

Let The Bible Speak

“Answers To A Few Questions / Objections

Some Have Regarding The CHURCH of CHRIST”



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1 Peter 3:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always *be* ready to *give* a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;



The CHURCH of CHRIST

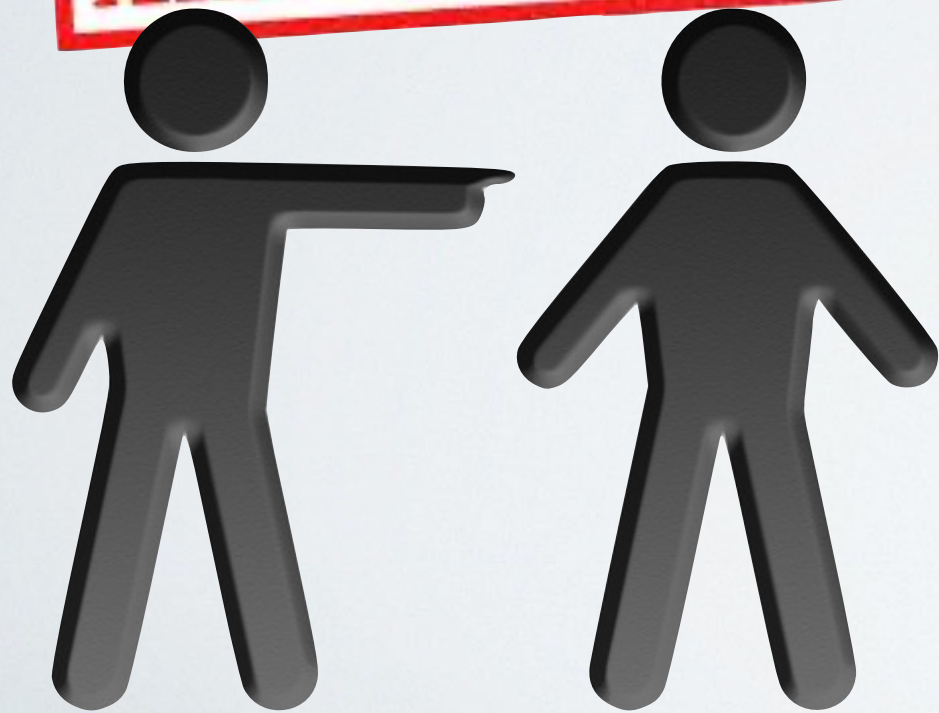
TEACHES ...

BELIEVES ...

IS ...

