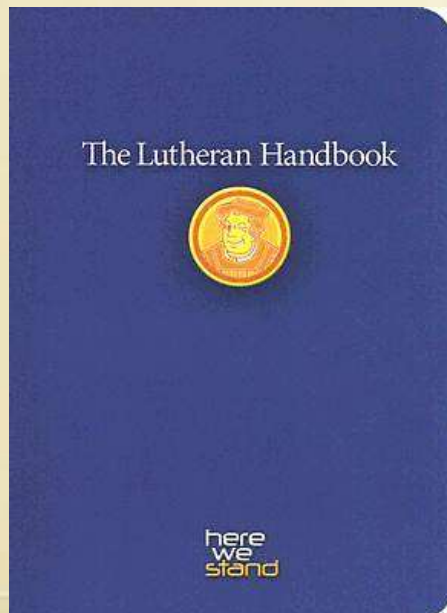
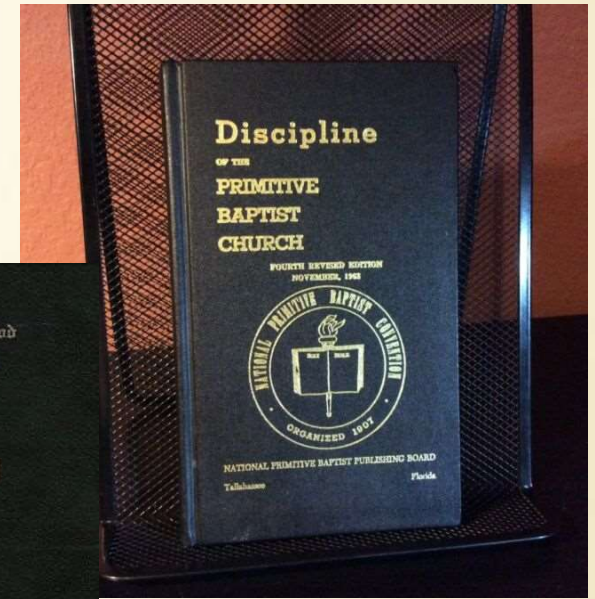
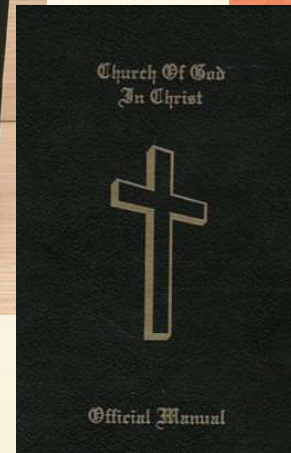
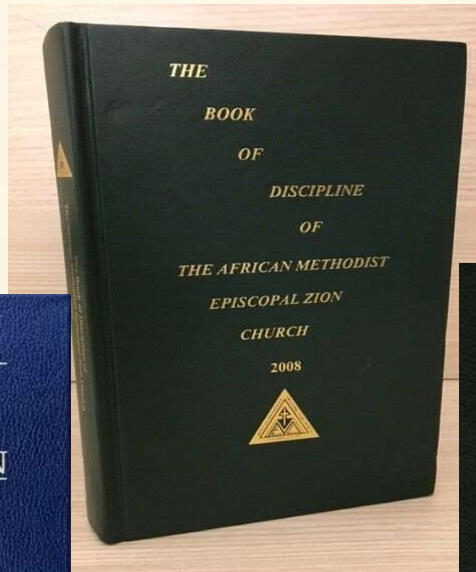
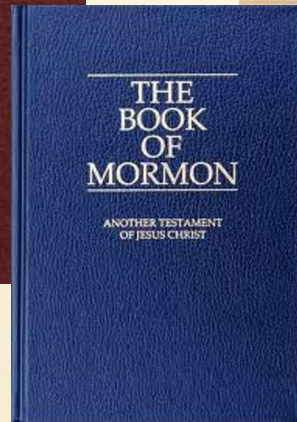
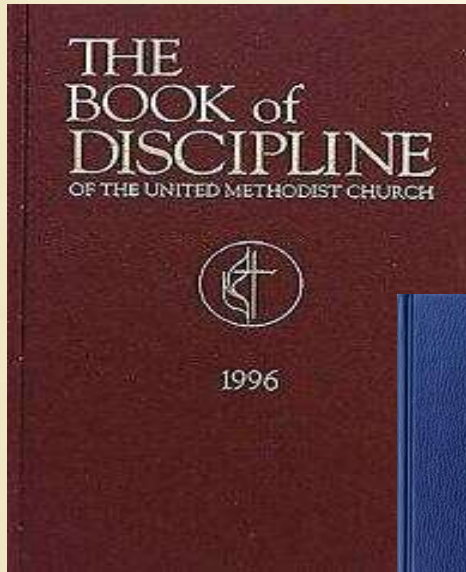
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- ◆ I want the **SAME** guide the church in the bible used if I want the **SAME** salvation the church was promised!

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.

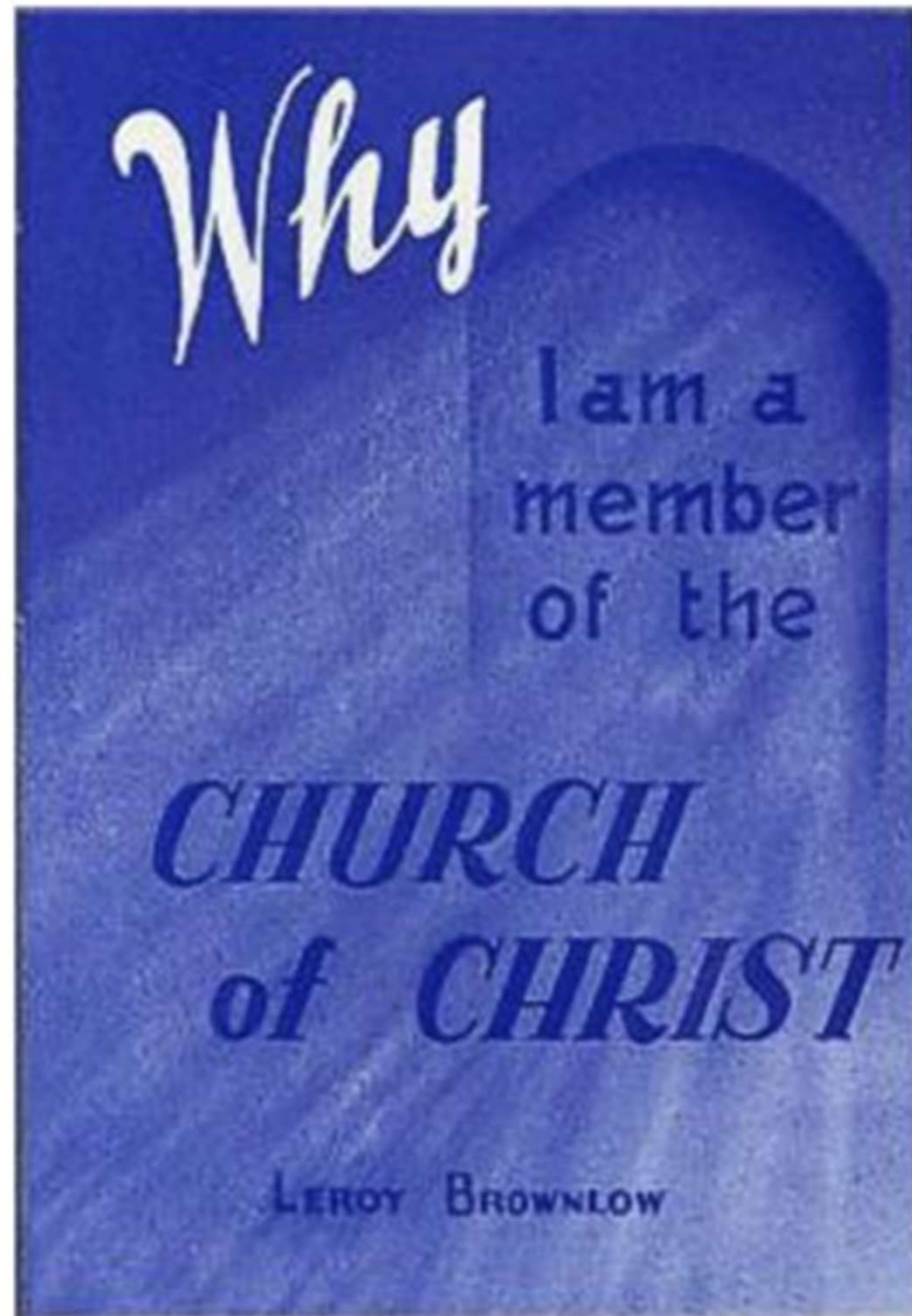
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Next Week

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 be²²⁹ 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.**

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“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**

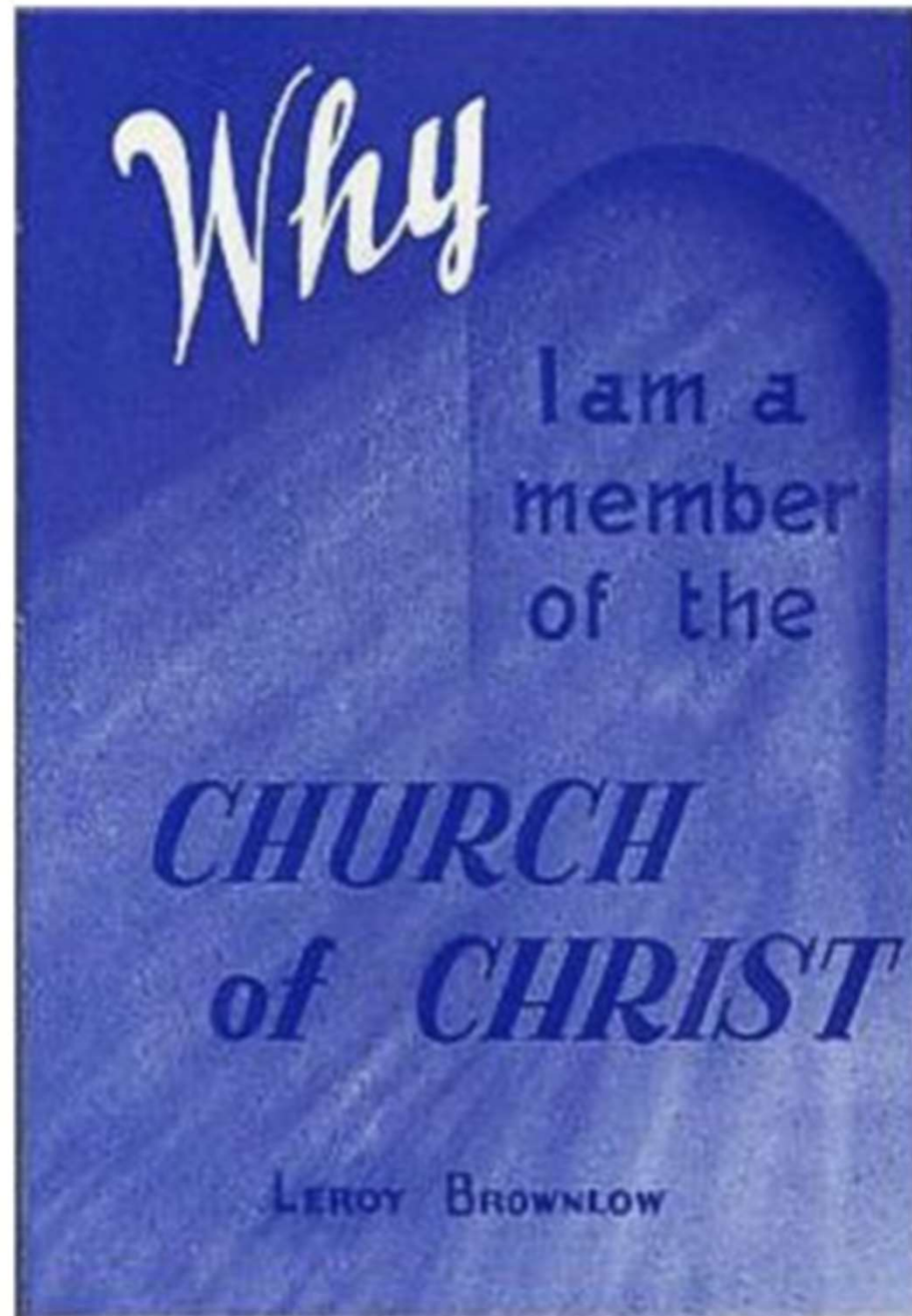
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Next Week

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

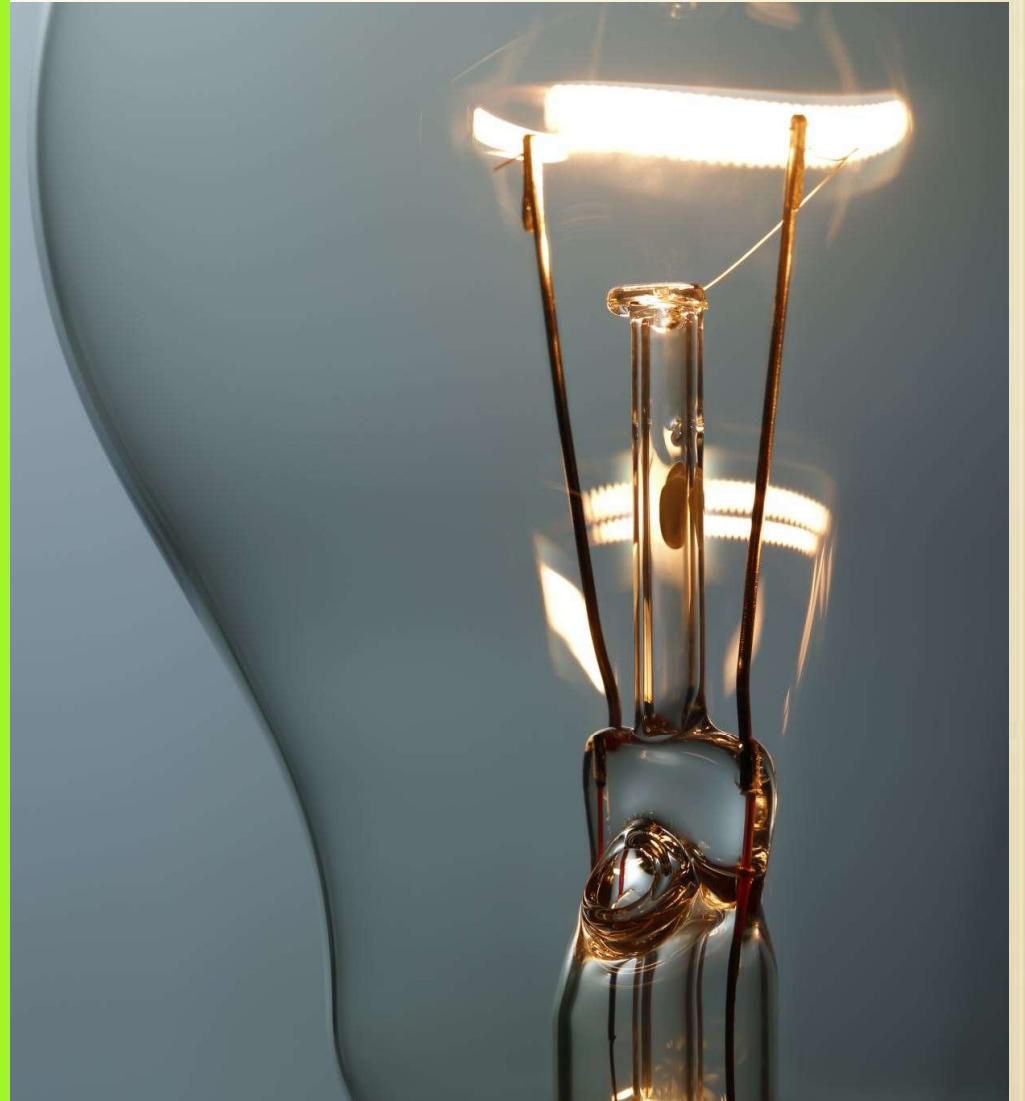


Something to think about

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 each⁴⁴ 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

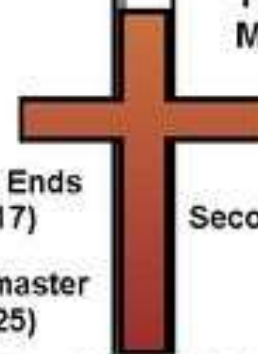
Genesis

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

IV. A COMPARISON OF THE TWO COVENANTS

The First (Heb. 10:9)

1. Old Covenant (II Cor. 3:14).
2. Takes away first (Heb. 10:9).
3. Given by prophets (Heb. 1:1,2).
4. Given to Jews (Gen. 17:13).
5. Written on stones (II Cor. 3:7).
6. Shadow of good things (Heb. 10:1).
7. Offering oftentimes the same sacrifices (Heb. 10:11).
8. Blood of animals (Heb. 10:1-4).
9. Animals as dead sacrifices (Heb. 10:1-4).
10. A remembrance of sins (Heb. 10:3).
11. Made nothing perfect or complete (Heb. 7:19).
12. Fleshly circumcision (Gen. 17:9-11).
13. Ministration of condemnation (II Cor. 3:9).
14. Levitical priesthood (Heb. 7:11).
15. Old priesthood and law (Heb. 7:12).
16. Faulty (Heb. 8:7).
17. Blotted out (Col. 2:14).

The Second (Heb. 10:9)

1. New Covenant (II Cor. 3:6).
2. Establishes second (Heb. 10:9).
3. Given by Christ (Heb. 1:1,2).
4. Given to every creature (Mk. 16:15,16).
5. Written in hearts (II Cor. 3:3).
6. The true (Heb. 8:1,2).
7. Christ offered once for all (Heb. 7:27).
8. Blood of Christ (Heb. 9:14).
9. Human body as living sacrifice (Rom. 12:1).
10. Sins remembered no more (Heb. 8:12).
11. Perfect or complete in Christ (Col. 1:28).
12. Circumcision of the heart (Rom. 2:29).
13. Ministration of righteousness (II Cor. 3:9).
14. Each Christian a priest (I Pet. 2:5).
15. Priesthood and law changed (Heb. 7:12).
16. Perfect law (Jas. 1:25).
17. Remaineth (II Cor. 3:11).

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 ²⁵⁰separates 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

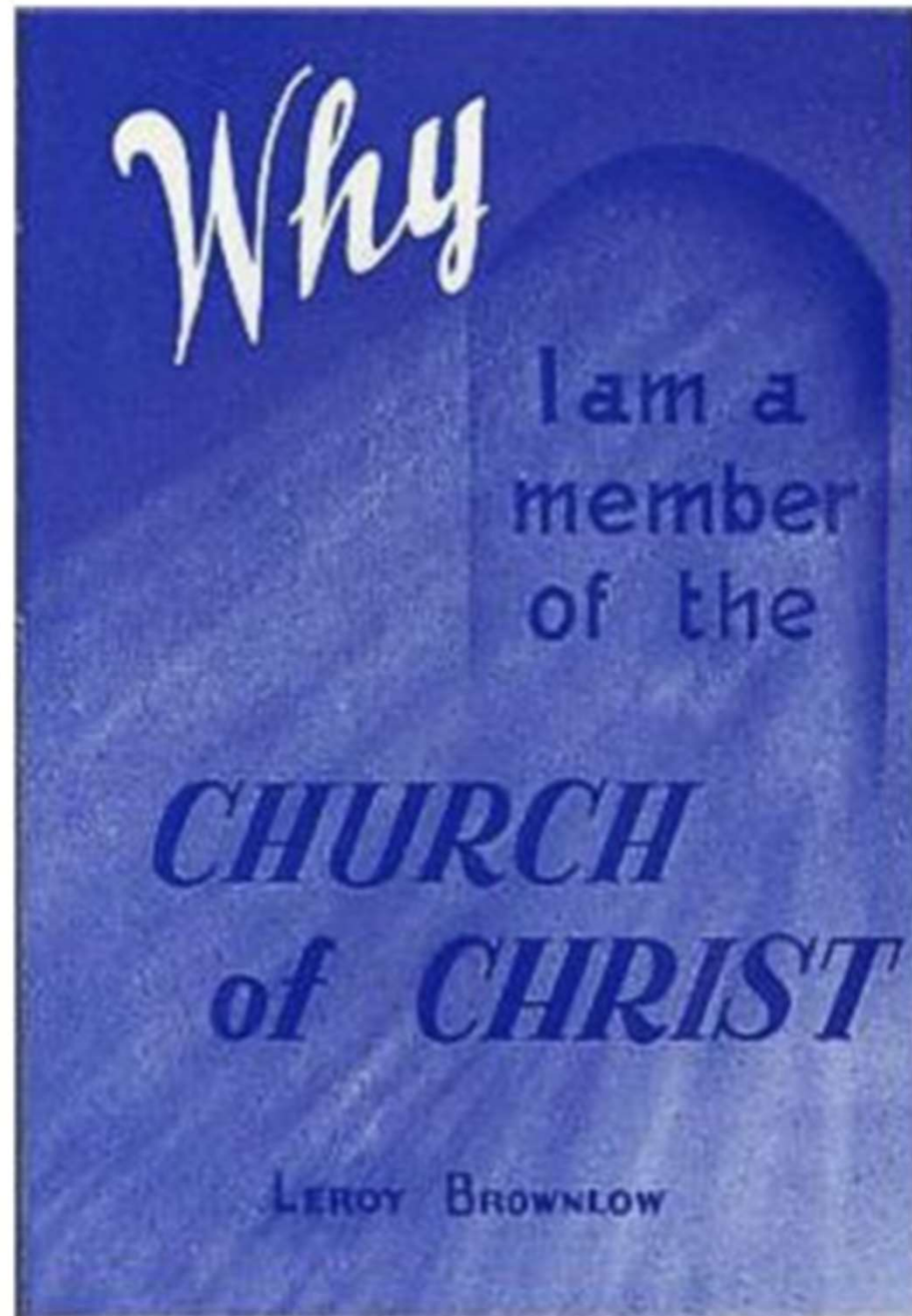
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Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
70-77**



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it is
Undenominational

What do we mean by “Undenominational”?

1. When we say undenominational, **we DON'T mean all-denominational**. The church is not made up of all denominations.
2. The church of Christ (as seen in the bible) **is not a denomination** and in that it stands **opposed to denominationalism**.

Denominationalism

versus

True Christianity

Believes in MANY bodies

There is ONE Body (1 Cor 12:20)

Founded by men

Founded by Christ (Matt 16:18)

Has human headship

Christ is the head (Eph 1:22-23)

Preaches MANY gospels

Preaches only ONE gospel (Gal 1:8-9)

Rewrites its creeds each year

Bible remains the same (Matt 24:35)

Has MANY faiths

ONE faith (Eph 4:4-5)

Has MANY baptisms

ONE baptism (Eph 4:4-5)

You can JOIN denominations

God adds to the church (Acts 2:47)

Lives by different rules

Lives by the SAME rule (Phil 3:16)

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ Undenominational

◆ **Jesus Prayed For Unity** – *John 17:20-23*

◆ **Paul Pleaded For Unity** – *1 Cor. 1:1-10* (Warns against making denominations)

◆ **The church belonging to Christ & Submits To Christ**
– *Eph 5:23,24; Eph 4:1-6; 1 Cor 4:17*

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ Undenominational



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 Are There So Many Denominations

Have you ever wondered why there are so many denominations in the "Christian" religion? If there is only one God, and only one Lord Jesus Christ, and only one Bible, why are there so many denominations?

Each of these groups have doctrines and traditions that are peculiar to that particular denomination. Did you know that the Bible strictly condemns this practice?

While some suggest that it is not possible or necessary for all to believe the same things and teach the same things, God has commanded precisely that.

1 Cor 1:10-12

Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and **that there be no divisions among you**; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgement.

**Are denominations
joined together in the
same mind and
judgement?**

1 Cor 1:13

Is Christ divided?

Is Christ divided?

**Does he have many
different bodies that
believe many different
things?**

Does it make a difference what we obey?

Why is it important to follow only the New Testament pattern for the church? To understand this, we must first recognize that we will be judged for eternity based entirely upon what is written in the New Testament. Jesus said,

"He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day" (John 12:48).

The New Testament is the message and teachings of Jesus.

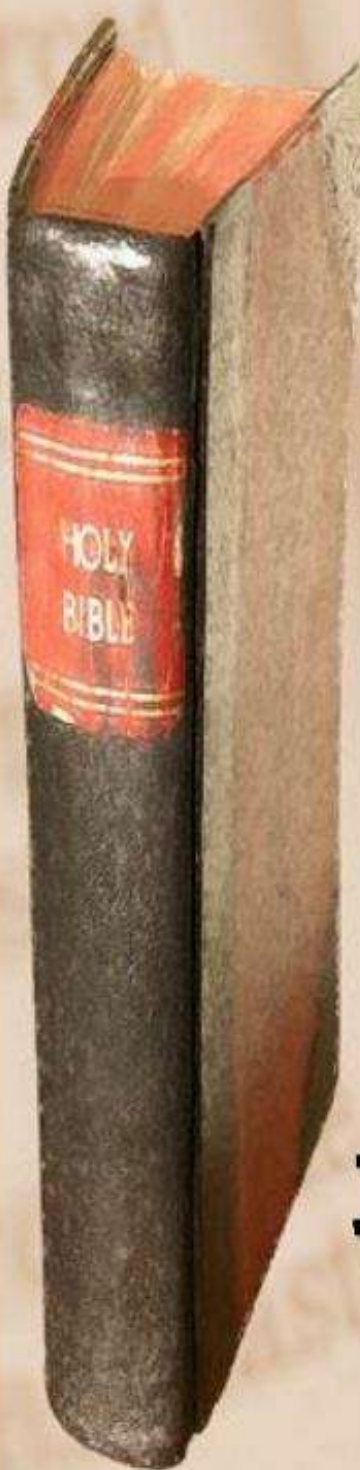
Where did denominations come from?

The Lord established his church more than 1900 years ago.

For hundreds of years the church remained faithful and uncorrupted.

However just as the Apostles predicted, the people will begin to fall away from the church & teachings of Christ. They decided to teach their own things and make up their own commandments

WARNING



(Act 20:29-30) For I know this,
that after my departing shall
grievous wolves enter in
among you, not sparing the
flock. Also of your own selves
shall men arise, **speaking**
perverse things, to draw away
disciples after them.

1 Timothy 4:1-3 (ASV)

- 1 But the Spirit saith expressly, that in later times some shall fall away from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons,
- 2 through the hypocrisy of men that speak lies, branded in their own conscience as with a hot iron;
- 3 forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from meats, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by them that believe and know the truth.

The Falling Away

This falling away led to the development of the Roman Catholic church.

Years later, people tried to reform the Catholic church, but their efforts lead to the creation of other man-made churches (e.g. Lutheran, Baptist, etc)

THE CHURCH IN THE BIBLE

The church Jesus promised to build in Matt 16:18, that started in Acts 2 was NOT Roman Catholic nor any other denomination.

It was Christ's body,
The church of Christ

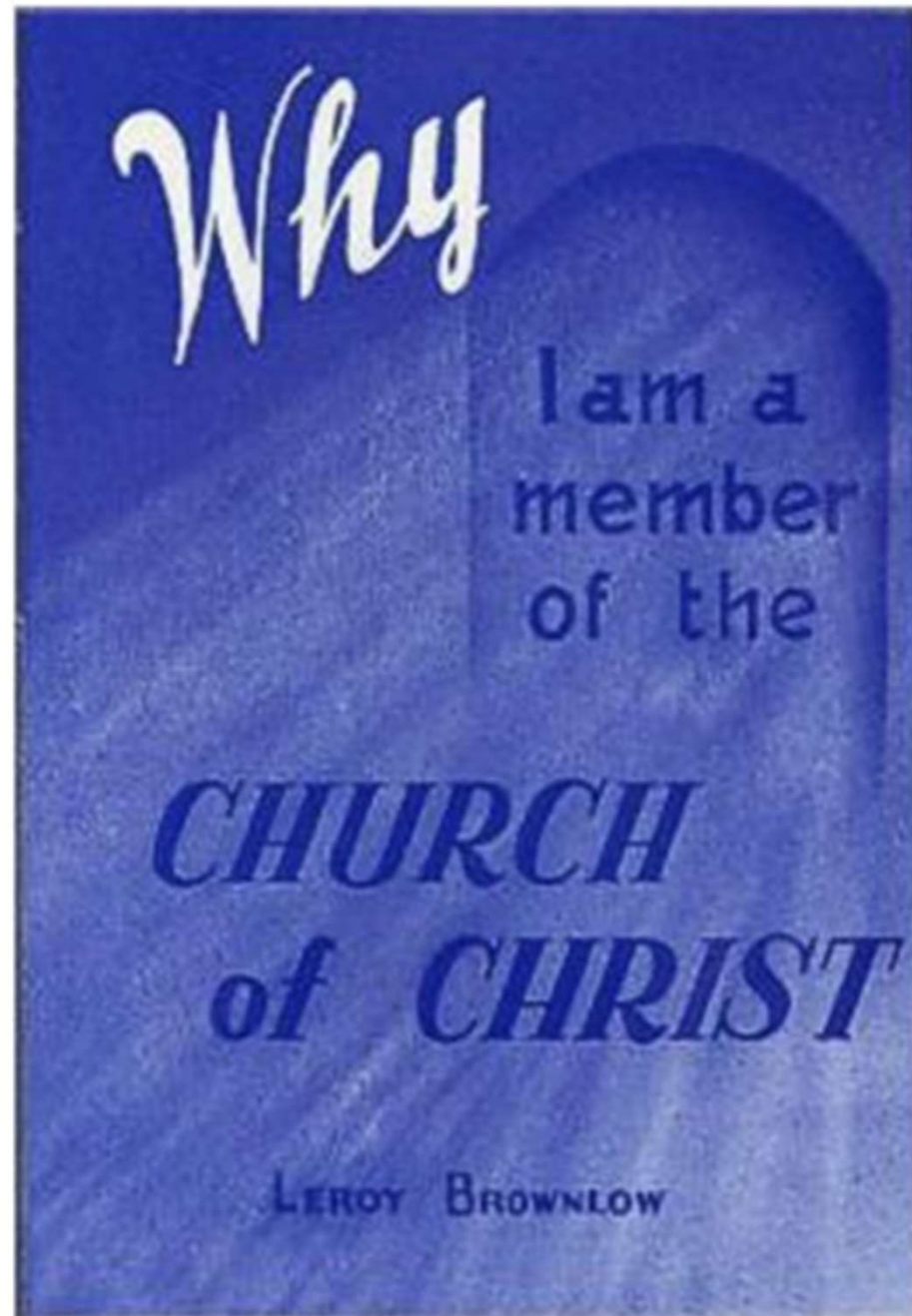
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Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
78-85**



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it is Scriptural
in doing mission work

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

The Need For Preaching

Preaching is central to performing the work of sharing the gospel to people near and far.