TRUE or

**FALSE
ALLEGATIONS**

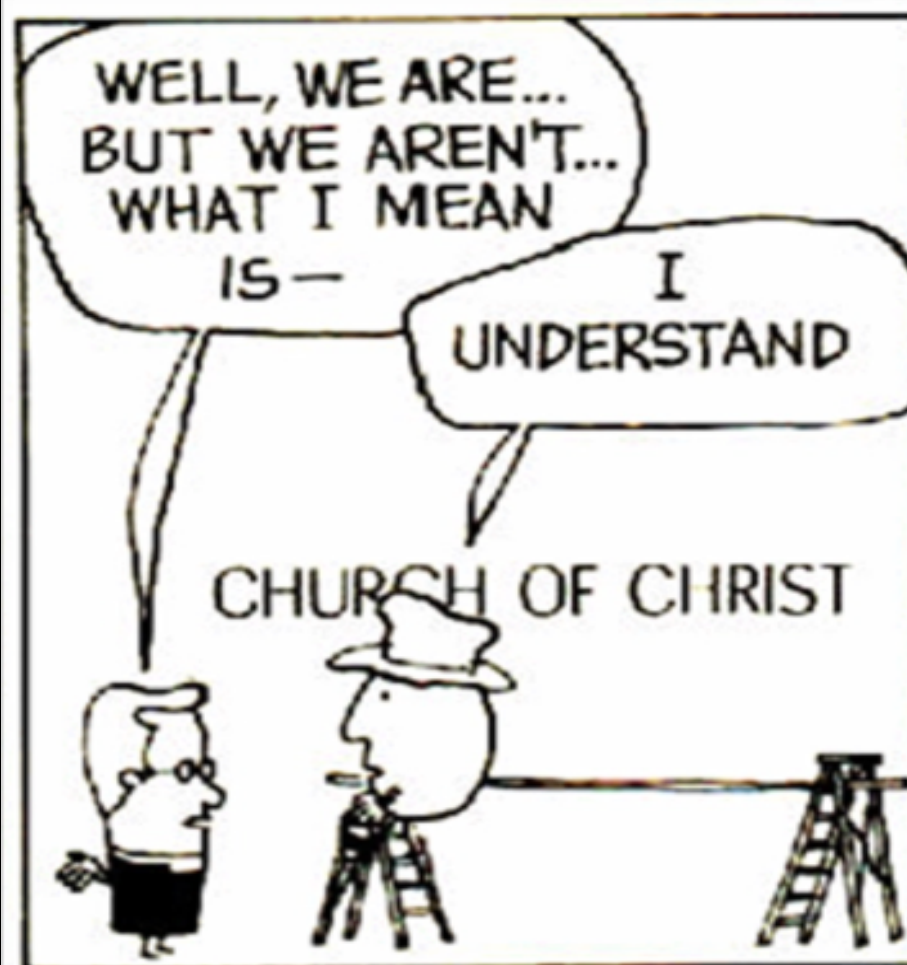
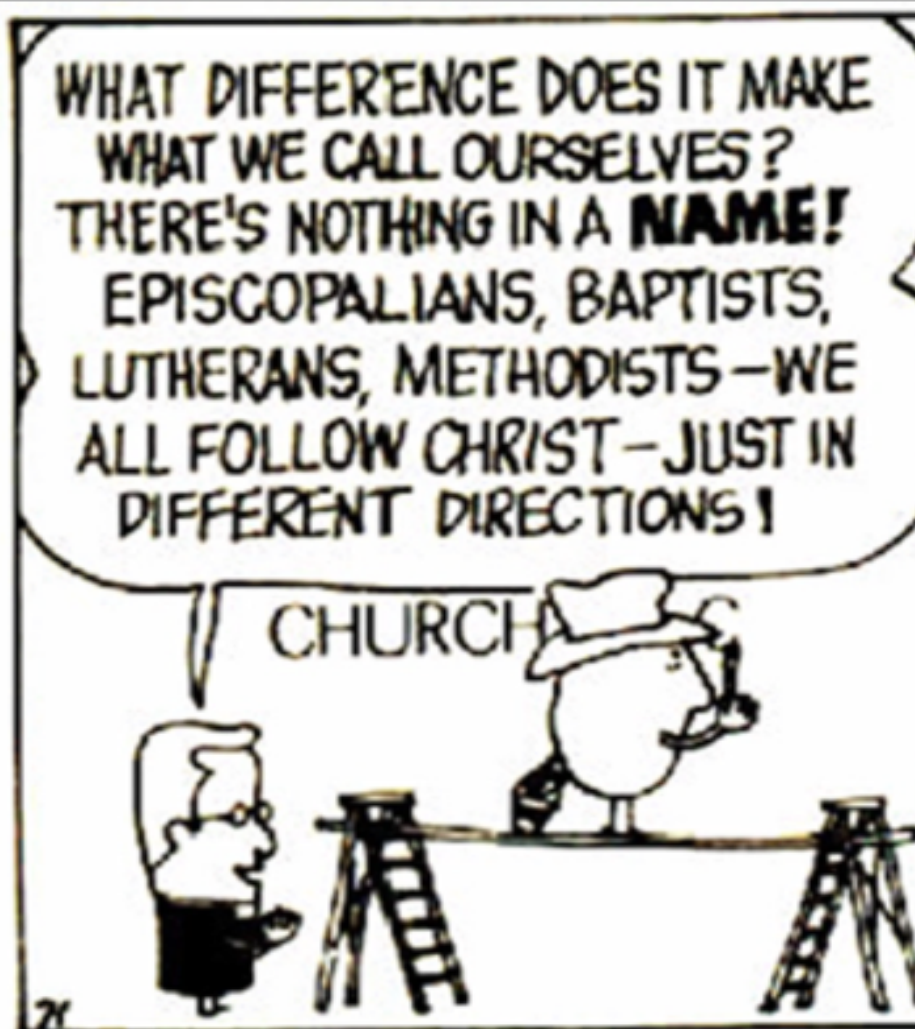


FIRST ...