No special “mission society” is needed in order to share the gospel to those far away.

As we seen in the bible preaching to those far away is the “normal” work²⁷⁵ of the church

THE NEED OF PREACHING AFAR

It is Christ's command
that the gospel be
preached

This was not our idea it was HIS!

So HE knows best how to do it!

THE NEED OF PREACHING AFAR

Then Jesus Came To
Them And Said, “All
Authority In Heaven And
On Earth Has Been Given
To Me.”

Matthew 28-18

BibleWordings.com

THE NEED OF PREACHING AFAR

Matthew 28:19-20 King James Version (KJV)

19 **Go** ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Go means to get out of here..

To teach is 1st step
All nations = people other than you!

Baptism is the response to teaching

Then keep teaching them the new covenant of Christ

THE NEED OF PREACHING AFAR

The world is bigger than our
neighborhood

And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

MARK 16:15-16

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it is Scriptural
in doing mission work

THE NEED OF PREACHING AFAR

It is impossible to have
gospel fruit without first
planting the seed

Matt 13:3-8

Matt 13:18-23

Things that can hinder us sharing the Gospel

As kids we are taught to:

- 1) don't talk to strangers
- 2) Seek out those who are like you
- 3) There is safety sticking with your own kind
- 4) Don't say stuff people may not like
- 5) Don't make yourself look weird
- 6) Try not to embarrass yourself

THE NEED OF PREACHING AFAR

Faith cannot be produce
apart from hearing
(understanding) the
word

Rom 10:17

Where there is no preaching/teaching there can be no salvation

Romans 10:13-14

13 For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”

14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?

What is “calling on the name of the Lord?”

The bible answers that question...

Acts 22:16



26

- And now why tarriest thou?
arise, and be baptized, and wash
away thy sins, calling on the
name of the Lord.

**Obedience through baptism is how we
“call on the name of the Lord”**

Salvation cannot happen without the word of God

for you have been born again not of seed
which is perishable but imperishable, that
is, through the living and enduring word of
God.

— 1 Peter 1:23 (NASB®)

**The word of God is MANADORY if
true salvation is to happen**

The church itself is the divine missionary society

**so that the manifold wisdom of God might
now be made known through the church
to the rulers and the authorities in the
heavenly places.**

— Ephesians 3:10 (NASB®)

**The wisdom of God is to be shared
with the world THROUGH THE CHURCH**

The church is the support to the Truth

but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.

— 1 Timothy 3:15 (NASB®)

The church is the support, spreader & fulfillment of the truth

Final Words

**The church is given the duty of spreading
the gospel Near & Far**

**It is a sinful mistake to think “missionary societies”
and “evangelism teams” are the
“only people” who are asked to share the gospel**

Every Christian is to share the gospel

Ways To Share The Gospel

Send a letter

Make a flyer

Rent a billboard

Phone Calls

Go Door to Door

Mail postcards

Make a website

Have a conversation

Hold a bible study

Discuss over dinner

Study with your kids

Correspondence Course

Hand out tracts

Invite to service

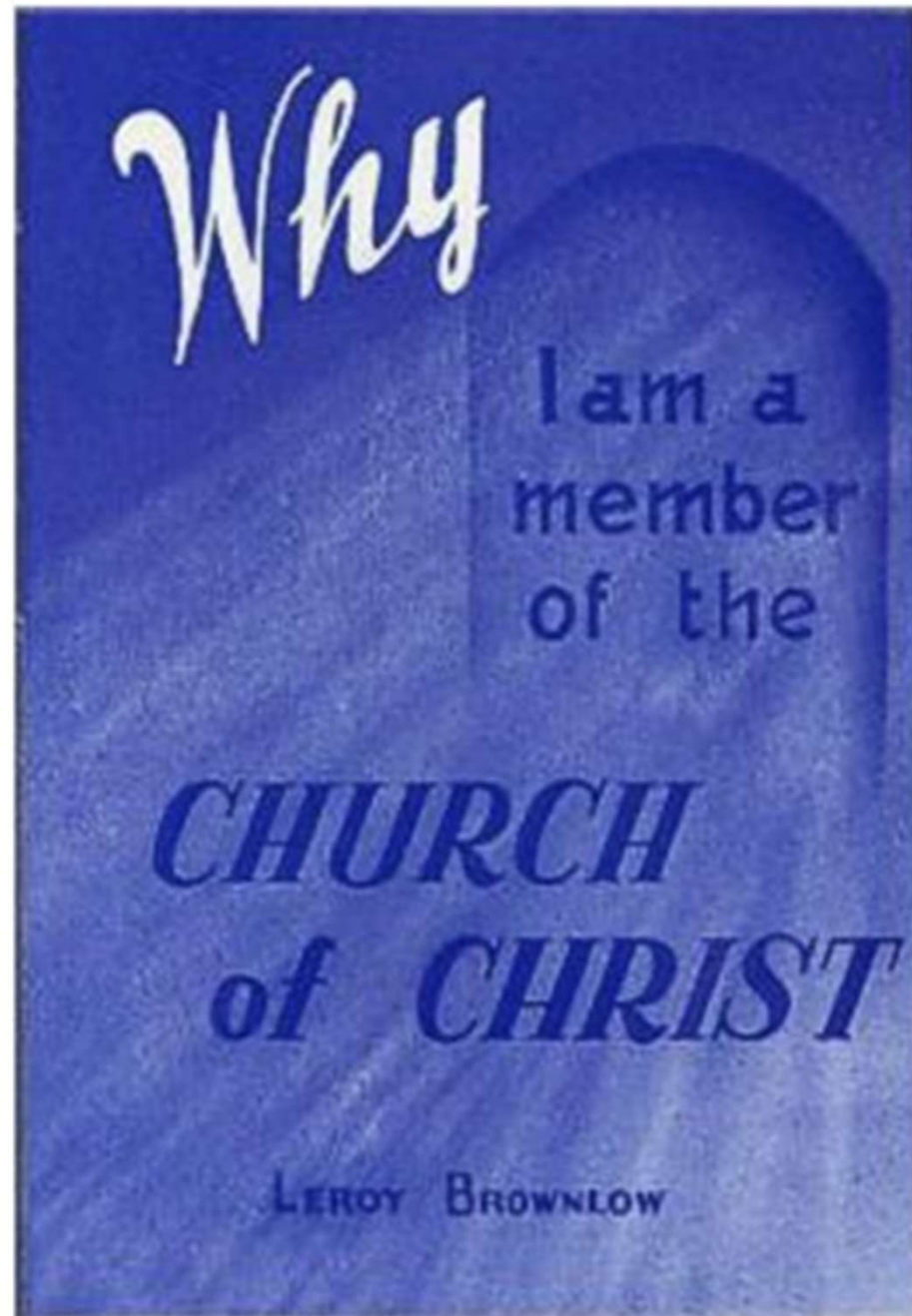
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Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
78-85**



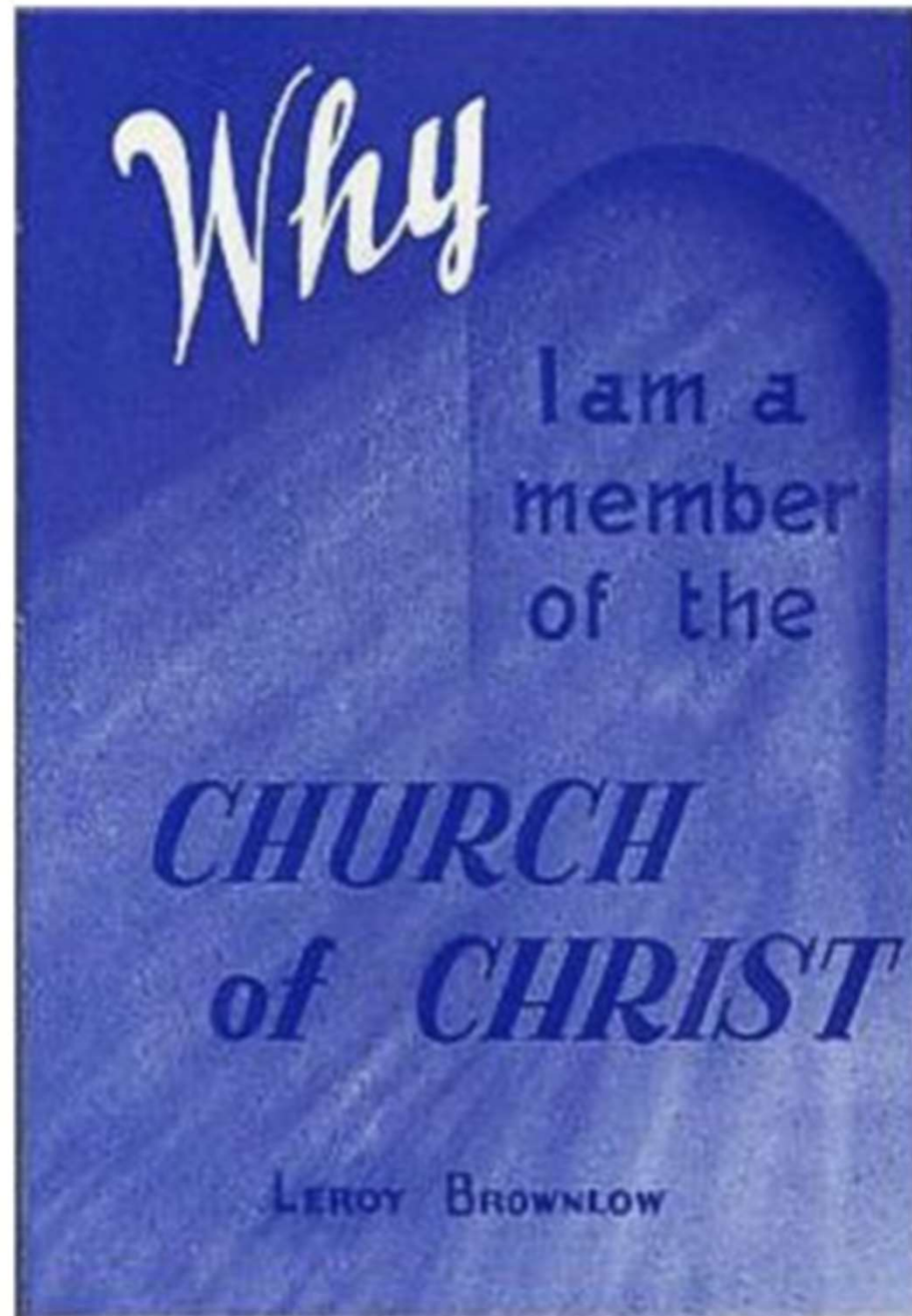
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Next Week

We Will

Discuss

Pages
86-93



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it is Scriptural
in its teaching about
The Kingdom of God

**There is INCORRECT understanding of the
Kingdom being taught by many**

**Many people today are
teaching that the
Kingdom of God
has not arrived yet**

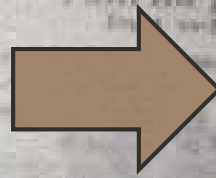
In conjunction with this teaching...

Many are **wrongly**
teaching that Christ will
return to establish his
kingdom on earth

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.



**Let's see
What the
Bible has
to say on
this
subject**

2 Timothy 3:16-17

The Bible will show us that...



The Kingdom of God has
already arrived!

The Bible will show...

- 1) Christ said would build “his church” (the kingdom).
- 2) The disciples were going to be given the “keys to the kingdom”
- 3) His kingdom would come while some of his disciples were still alive.
- 4) His kingdom would come with “power.”
- 5) That “power” would come upon the Apostles in Jerusalem when the Holy Spirit came upon them. All of this occurred in Acts 2, upon the first Pentecost after the death burial and resurrection of Christ. This was the day the church began and the kingdom of God was established on earth. The kingdom is the church and it arrived here.
- 6) We are part of the kingdom of God
- 7) Christ’s throne is in heaven and he is sitting on the right hand of God. His throne is not on earth

Christ said would build “his church”
(the kingdom).

UPON THIS ROCK
I WILL BUILD
MY CHURCH

AND THE GATES OF HADES WILL NOT OVERPOWER IT

Matthew ²⁹⁹16:18

Christ goes on to say I will give you the “KEYS TO THE KINGDOM”



Matthew 16:19 {NIV}

I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven:
whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven,
and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

Jesus said His kingdom would come while some of his disciples were still alive.

And Jesus was saying to them, “Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power.”

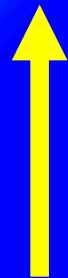
— Mark 9:1 (NASB®)

Jesus promised some of them would see the kingdom arrive with their own eyes

**Christ said that His kingdom would come
with “power.”**

**And Jesus was saying to them, “Truly I say
to you, there are some of those who are
standing here who will not taste death
until they see the kingdom of God after it
has come with power.”**

— Mark 9:1 (NASB®)



And it would come WITH POWER.

**That's a clue he gave his disciples so they would
know what was happening when it arrived!**

John the baptist's teaching agrees with Christ that the kingdom was coming soon



**AND SAYING, REPENT
YE: FOR THE
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
IS AT HAND.**

- MATTHEW 3:1-2 (KJV) -

**Christ also said multiple times that
the kingdom was coming soon**

**and heal those in it who are sick, and say
to them, 'The kingdom of God has come
near to you.'**

— Luke 10:9 (NASB®)



**Here we see the phrase again that the
Kingdom is NEAR**

So far, the bible has shown us...

- 1) Christ said would build “his church” (the kingdom).
- 2) The disciples were going to be given the “keys to the kingdom”
- 3) His kingdom would come while some of his disciples were still alive.

Notice as time went on Jesus continued to
talk about “The Kingdom”

In prayer

Matthew 6:9 -10

So pray this way:

Our Father in heaven,

may your name be honored,

may your kingdom come,

may your will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.

Notice as time went on Jesus continued to talk about “The Kingdom”

In teaching

A silhouette of a person sitting and reading a book, positioned on the left side of the frame. The background is a warm, orange-hued sunset sky with soft clouds. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**TRULY, I SAY TO YOU, UNLESS YOU TURN
AND BECOME LIKE CHILDREN, YOU WILL
NEVER ENTER THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN**

MATTHEW 18:3

Notice as time went on Jesus continued to talk about “The Kingdom”

In communion

Matthew 26:29 KJV

But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

Jesus final instructions to his disciples about the kingdom

#1 Go Jerusalem & WAIT for the power He had promised (Luke 24:49)

And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

— Luke 24:49 (KJV)

#2 Teach & Baptize All Nations (Matthew 28:19-20)

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”

The Kingdom Arrives in Acts Chapter 2

Outline Acts 2:1-13

- Introduction
- 1. **God's Plan** – Form His Church through the Holy Spirit (v1-8)
- 2. **God's Power** – Reach All Nations through the Holy Spirit (9-11)
- 3. **God's Purpose** – Be Glorified in All the Nations through the Holy Spirit (v11-13)
- Conclusion

Acts
of the Apostles



We are part of the kingdom of God

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

Colossians 1:13-14



We have received **the kingdom of God**

Hebrews 12:28

*Therefore, since we are
receiving a kingdom that
cannot be shaken, let us be
thankful, and so worship
God acceptably with
reverence and awe*



Christ Is Now Sitting On Throne In Heaven (Acts 2:30-35)

30 Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, ^[a]according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, **31** he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. **32** This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. **33** Therefore being exalted ^[b]to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

34 "For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself:

‘The LORD said to my Lord,
“Sit at My right hand,
35 Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.” ’

Zechariah declared Christ would be Priest on his Throne & the book of Hebrews says the same

“Yes, it is He who will build the temple of the LORD, and He who will bear the honor and sit and rule on His throne. Thus, He will be a priest on His throne, and the counsel of peace will be between the two offices.”

— Zechariah 6:13 (NASB®)

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

— Hebrews 4:14 (NASB®)

Christ's Throne Is In Heaven

For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law:

—Hebrews 8:4

The Bible has shown us...

- 1) Christ said would build “his church” (the kingdom).
- 2) The disciples were going to be given the “keys to the kingdom”
- 3) His kingdom would come while some of his disciples were still alive.
- 4) His kingdom would come with “power.”
- 5) That “power” would come upon the Apostles in Jerusalem when the Holy Spirit came upon them. All of this occurred in Acts 2, upon the first Pentecost after the death burial and resurrection of Christ This was the day the church began and the kingdom of God was established on earth. The kingdom is the church and it arrived here.
- 6) We are part of the kingdom of God
- 7) Christ’s throne is in heaven and he is sitting on the right hand of God. His throne is not on earth

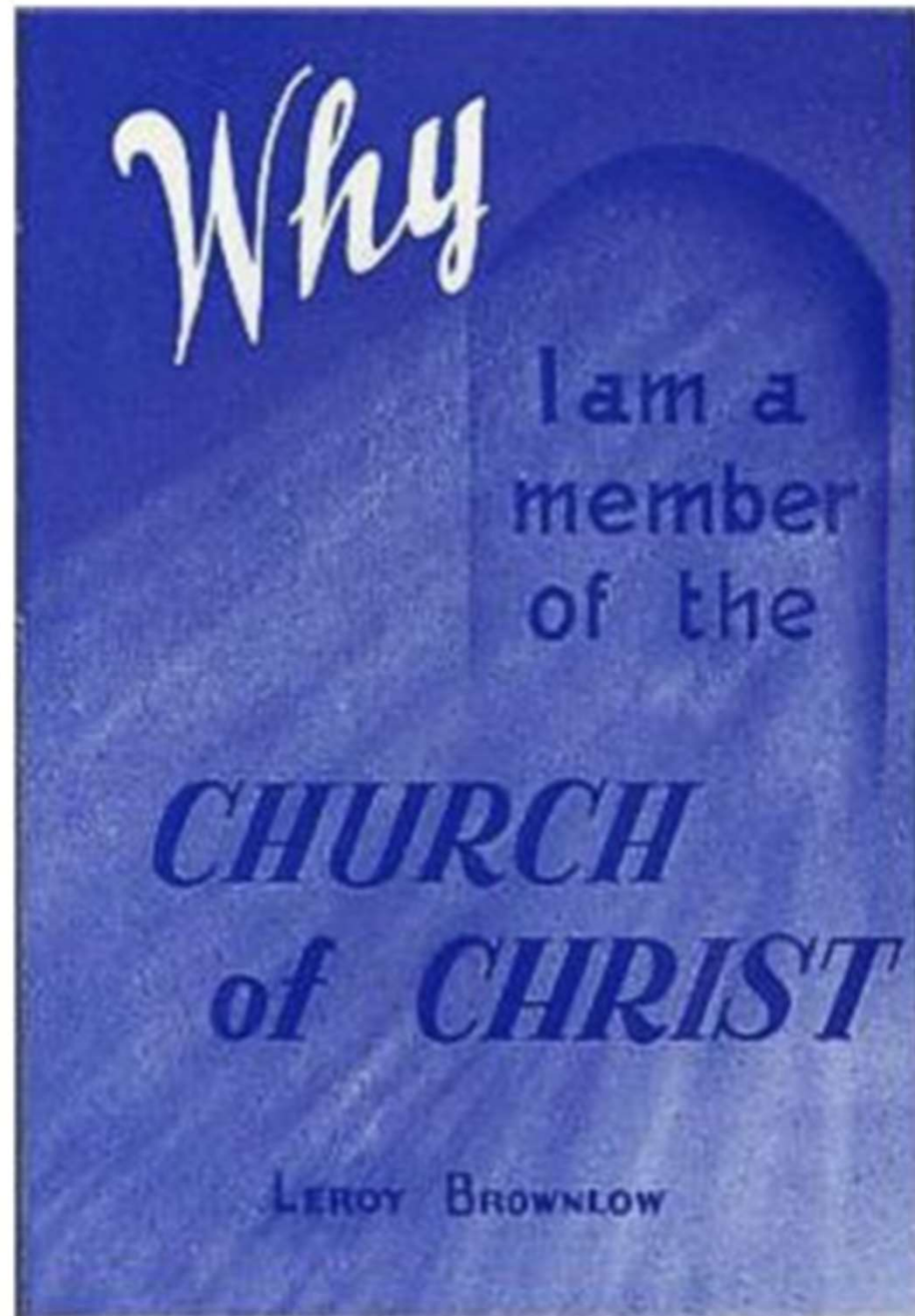
To receive a book Email your address to: infojocococ@gmail.com

Next Week

We Will

Discuss

**Pages
94-100**



Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it has a Scriptural
answer to the question:

**“What must I do
to be saved?”**

Let's Closely Examine This Question

What must I do to be saved?

- Acts 16:30



WHAT

When you see the word **WHAT**

This implies that the words that follow
will be

**A QUESTION THAT NEEDS TO BE
ANSWERED.**

MUST I DO

MUST – Means there is a requirement

I – Means individual responsibility

Do – Means there is an action involved

TO BE SAVED?

This means the result of my obedience will be

SALVATION

(salvation is being released from the penalty of sin)

Romans 6:23 – For the wages of sin is death

322

Being released means my spirit lives eternally with God

The Answer Jesus Gave To This Question Under the OLD TESTAMENT LAW

MARK 10:17-22

¹⁷ Now as He was going out on the road, one came running, knelt before Him, and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸ So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Do not defraud,' 'Honor your father and your mother.'" ²⁰ And he answered and said to Him, "Teacher, all these things I have kept from my youth." ²¹ Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me." ²² But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

Notice that when the young man had completed the OLD LAW, Jesus told him...

FOLLOW ME!

Jesus is the fulfillment of the OLD LAW
(Matt 5:17-20)

(Luke 4:21)

(Gal 3:23-25)

Therefore, we look to Jesus' law/covenant for

324

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

How does Jesus New Covenant Answer...

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

- Hear the gospel (**Rom. 10:17**)
- Believe Jesus is Christ (**Acts 8:37**)
- Repent of your sins (**Luke 13:3**)
- Confess your faith (**Mt. 10:32**)
- Baptized for remission of sins (**Acts 2:38**)
- Walk by faith in newness of life (**Rom. 6:4**)

The Road To Salvation

It's important we understand that the steps to salvation do not always happen as soon as one hears the gospel as in Acts 2.

People searching for God are on **journey** on the road towards salvation. A journey is like a seed growing.

It's important that we remember this and see where people are in their journey

326

Let's see an example of this in the bible

Different Answers Given To The Question..

We have read three different answers to the same question. The explanation is not hard:

1. *The jailor was an unbeliever.* He was told to believe. They preached to him for the purpose of producing faith. He then repented and was baptized.

2. *The people on Pentecost did believe.* So they were told to repent and be baptized for the remission of sins.

3. *Saul was a believing, penitent man.* He was told to be baptized and wash away his sins.

4. They were given different answers, because *they were at different places on the road to salvation.* But all did the same things and traveled over the same road.

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it teaches that
man is saved by faith,
but not faith alone

*Now faith is the substance
of things hoped for, the
evidence of things not seen.*

- Hebrews 11:1 (KJV) -



Paul says Faith comes through the Word

**So then faith comes by
hearing, and hearing by
the word of God.**

—Romans 10:17

Peter also says Faith comes from the Word

And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe.

— Acts 15:7 (KJV)

The Word was given to us to produce FAITH

But these are written so
that you may believe Jesus
is the Messiah, the Son of
God, and by believing you
may have life in His name.

John 20:31



Christ's prayer is that we will believe based on the testimony of the Apostles

John 17:20-21 (NASB)

20 "I do not ask in behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me **through their word**;
21 that they may all be one; even as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be in Us; that the world may believe that Thou didst send Me.

- **Anything less than this will not result in true unity!**

The
Apostles
Word

The devil knows that the Word produces Faith

Luke 8:12

*Those along the **path** are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved.*



Man is SAVED when FAITH OBEYS

JAMES 2:24

**"YOU SEE THEN THAT A
MAN IS JUSTIFIED
BY WORKS,
AND NOT BY FAITH ONLY."**

www.faithalone.org

Peter says man is SAVED by Baptism
(after Faith is already in place)

BAPTISM

NOW SAVES YOU

NOT THE REMOVAL OF DIRT FROM THE FLESH,
BUT AN APPEAL TO GOD FOR A GOOD CONSCIENCE
THROUGH THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

1 PETER 3:21

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it teaches that
man is saved by
The Blood Of Christ

The Sealing of Covenants with blood is evidence to the importance of blood in Gods plan

Hebrews

9:19-20



The shedding of
BLOOD was a key in
the installation of the
Old Testament /
Mosaic Jewish Covenant

For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the Law, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water, scarlet wool, and [or on] hyssop [branches], and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, saying, "This is the blood of the covenant which God has commanded you."

**Indeed, under the law almost
everything is purified with blood,
and without the shedding of blood
there is no forgiveness of sins.**

Hebrews 9:22

Blood

From the beginning of man's fall, blood has been shed (**Genesis 3:21**)

Israel was called upon to offer sin offerings throughout their history

But the blood of bulls and goats could not ultimately remove sins (**Hebrews 10:4**)

We are here because Jesus shed His blood

Hebrews 9:12-14

12 and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

13 For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh,

14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

The bible says

The blood sacrifice of animals could not save us from sin.
Only Christ's sacrifice (by spilling his blood) can save us

More Supporting Scriptures

Scripture	Subject
Isa 53:5-6	Isaiah foresaw us being healed by Christ's wounds/bloodshed
Acts 20:28	Christ purchased the church with his "own blood"
Matt 26:28	Christ told us during the Lord's supper about his blood
Eph 2:11-13	Gentiles are able to become part of God's kingdom because of Christ's blood
1 Pet 1:18-19	Peter says we are redeemed by the blood of Christ
Eph 1:7	Paul says we have redemption through the blood of Christ
Rev 7:14	John's vision of the redeemed host consisted of those who had washed their robes in the blood of Christ

**BUT IF WE WALK IN THE LIGHT,
AS HE IS IN THE LIGHT, WE HAVE
FELLOWSHIP WITH ONE
ANOTHER, AND THE BLOOD OF
JESUS HIS SON CLEANSSES US
FROM ALL SIN.**

1 John 1:7

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it teaches that
A Change Of Heart Is
Indispensable To Man's
Salvation

How Does Jesus View The Heart?

**"FOR OUT OF THE HEART COME
EVIL THOUGHTS, MURDERS, ADULTERIES,
FORNICATIONS, THEFTS, FALSE WITNESS,**

SLANDERS.

THESE ARE THE THINGS WHICH

**DEFILE
THE MAN**

BUT TO EAT WITH UNWASHED HANDS DOES

NOT DEFILE THE MAN."

MATTHEW 15:19-20

The Heart Is That Part Of Man Called Intellect which:

- 1.**Thinks (Matt 9:4)
- 2.**Reasons (Mark 2:8)
- 3.**Understands (Matt 13:15)
- 4.**Believes (Romans 10:10)

Three Things To Think About...

A) If a person's heart is kept pure, his/her life will be pure

B) Sin is first committed in the heart (the mind), before the sinful act is put into action

C) The church BELIEVES³⁴⁷ a person's heart can change just as the bible says (2 Cor 4:16 & Acts 2:36-37)

A still life photograph of a broken, light-brown clay jar. The jar is the central focus, with its top rim jagged and broken. Several pieces of the jar are scattered on the surface in front of it. The background is a textured, light-brown wall. The lighting is soft, creating gentle shadows.

2 Corinthians 4:16


Therefore we
do not lose heart;

*but though
our outer man
is decaying,*

**yet our inner man
is being renewed
day by day.**

THE BIBLE – THE WORD OF GOD

- Acts 2:36-37 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.
- 37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? KJV



They had a change of heart!

How Is The Heart Changed?

- 1.** The emotions are changed by faith in the testimony presented
- 2.** The heart is changed by evidence or testimony
- 3.** The will is change by motives produced by faith
- 4.** The conscience is changed by faith in having done the right thing

For Example...Baptism

If a man understands and believes what Christ has commanded, he can never have an approved conscience UNTIL he does it.