The actual “church of Christ” has NO TEACHING / BELIEFS unique to itself apart from what the scriptures teach.

If a church teaches, believes and practices what the Bible teaches - then it is a church of Christ - if it does not, then it is NOT a church of Christ.

Theophilus



The CHURCH of CHRIST

TEACHES ...

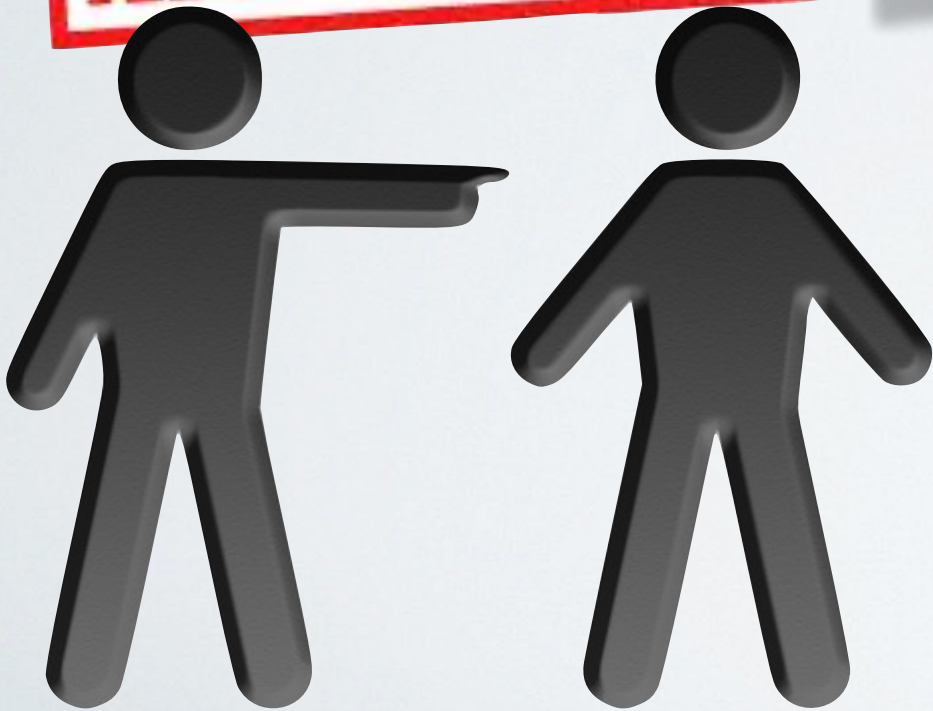
BELIEVES ...

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It has been a long standing practice for people to oppose, falsely accuse, misrepresent and even slander God's people.



- ◆ Able (Genesis 4)
- ◆ Job (Job 22:5-9)
- ◆ David (Psalm 41:5-7; Etc.)
- ◆ Jesus (Matthew 12:9-45; Etc.)
- ◆ Paul (Romans 3:7,8; Etc.)
- ◆ The Early Church (Acts 19:9; 24:14)