- If one understands and believes baptism is a command to be obeyed in order to enjoy remission of sins (Acts 2:38)
- Then he cannot have a clear conscience UNTIL he has been baptized. (1 Peter 3:21)
- It is faith in having done right (by obeying the commands of God) that changes the condemning conscience

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because of its
Teaching and Practice
when it comes to Prayer

The early church was a PRAYING church

Acts 2:41-42

41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

The early church was a PRAYING church

Acts 4:24

And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is:

— Acts 4:24 (KJV)

The early church was a PRAYING church

Acts 6:4

**But we will continue steadfastly in prayer
and in the ministry of the word.**

Acts 6:4




The early church was a PRAYING church

Other Examples:

- Acts 12:5
- Acts 16:25
- Acts 20:36
- Acts 21:³⁵⁶4-5

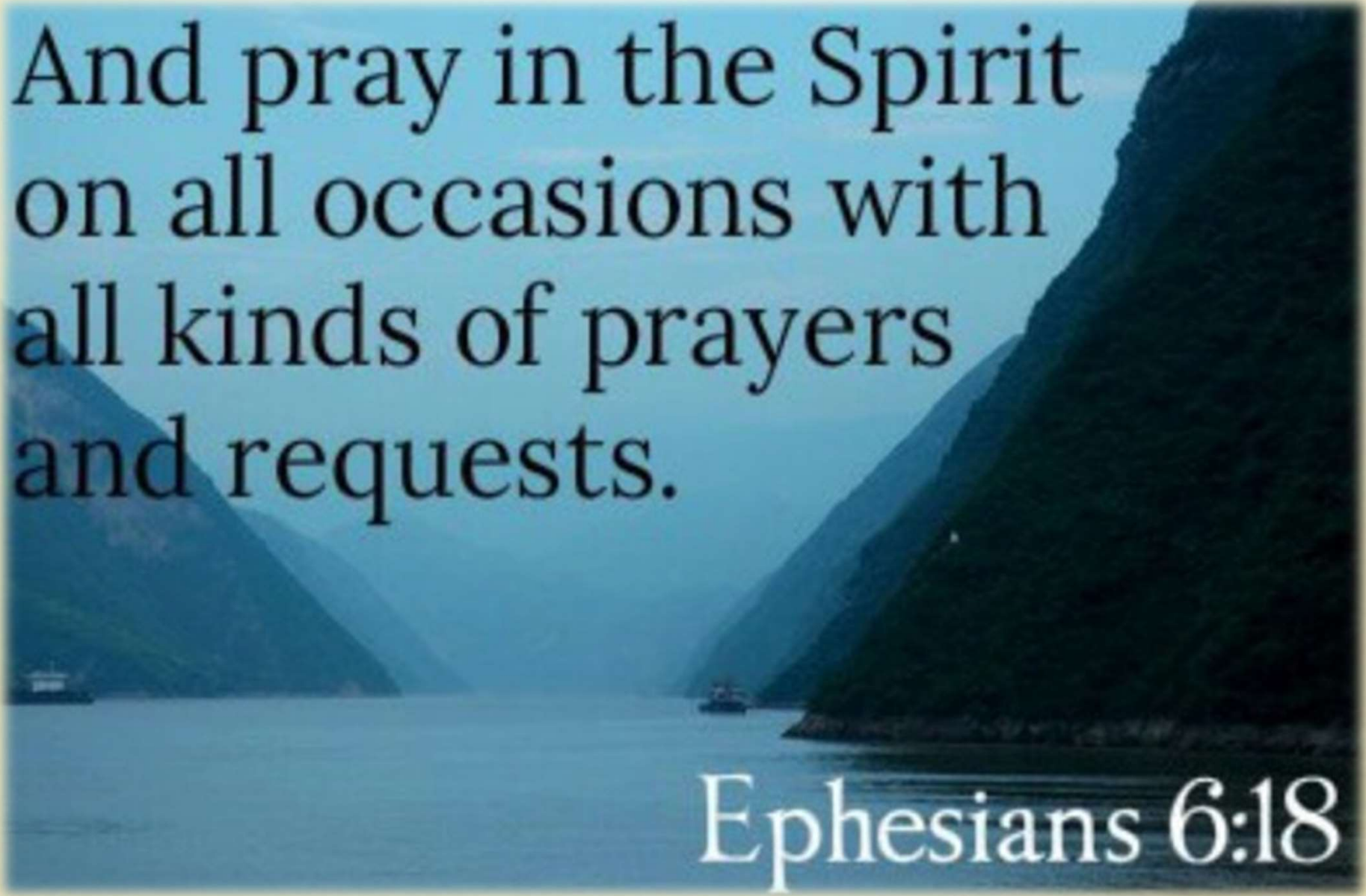
Congregations were encouraged to PRAY



Rejoicing
in hope;
patient in
tribulation;
continuing
instant
in prayer;

Romans 12:12 KJV

Congregations were encouraged to PRAY



And pray in the Spirit
on all occasions with
all kinds of prayers
and requests.

Ephesians 6:18

Congregations were encouraged to PRAY

Colossians 4:2-6 (ESV)



² Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. ³ At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—
⁴ that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.
⁵ Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. ⁶ Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Jesus Christ (the founder of the church) believed in Prayer

A photograph of a sunset over a field of purple flowers. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and long shadows. The sky is filled with orange and yellow clouds. The foreground is a field of purple flowers, and the background shows dark mountains.

Matthew 14:23

**And when he had sent the
multitudes away, he went up
into a mountain apart to pray:
and when the evening was come,
he was there alone.**

Jesus Christ (the founder of the church) believed in Prayer

But Jesus
himself would
often slip away
to the wilderness
and pray.

Luke 5:16



Jesus Christ (the founder of the church) believed in Prayer

In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose from them twelve, whom he named apostles.

Luke 6:12-13 (ESV)



Not all who pray are heard

You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.

James 4:3 (NASB)



God's Answer To Prayer Is CONDITIONAL

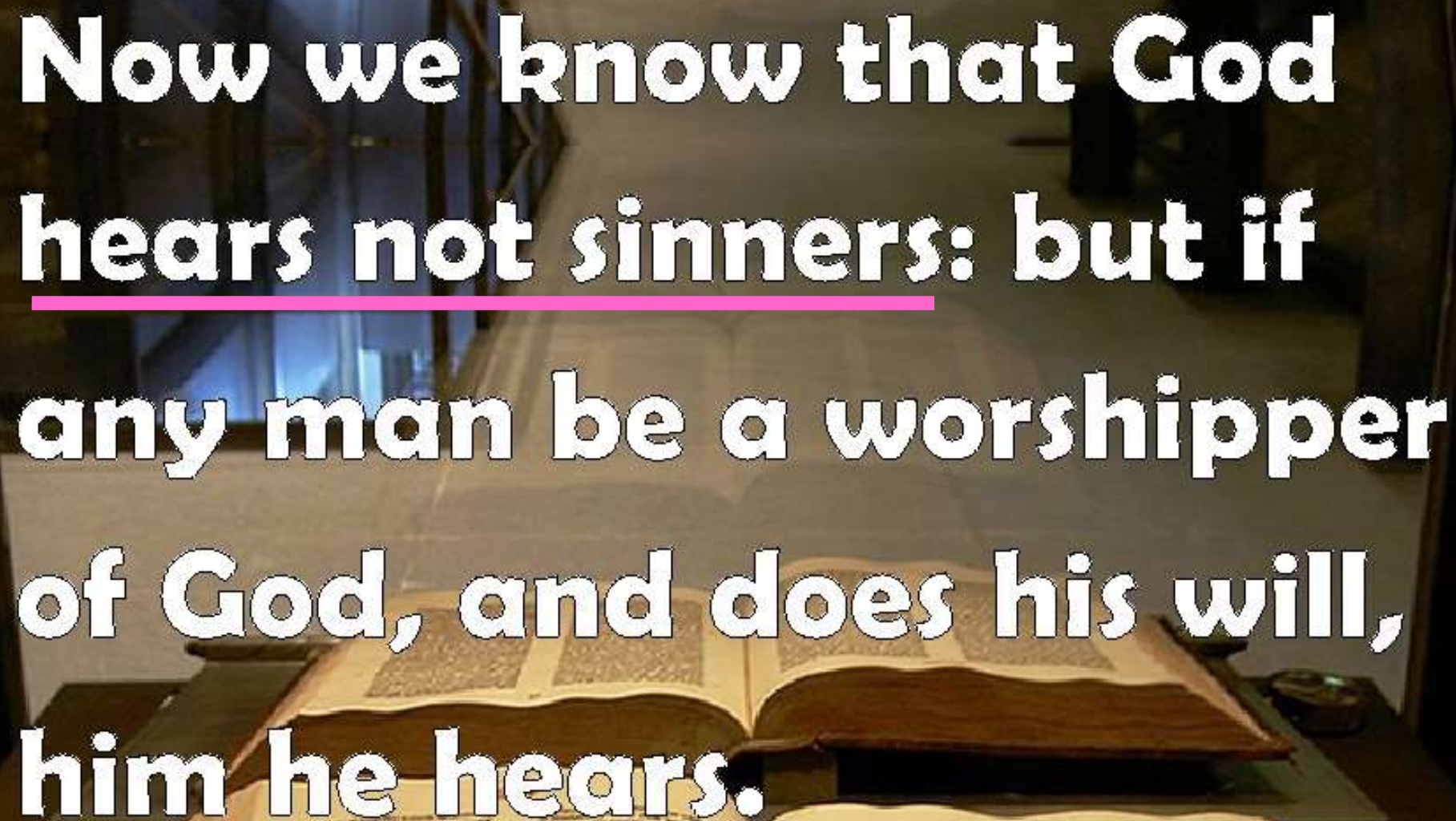
Many religious bodies have emphasized the importance of prayer,

BUT

have never preached the specified scriptural conditions men must meet before their prayers will be heard

What are the conditions the bible gives for prayer to be heard

- 1.** Be righteous – 1 Pet 3:12
- 2.** Keep God's commandments – 1 John 3:22
- 3.** Pray in faith – James 1:6-7
- 4.** Pray in Jesus' name – John 14:13-14
- 5.** Pray in harmony with God's will – 1 John 5:14
- 6.** Have a forgiving spirit – Matthew 6:14
- 7.** Must be in the proper spiritual condition – John 15:7
- 8.** Pray with the right motive – James 4:3

An open Bible is shown from a top-down perspective, resting on a dark wooden surface. The pages are aged and yellowed, with dense, small text in two columns per page. The text is overlaid with a large, white, bold font. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a window or a glass partition.

**Now we know that God
hears not sinners: but if
any man be a worshipper
of God, and does his will,
him he hears.**

—John 9:31

God hears our prayers

"The righteous cry out, and
the Lord hears them;
he delivers them from all
their troubles."

– Psalm 34:17; NIV

Remember...

**When God ordains a law
with which man may comply
and receive a blessing, it is
WRONG to ask for the
blessing without obeying
the law**

368

(Proverbs 28:9)

If Anyone Turns A
Deaf Ear To The Law,
Even His Prayers Are
Detestable.

Proverbs 28-9

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it
Teaches and Administers
Scriptural Baptism

Whom May We Baptize



Taught
Persons

Matthew
28:19

Believing
Persons

Mark
16:16

Repentant
Person

Acts
2:38

Confessing
Persons

Matt 10:32
Rom 10:10

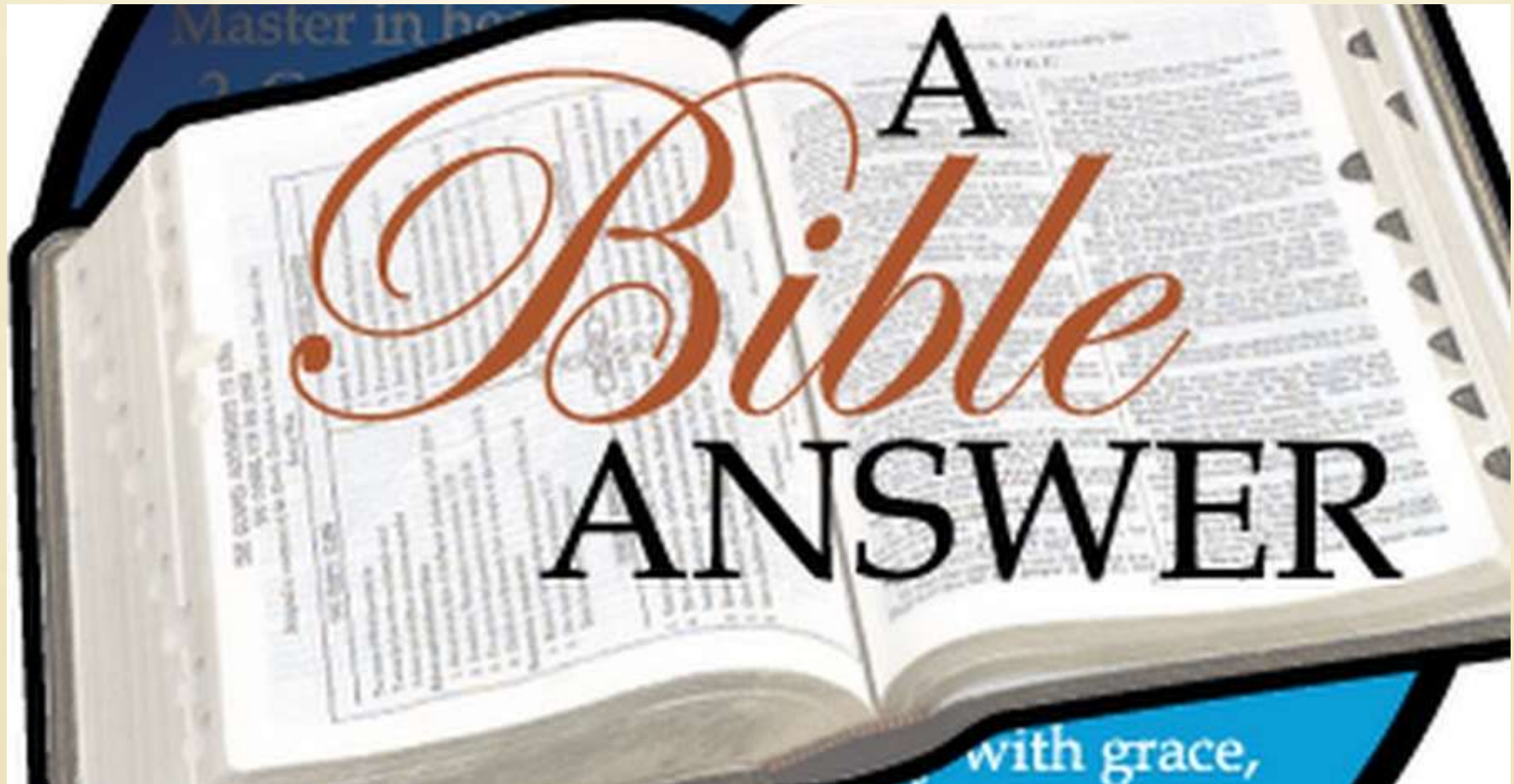
Baptism...It cannot mean 3 different things

Sprinkling?

Pouring?

Immersion?

Let's Allow The Word Of God To Answer...



Buried With Him In Baptism

"There we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in the newness of life"

Romans 6:4

"For as many of you have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ"

Galatians 3:27

"And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days"

Acts 10:48

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned"

Mark 16:16

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

John 3:5

"When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus."

Acts 19:5

"And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

Acts 22:16

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

Matt 28:19

"The Peter said unto them, Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the Remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Acts 2:38

"And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when they were come out of the water..."

Acts 8:38-39

"For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus."

Acts 8:16

How? Immersion in the name of Jesus Christ

Who? Every New Testament believer was baptized in the name of Jesus

The Bible Says Baptism Is A Burial

Have you ever seen:

**A person buried by being sprinkled
with dirt?**

**A person buried by having a little dirt
poured on them?**

Neither sprinkling or pouring are baptism

Baptism is a Greek word that means

**To be fully immersed or
completely covered**

376

Neither sprinkling or pouring are baptism

REQUIREMENTS OF EACH

BAPTISM	IMMERSION	SPRINKLING	POURING
Water (Acts 8:36)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Much water (Jno. 3:23)	Yes	No	No
A going unto the water (Acts 8:36)	Yes	No	No
A going down into the water (Acts 8:38)	Yes	No	No
That both the baptizer and the one to be baptized go down into the water (Acts 8:38, 39)	Yes	No	No
A burial (Rom. 6:4)	Yes	No	No
A resurrection (Col. 2:12)	Yes	No	No
A birth (Jno. 3:5)	Yes	No	No
Body washed (Heb. 10:22)	Yes	No	No
A coming up out of the water (Acts 8:39; Matt. 3:16)	Yes	No	No

Sprinkling/Pouring is unscriptural baptism

This unscriptural method of baptism was started by people who fell away from obedience to God's word over 200 years after the church began

378

We don't want to fall away as well!

What does the bible say on why a person should be baptized (buried in water)?

1. To fulfill all righteousness (Matt 3:15)
2. It is commanded (Acts 10:48)
3. Because baptism does now save us (1 Pet 3:21)
4. So that we can rejoice (Acts 8:39)
5. To get into Christ (Gal 3:27)
6. To be buried with Christ (Rom 6:3)
7. To be raised with Christ (Col 2:12)
8. To walk in the newness of life (Rom 6:4)
9. To enter the kingdom of God (John 3:5)
10. To wash away your sins (Acts 22:16)
11. To be saved (Mark 16:16)
12. To not reject the good advice of God (Luke 7:30)
13. For the remission of sins (Acts 2:38)

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it

Teaches is still possible for
child of God to be lost
because of sin

The Big Lie: Once Saved Always Saved

**This unscriptural view that
once someone has been saved,
they can live however they want
and never be lost
is popular today**

The Bible Says A Christian Can Still Be Lost

In The Garden

**This unscriptural view was
even used by the serpent in
the garden of Eden to fool
Eve (Gen 3:4)**

And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

— Genesis 3:4 (KJV)

*The serpent was saying that
“you shall not be condemned
because it’s impossible for you to fall
and be lost”*

Result of What Happened In The Garden

**Satan encouraged Eve to sin
and fall away from God,
by preaching its “impossible
for you to be lost”**



This type of preaching still happens today

There Are Things For The Christian To Do To Keep From Falling

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:10-11

What Things Peter?

He lists them in the previous 5 verses (2 Peter 1:4-9)

For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith

goodness;

and to goodness,

knowledge;

and to knowledge,

self-control;

and to self-control,

perseverance;

and to perseverance,

godliness;

and to godliness,

brotherly kindness;

and to brotherly kindness,

love.

For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure,
they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive
in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

One who is saved CAN STILL BE LOST

The saints in Corinth were encourage not to fall

1 Corinthians 10 ▾



the ages has come. **12** So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! **13** No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

Paul knew he himself could STILL BE LOST

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

1 Corinthians 9:27

A **CASTAWAY** is a person who fell overboard & is **LOST AT SEA**. This is an analogy for losing one's salvation.

One who is saved CAN QUIT BELIEVING AND BE LOST


**“TAKE CARE, BROTHERS, LEST THERE BE IN ANY
OF YOU AN EVIL, UNBELIEVING HEART, LEADING
YOU TO FALL AWAY FROM THE LIVING GOD.”**

HEBREWS 3:12



The Galatians were taught ONE WHO IS SAVED CAN FALL FROM GRACE

Galatians 5:4



You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace.

The Parable of the Vine & Branches show that a Christian can lose salvation

John 15:2-6 ²He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

Paul says that people who are saved would fall away from the faith & be lost

1 Timothy 4:1-3 (ASV)

- **1 But the Spirit saith expressly, that in later times some shall fall away from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons,**
- **2 through the hypocrisy of men that speak lies, branded in their own conscience as with a hot iron;**
- **3 forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from meats, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by them that believe and know the truth.**

A Christian's harvest will be dependance upon his sowing (planting)

Galatians 6:7-9

⁷Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. ⁸The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

**In the End Christ Said We Still Can Be Lost
(for being lukewarm in the faith)**

Revelation 3:16

**So then because thou art
lukewarm, and neither cold
nor hot, I will spue thee out of
my mouth.**

KJV

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it
Teaches Infants Are Born
Pure & Innocent from Sin
(just like the bible teaches)

Be Careful About What You Believe with NO Scriptural Proof

**Many views have been
accepted as true over the
years, that are NOT
supported by the scriptures**

Be Careful About What You Believe with NO Scriptural Proof

One of these incorrect views are:

**Babies are born with the
inherited sin from Adam**



Be Careful About What You Believe with NO Scriptural Proof

**This theory claims that sinful
corruption has been
transmitted to the infant from
all the way down from Adam
when he sinned in the garden**

One Error Leads To Another Error

Over the year assuming babies are born guilty of sin led to

Infant baptism



Infant baptism is the practice of baptising infants or young children. Infant baptism can be contrasted with what is called "believer's baptism", which is the religious practice of baptising only individuals who personally confess faith in Jesus, therefore excluding underage children. Infant baptism is also called christening by some faith traditions.

Let's allow the Bible to speak on whether
infants are born in a sinful state

WHAT DOES
THE
BIBLE
SAY ABOUT...



Man becomes a sinner in his YOUTH, Not at his/her BIRTH

And the LORD smelled a sweet savor; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.

— Genesis 8:21 (KJV)

Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

— Ecclesiastes 12:7 (KJV)

Something to think about

**Man has been given his spirit by his Maker (God)
If God has given man a corrupted spirit, then it is
unfair for God to hold man accountable for sin.**

**For in him we live, and move, and have our
being; as certain also of your own poets
have said, For we are also his offspring.
— Acts 17:28 (KJV)**

**Something to think about
An infant is not immoral because God is not immoral
We were created to be his children**

The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

— Ezekiel 18:20 (KJV)

Something to think about

Both righteous and sin are the responsibility of the doer. What has an baby actually done at birth? Nothing!

Also a child won't be accountable for what his ancestor did, so Adam's sin does not condemn us. Our OWN actions do.

**Therefore to him that knoweth to do good,
and doeth it not, to him it is sin.**

— James 4:17 (KJV)

**Something to think about
Sin isn't transferred or inherited.**

It is the result of actions taken or not taken by someone

And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.
— **Matthew 18:3 (KJV)**

Something to think about

A child is not depraved because by example a person must become as a little child to enter into the kingdom of heaven

Other Scripture References

Turn to Romans 5:13

A child is not a violator of the law of God if there is no knowledge of the Law. The law of God is what brings the knowledge of sin. Since a child in infancy has no knowledge of God or of sin, there is therefore no accountability to God due to a lack of knowledge.

Other Scripture References

Turn to Romans 5:19

Is this child accountable? No. Not until this child has an accountability to God. Accountability to God does not come by age. Accountability to God comes by knowledge of God. Innocence is lost when guilt is found. Guilt comes from recognition of the presence of God. An example of guilt is when Adam and Eve covered themselves with the fig leaf. Innocence was lost and guilt_{4b8} was found.

Final Thought:

**The fact that God has not
given a plan for saving
infants is certain proof that
they are NOT lost and are
NOT sinners**

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it
Teaches That Miraculous
Manifestations Of The
Spirit Have Ceased

What Going On Today


Many religious groups claim to have or practice miraculous works

As with all other subjects, we will go to the Bible to see if these works are authorized by God

What Was The Purpose Of Miracles That Were Recorded In The Bible?

JOHN'S PURPOSE:

John 20:30-31

- **30 Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book.**
 - **31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.**
- 

What Was The Purpose Of Miracles That Were Recorded In The Bible?

The Miracles were written in the Bible to convince you to BELIEVE in Jesus

Not to impress people, as barrier to salvation, etc.

Why Did Jesus Perform Miracles?

One night he went to Jesus and said, “Rabbi, we know that God has sent you to teach us. You could not work these miracles, unless God were with you.” – John 3:2

The power to perform miracles helped to show people that Christ TRULY was divine and sent from God

Examples Of Jesus' Miracles

- 1 **Jesus Turns Water into Wine**
(John 2:1-11)
- 2 **Jesus Heals an Official's Son**
(John 4:43-54)
- 3 **Jesus Drives Out an Evil Spirit**
(Mark 1:21-27, Luke 4:31-36)
- 4 **Jesus Heals Peter's Mother-in-Law**
(Matthew 8:14-15, Mark 1:29-31, Luke 4:38-39)
- 5 **Jesus Heals Many Sick at Evening**
(Matthew 8:16-17, Mark 1:32-34, Luke 4:40-41)
- 6 **First Miraculous Catch of Fish**
(Luke 5:1-11)
- 7 **Jesus Cleanses a Man With Leprosy**
(Matthew 8:1-4, Mark 1:40-45, Luke 4:12-14)
- 8 **Jesus Heals a Centurion's Servant**
(Matthew 8:5-13, Luke 7:1-10)
- 9 **Jesus Heals a Paralytic**
(Matthew 9:1-8, Mark 2:1-12, Luke 5:17-26)
- 10 **Jesus Heals a Man's Withered Hand**
(Matthew 12:9-14, Mark 3:1-6, Luke 6:6-11)
- 11 **Jesus Raises a Widow's Son in Nain**
(Luke 7:11-17)
- 12 **Jesus Calms a Storm**
(Matthew 8:23-27, Mark 4:35-41, Luke 8:22-25)
- 13 **Jesus Casts Demons into a Herd of Pigs**
(Matthew 8:28-33, Mark 5:1-20, Luke 8:26-39)
- 14 **Jesus Heals a Woman in the Crowd**
(Matthew 9:20-22, Mark 5:25-34, Luke 8:42-48)
- 15 **Jesus Raises Jairus' Daughter to Life**
(Matthew 9:18-26, Mark 5:21-43, Luke 8:40-56)
- 16 **Jesus Heals Two Blind Men**
(Matthew 9:27)
- 17 **Jesus Heals a Man Unable to Speak**
(Matthew 9:32-34)
- 18 **Jesus Heals an Invalid at Bethesda**
(John 5:1-15)
- 19 **Jesus Feeds 5,000**
(Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:30-44, Luke 9:10-17, John 6:1-15)
- 20 **Jesus Walks on Water**
(Matthew 14:22-33, Mark 6:45-52, John 6:16-21)
- 21 **Jesus Heals Many Sick in Gennesaret**
(Matthew 14:34-36, Mark 6:53-56)
- 22 **Jesus Heals a Gentile Woman's Demon-Possessed Daughter**
(Matthew 15:21-28, Mark 7:24-30)
- 23 **Jesus Heals a Deaf and Dumb Man**
(Mark 7:31-37)
- 24 **Jesus Feeds 4,000**
(Matthew 15:32-39, Mark 8:1-13)
- 25 **Jesus Heals a Blind Man at Bethsaida**
(Mark 8:22-26)
- 26 **Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind**
(John 9:1-12)
- 27 **Jesus Heals a Boy with a Demon**
(Matthew 17:14-20, Mark 9:14-29, Luke 9:37-43)
- 28 **Miraculous Temple Tax in a Fish's Mouth**
(Matthew 17:24-27)
- 29 **Jesus Heals a Blind, Mute Demoniac**
(Matthew 12:22-23, Luke 11:14-23)
- 30 **Jesus Heals a Crippled Woman**
(Luke 13:10-17)
- 31 **Jesus Heals a Man With Dropsy on the Sabbath**
(Luke 14:1-6)
- 32 **Jesus Cleanses Ten Lepers**
(Luke 17:11-19)
- 33 **Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead**
(John 11:1-45)
- 34 **Jesus Restores Sight to Bartimaeus**
(Matthew 20:29-34, Mark 10:46-52, Luke 18:35-43)
- 35 **Jesus Withers the Fig Tree**
(Matthew 21:18-2, Mark 11:12-14)
- 36 **Jesus Heals a Servant's Severed Ear**
(Luke 22:50-51)
- 37 **Second Miraculous Catch of Fish**
(John 21:4-11)

John 21:25 "And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen."

The Apostles Were Promised Baptism In The Holy Spirit So They Could Carry Out The Work Jesus Had Started

➤ Acts 1:4 – 5,8

- You will be baptized with the Holy Spirit
- You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you
- You will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere

The Holy Spirit Would Speak Through The Apostles.

But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost.

Mark 13:11



The Holy Spirit Would Give The Apostles Memory Of What Christ Wanted To Know, Do And Say

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

— John 14:26 (KJV)

The Work Of The Holy Spirit was commonly
thought of as “Miracles”

The Holy Spirit Would Guide The Apostles Into All Truth

BUT WHEN HE, THE SPIRIT OF
TRUTH, COMES, HE WILL GUIDE
YOU INTO ALL THE TRUTH.

JOHN 16:13

Luke 24:48-49 (NKJV)



- ***48 And you are witnesses of these things. 49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”***

The purpose of Miracles was to equip the apostles so they could be effectives witnesses of Jesus

So Far We Have Learned That...

- 1. The miracles of Jesus were performed and written down for the purpose of encouraging people to have faith (John 20:30-31)**
- 2. The power to perform miracles helped to show people that Christ TRULY was divine and sent from God (John 3:2)**
- 3. The Apostles Were Promised Baptism In The Holy Spirit So They Could Carry Out The Work Jesus Had Started (Acts 1:4)**
- 4. The Holy Spirit Would Guide The Apostles Into All Truth (John 16:13)**
- 5. The purpose of Miracles was to equip the apostles so they could be effective witnesses of Jesus (Luke 24:48-49)**

The Holy Spirit Would Guide The Apostles
In Preaching. Even to the point of allowing
them to speak in other languages

They were all filled with the Holy
Spirit and began to speak with
other tongues, as the Spirit
was giving them utterance

Acts 2:4

Speaking In Tongues

We see that this speaking in tongues was not unintelligible sounds, but it was speaking in languages that could be understood by people who were from various countries listed in Acts 2: 9-11

Speaking In Tongues

Those who claim to speak in tongues today, should speak in languages they have never been taught (as seen in Acts 2) instead of speaking in nonsense jibberish

Speaking In Tongues

The speaking in tongues was only one of the signs that the Apostles did.

They also healed the sick, cast out demons and did many other miracles/wonders

Acts 2:43

*Everyone was filled
with awe at the many
wonders and signs
performed by the
apostles.*



**Jesus Gave The Apostles The Power To
Perform Miracles, but...**

**Only The Apostles had
The Ability To Give
Others The Miraculous
Gifts Of The Spirit**

427

Let's Look Into This More...

Example #1 – The Samaritans received miraculous gifts of the Spirit from 2 Apostles

Acts 8:14-17 - When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samar... 14 When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. 16 because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

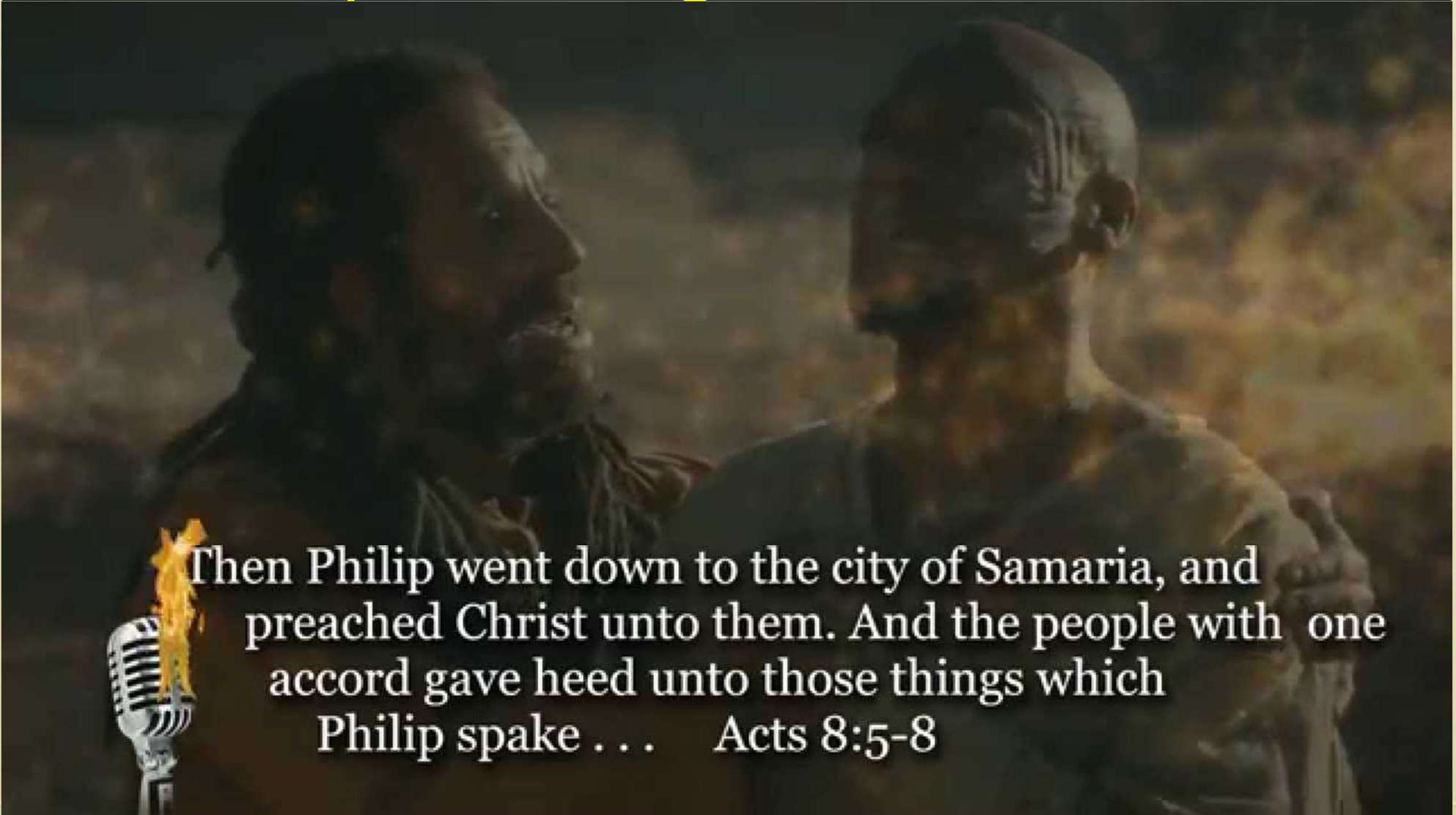
Notice that these Samaritans has been baptized so they had already received the gift of the holy spirit as promised in Acts 2:38

BUT

They had NOT received Miracle working power

**The Apostles sent Peter
and John to lay hands on
the Samaritans so they
could have miracle
working power**

Question: Why didn't Philip lay hands on the Samaritan as he had already been there performing miracles himself?



Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake . . . Acts 8:5-8

Answer:

**Since Philip was NOT an
Apostle, he could not
grant this miracle
working power to others.**

Example #2 – Philip received his miracle working power as a result of the Apostle laying hands on him

He was one of the seven chosen to look after some benevolent work in the church at Jerusalem.

This is where the Apostles laid hands on him (Acts 6:1-6)

Example #2 – Philip received his miracle working power as a result of the Apostle laying hands on him

Seven Chosen to Serve

6 Now in these days ^kwhen the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists¹ arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in ^lthe daily distribution. 2 And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. 3 ^mTherefore, brothers,² pick out from among you seven men ⁿof good repute, ^ofull of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. 4 But ^pwe will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” 5 And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, ^qa man full of faith and ^rof the Holy Spirit, and ^sPhilip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, ^ta proselyte of Antioch. 6 These they set before the apostles, and ^uthey prayed and **laid their hands on them.**

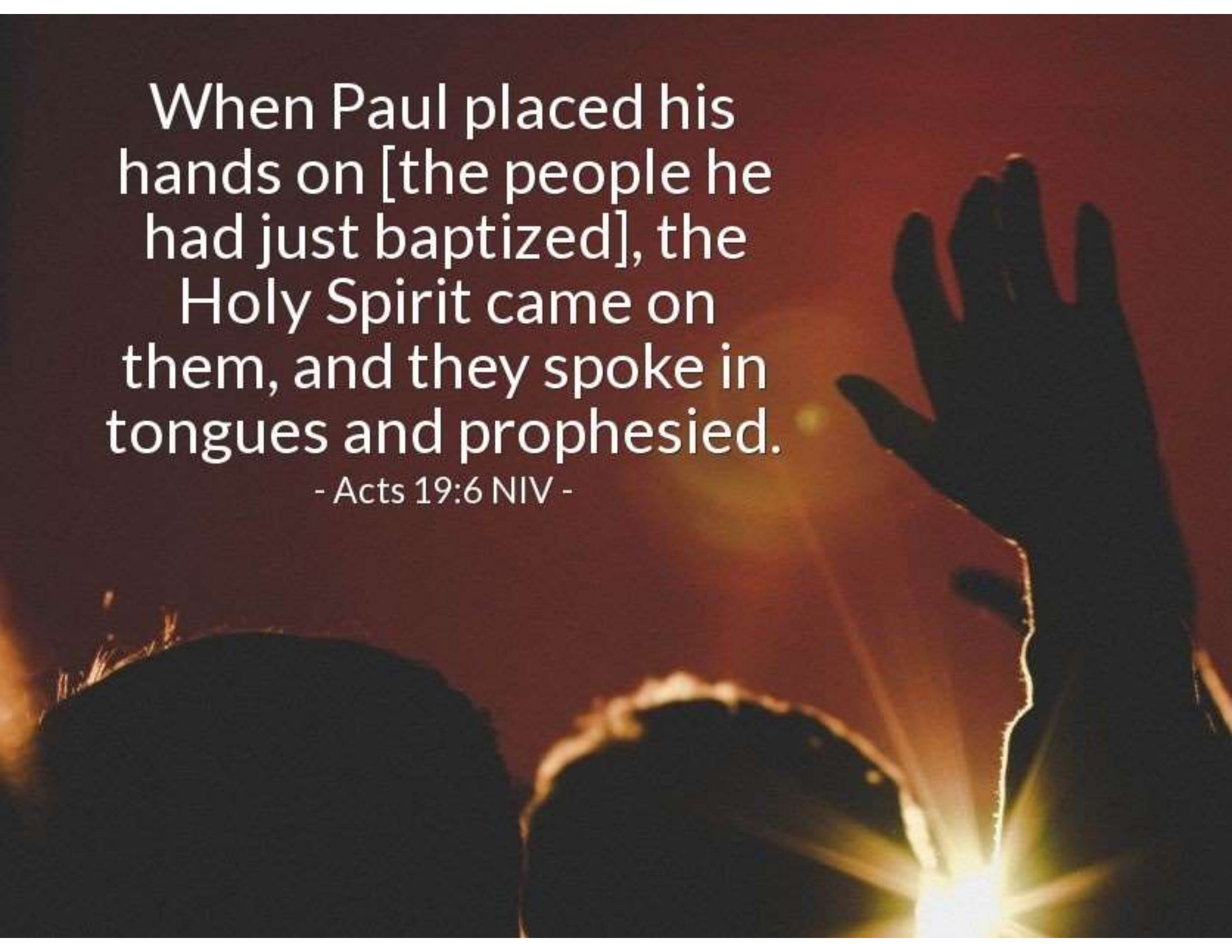


Example #3 – Paul conferred this power on twelve men he baptized

In Acts 19:1-7 we read of the 12 men baptized by Paul. They had received the gift of the holy spirit (as promised in Acts 2:38) but had not received the ability to work miracles.

When Paul placed his
hands on [the people he
had just baptized], the
Holy Spirit came on
them, and they spoke in
tongues and prophesied.

- Acts 19:6 NIV -



**Miracle work power (miraculous gifts)
were NOT meant to continue forever**

**Paul explains multiple times in
the scriptures that miracle
working power would cease**

**Miracle work power (miraculous gifts)
were NOT meant to continue forever**

**After the last Apostle died, the ability
to pass on these powers stopped**

**Paul explains multiple times in the
scriptures that miracle working power
would cease**

Paul (right after discussing miraculous gifts in 1 Cor 12), explains when these miracle working power would expire

1 Cor. 13:8-10

- 8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part; 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.

The perfect law of liberty is the law of Christ (found in God's Word)

James 1:25-27

King James Version Bible

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. If any man among you seem to ...

Miraculous gifts of the Spirit ceased after the completion of the work for which the Apostles were given. Writing the truth in Word of God.

440

(John 16:13)

Keep in mind, God himself is STILL working miracles every day

CL

~James 5:14-15 (KJV)~

Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

CL

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because of its
Scriptural Teaching And
Observance Of The
Lord's Supper

As Jesus Commanded...

The church of Christ observes the Lord's Supper as a sweet and simple memorial.

Jesus gave simple sincere instructions when he said

Do This in Remembrance of Me

Paul wrote...

The Lord's Supper—His Body & Blood

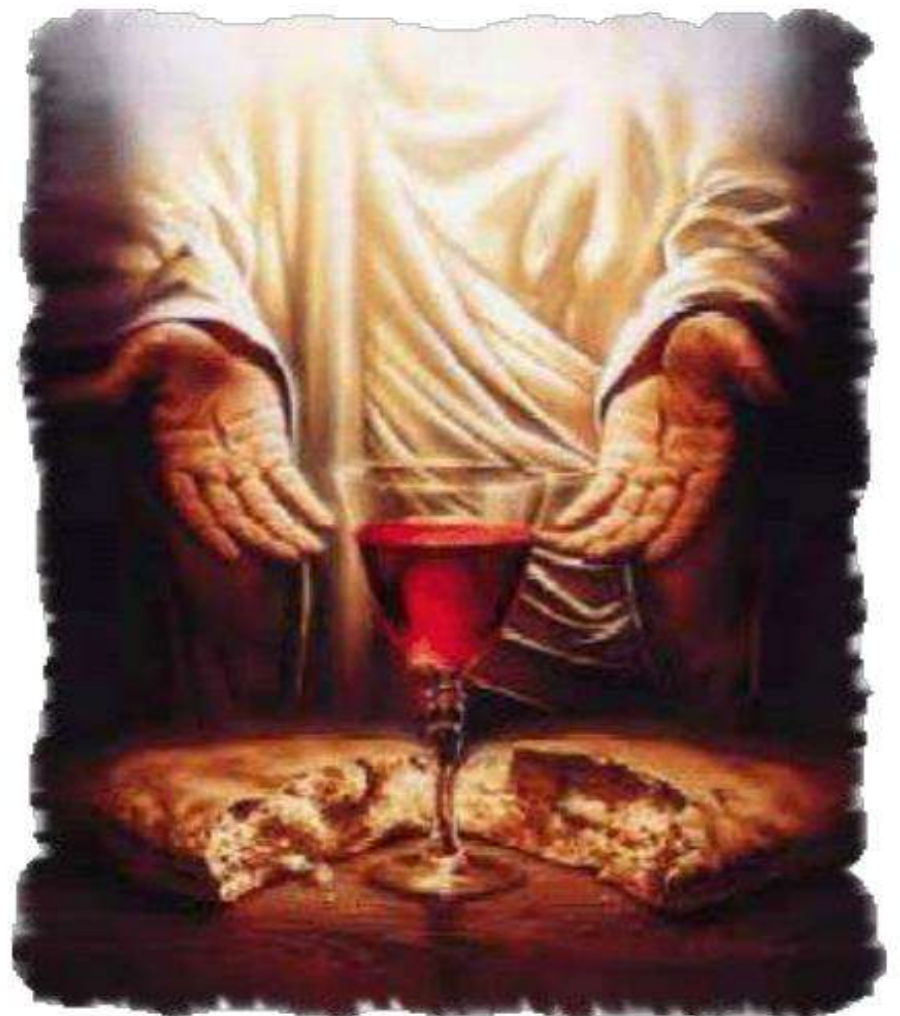
1 Corinthians 11:23-25

(King James Version)

23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:

24 And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, this cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.



Look Closely at 1 Cor 11:23-25

“In Remembrance of Me” is mentioned twice in this passage

Jesus asks his followers to partake in communion for the MAIN purpose of

REMEMBERING HIM

If You Are Asked To Remember Him

Then you NEED to know about him.

This is the reason Paul is explaining to the congregation at Corinth about the details of:

Jesus' life, teachings, death, burial, resurrection & how all this fit into God's plan for the ⁴⁴⁶salvation of man


Although Christ Asked Us To Remember him

Many who proclaim to follow Christ
neglect to remember him in the way
Jesus has commanded

How can one claim to truly follow him
if they disregard his exact request to

Do This in Remembrance of Me

The Lord's Supper is a memorial that preaches Christ's death




FOR AS OFTEN
AS YOU EAT THIS BREAD
AND DRINK THE CUP,
YOU PROCLAIM THE LORD'S DEATH
UNTIL HE COMES.
(1 CORINTHIANS 11:26, ESV)

The Lord's Supper is a memorial that preaches Christ's death

It serves as a WITNESS to the SACRIFICE that Christ made by giving his life for those who are partaking in the supper.

By not scripturally partaking communion, we SILENCE or IGNORE this important WITNESS of his death

The Lord's Supper is a memorial that preaches Christ's Return



FOR AS OFTEN
AS YOU EAT THIS BREAD
AND DRINK THE CUP,
YOU PROCLAIM THE LORD'S DEATH
UNTIL HE COMES.

(1 CORINTHIANS 11:26, ESV)

The Lord's Supper is a memorial that preaches a new covenant

1 Corinthians 11:25

²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

- This is the new covenant because of or by means of my blood.
- Salvation, forgiveness and restoration because of the shed blood of Jesus.

The church at Troas was steadfast
(dedicated) at partaking in the Lord's
Supper as commanded (Acts 2:42)

THEY JOINED WITH OTHER BELIEVERS
AND DEVOTED THEMSELVES
TO THE APOSTLES TEACHING AND
FELLOWSHIP, SHARING IN THE
LORD'S SUPPER
& IN PRAYER

The church at Troas was steadfast at partaking in the Lord's Supper at the commanded time (the 1st day of the week)



Acts 20:7

And upon the first day of the week,
when the disciples came together to break bread,
Paul preached unto them,
ready to depart on the morrow;
and continued his speech until midnight

The church at Corinth was steadfast at partaking in the Lord's Supper at the commanded time (the 1st day of the week)



1 Corinthians 16:2

Upon the first day of the week
let every one of you lay by him in store,
as God hath prospered him,
that there be no gatherings when I come

The church was steadfast at partaking in the Lord's Supper at the commanded time (the 1st day of the week)

Them taking it on Sunday is an approved precedent

They came together for the purpose of the Lord's Supper

Note: Every week has a Sunday, so we take it every week.

Is it right for anyone to change the frequency that the Lord's Supper is taken?

Who should partake in the Lord's Supper?

1. Members of the church (Acts 2:42 & Acts 20:7)
2. Those who are part of the kingdom (Luke 22:29-30)
3. It's the Lord's Table & Lord's Supper, so only those who are in a relationship with the Lord are invited
4. However, no man has the right regulate who partakes. Its an individual⁴⁵⁶ evaluation (1 Cor 11:28)

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because of its
It has Scriptural Music
in Worship

The New Testament Provides:

Guidance On How To Live

Guidance on what God's plan is

&

Instructions on How To⁴⁵⁸ Worship God

The 5 acts of worship

- Preaching—Ephesians 4:11-12; Acts 20:1-10
- Prayer---1 Timothy 2:1
- Singing---Acts 16:25; Hebrews 2:12; Eph. 5:19
- Giving—1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7
- The Lord's Supper—Matt. 26:26-29;

The New Testament is purposely silent on the use of musical instruments in Worship

THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

1 Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

2 To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I give thanks to God for you always, because of the grace which has been given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you are enriched in him with all the treasures of the heavens and earth, as the testimony to the glory of the Father by us, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ; who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

10 I appeal to you, brethren, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be

were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanos; that, I do not know whether I baptized one else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

18 For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. It is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent."

Where is the debater of this age? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? God made foolish the wisdom of the world. For since in the wisdom of God, it pleased God through us to reveal of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

You are still of the flesh

1139

1 CORINTHIANS 3

of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom, our righteousness and sanctification and redemption; therefore, as it is written, "Let him who boasts, boast of the Lord."

2 When I came to you, brethren, I did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

And I was with you in weakness and in much fear and trembling; and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? We are servants of Christ, as God has prepared for those who love him. God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what person knows a man's thoughts except the spirit of the man which is in him?

receive the gifts of the Spirit of God; for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual man judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

3 But I, brethren, could not address you as spiritual men, but as men of the flesh, as babes in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food; for you were not ready for it, and even yet you are not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, you are not of the flesh, and behaving like ordinary men. For when one says, "I belong to Christ," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely men?

5 What then is Apollos? What is Paul? We are servants of Christ, as God has prepared for those who love him. God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what person knows a man's thoughts except the spirit of the man which is in him?

10 According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take

**Where the Bible speaks, we speak.
Where the Bible is silent, we are silent.**

As a student of the bible, its important to respect what the bible says and does not say

Singing mentioned in the New Testament

Matthew 26.30

Acts 16.25

Romans 15.9

1 Corinthians 14.15

Ephesians 5.19

Colossians 3.16

Hebrews 2.12

Hebrews 13.15

James 5.13

**The New Testament commands the church
to Sing and the church Sung**

**The NT does NOT command the
church to play instruments.**

**And we do not see ANY of the
congregations in the New
Testament playing instruments in
attempts to ⁴⁶²WORSHIP GOD**

God is not worshipped with hands

**God that made the world and
all things therein, seeing that
he is Lord of heaven and
earth, dwelleth not in
temples made with hands;
Neither is worshipped with
men's hands, as though he
needed any thing, seeing he
giveth to all life, and breath,
and all things;
Acts 17:24-25**

These and many more existed during the New Testament, yet the church used NONE

- musical instruments
- flute
- pipe
- trumpet
- ram's horn, shofar
- lyre
- stringed instruments
- sistrum or rattle
- bells
- cymbals
- harp
- tambourine, timbrel
- cornet (horn)
- psaltery
- sackbut (lyre)
- dulcimer (bagpipe?)

Some Have Made Attempts To Justify Playing Instruments As Worship Let's review some...

#1) Some attempt to justify instrumental music by saying it was allowed in the Old Testament

WRONG: OT commands & NT commands are different. The church takes its guidance from Christ. For example, OT commanded animal sacrifices etc. NT⁴⁶⁵ does not. Gal 3:25

Some Have Made Attempts To Justify Playing Instruments As Worship Let's review some...

#2) Some attempt to justify instrumental music by saying the bible mentions harps in heaven

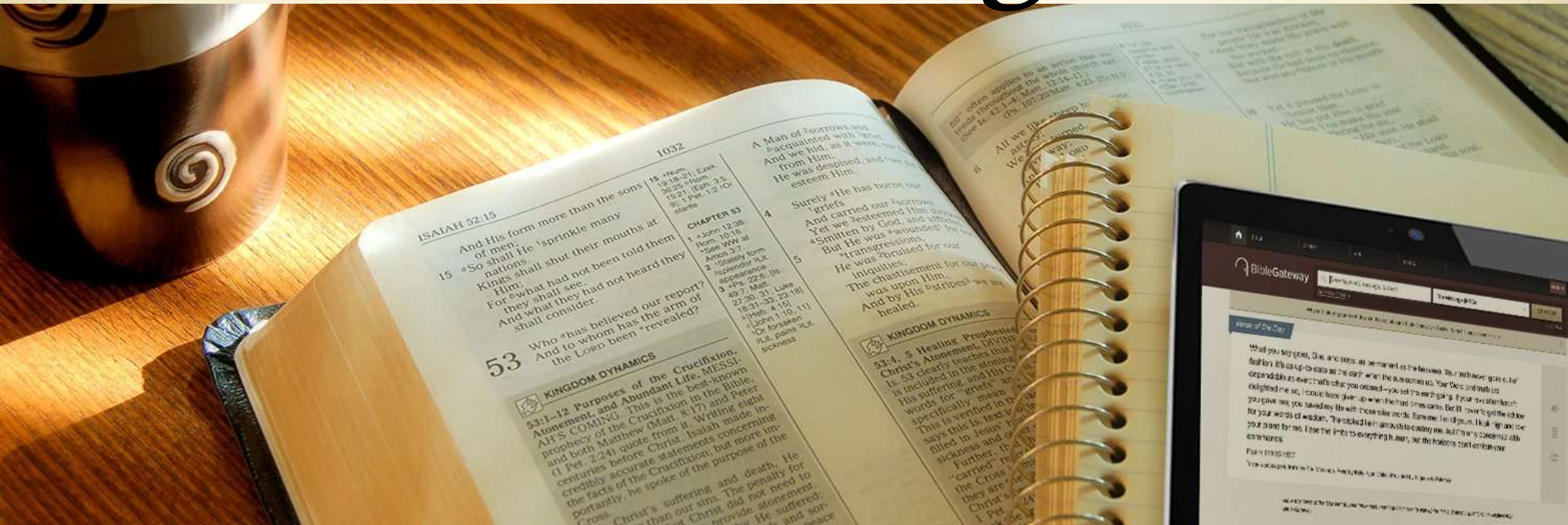
WRONG: We do NOT have the authority to introduce things into worship that the bible does authorize. Doing so is adding to the Word of God
(Rev 22:18-19)

Some Have Made Attempts To Justify Playing Instruments As Worship Let's review some...

#3) Some attempt to justify instrumental music
by saying instruments aid in singing

WRONG: Sounding perfect is not the
purpose of our singing. In fact,
instruments often drown out the words we
sing. This is bad because one key purpose
of our singing is to encourage each other
(Col 3:16, Eph 5:19)

The Bible tells us OVER and OVER again,



only follow what is written in the Word of God

Now, Brothers, I Have Applied
These Things To Myself And
Apollos For Your Benefit, So That
You May Learn From Us The
Meaning Of The Saying, “Do Not
Go Beyond What Is Written.”
Then You Will Not Take Pride In
One Man Over Against Another.

1 Corinthians 4-6

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.

JOHN.14:23-24.

23, Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

24, Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

Why I Am A Member of the Church of Christ

Because it
Salvation is in
Christ's church

**Jesus said: I tell you, you are Peter.
And on this Rock I will build My church**

Matthew 16:18



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and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it

The church is ESSENTIAL

**Any church that is not
viewed as “essential” to
salvation is NOT
Christ’s church**

**Salvation is in the church because it is the
blood purchased institution**

**Acts 20:28 Be on guard for
yourselves and for all the
flock, among which the
Holy Spirit has made you
overseers, to shepherd the
church of God which He
purchased with His own
blood.**

Salvation is in the church for Paul
promised Christ would save the church

For The Husband Is The
Head Of The Wife As
Christ Is The Head Of
The Church, His Body, Of
Which He Is The Savior.

Ephesians 5-23

Salvation is in the church because it is
there that man is reconciled to God

HE RECONCILED
US TO GOD
IN ONE BODY
THROUGH
THE CROSS



EPHESIANS 2:16

**Salvation is in the church it is the group
Christ will present unto himself**

**That he might present it to himself a
glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle,
or any such thing; but that it should be holy
and without blemish.**

— Ephesians 5:27 (KJV)

Man can't be saved outside the church
because God himself adds to the church

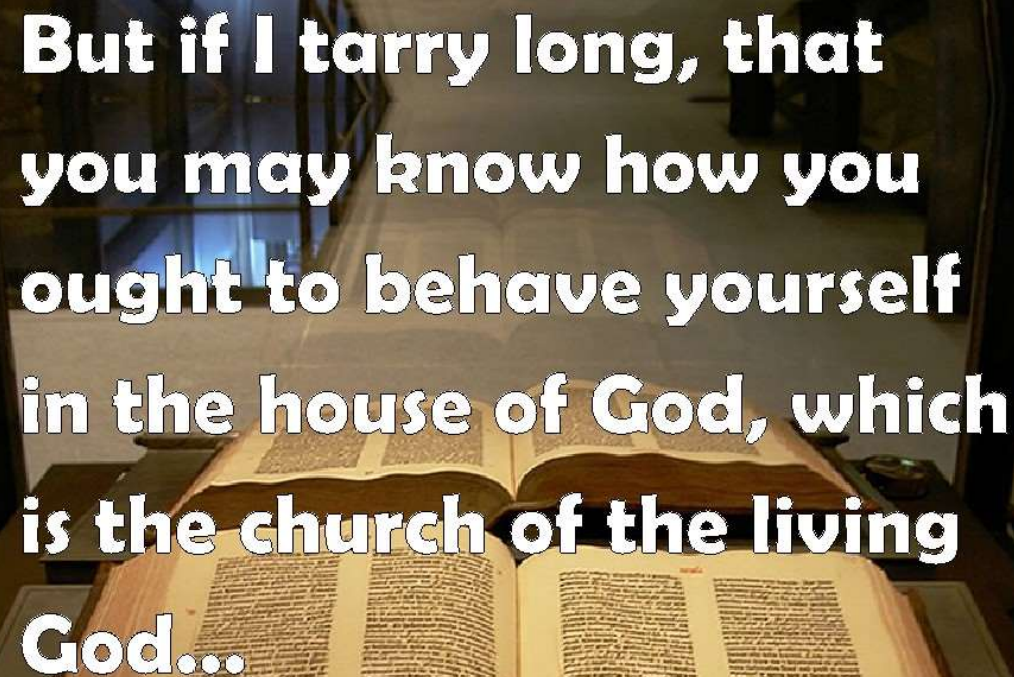


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**"Praising God, and having favour
with all the people. And the Lord
added to the church daily such as
should be saved."**

Acts 2:47 KJV

One has to be part of the family of God to be saved. The church is His Family

An open Bible is shown from a high angle, resting on a dark surface. The pages are filled with dense, handwritten text in two columns. The lighting is warm, highlighting the texture of the paper and the ink. The text is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

**But if I tarry long, that
you may know how you
ought to behave yourself
in the house of God, which
is the church of the living
God...**

—1 Timothy 3:15

The Next Slide Is A
Summary Slide of
The church

The Church of Christ

"The Lord added to the church daily such as were being saved." Acts 2:47

"I am the vine and you are the branches." Jno. 15:5

"That they may all be one." Jno. 17:21

I Tim. 3:15
Eph 2:19-22

- The church: Eph. 1:22
- The body: Eph. 4:4
- The family: Rom. 8:12-17
- The kingdom: Col. 2:12
- The house: Heb. 3:1-6
- The bride: II Cor. 11:2
Rev. 22:17

"I am the door."
"Knock and it shall be opened."

Jno. 10: 9; Mt. 7: 7

More Marks that Matter

- N.T. Organization
- N.T. Worship
- N.T. Work
- N.T. Authority

Jerusalem
AD 29
Acts 2

"No other foundation can any man lay than that which is laid which is Christ Jesus." I Cor. 3:11

Be Baptized: Acts 2:38; Mk. 16:16

Repent: Acts 17:30; II Pet 3:9

Confess: Rom. 10:10; Mt. 10:32

Believe: Jno. 3:16; Heb. 11:6

Hear: Rom. 10: 14-15

"You are the Christ!"
"Upon this rock I will build my church."
"A chosen, precious cornerstone." Mt. 16:18; I Pet. 2:6