The CHURCH of CHRIST

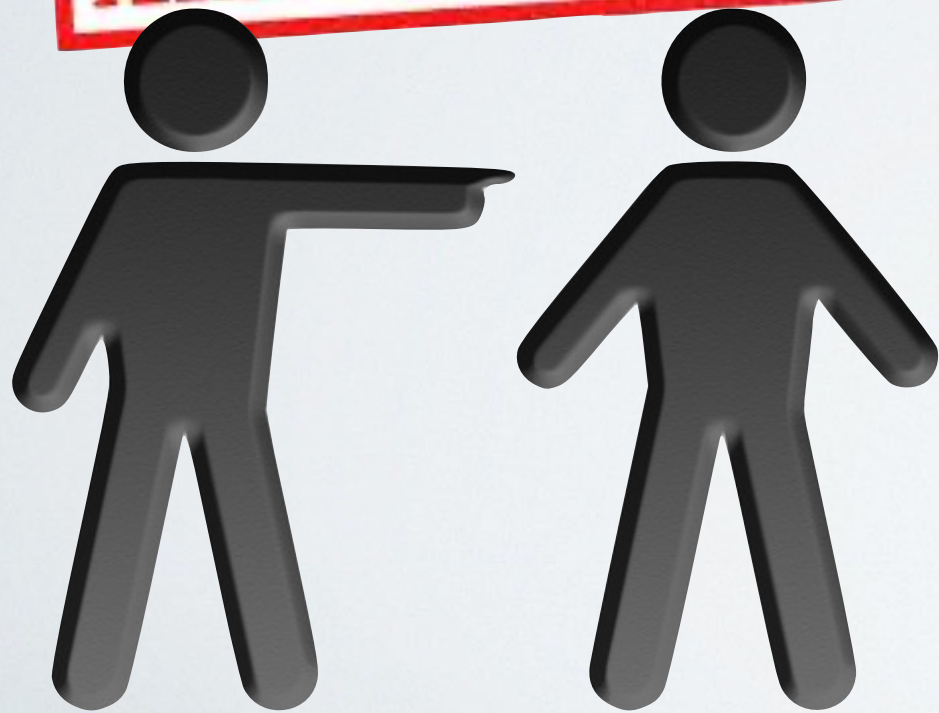
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Why We May Falsely Accuse Other People?

- Because we have a misunderstanding of the truth (John 7:41-44)
- Because we have a misunderstanding of what one has said (Mat. 26:61,62; John 6:60-69)
- Because we oppose the truth (John 5:31-59; 2 Thes. 2:10-12)

The CHURCH of CHRIST

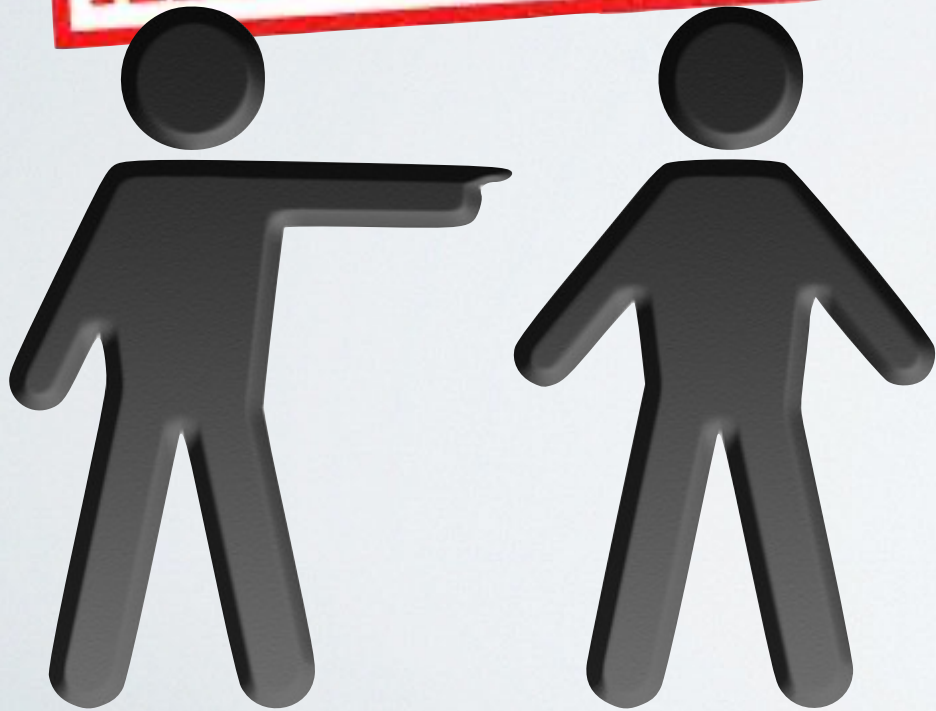
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◆ Unbelievers Oppose Truth

Acts 13:8–10 (NKJV)

⁸ But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. ⁹ Then Saul, who also *is called* Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him ¹⁰ and said, “O full of all deceit and all fraud, *you* son of the devil, *you* enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord?

The CHURCH of CHRIST

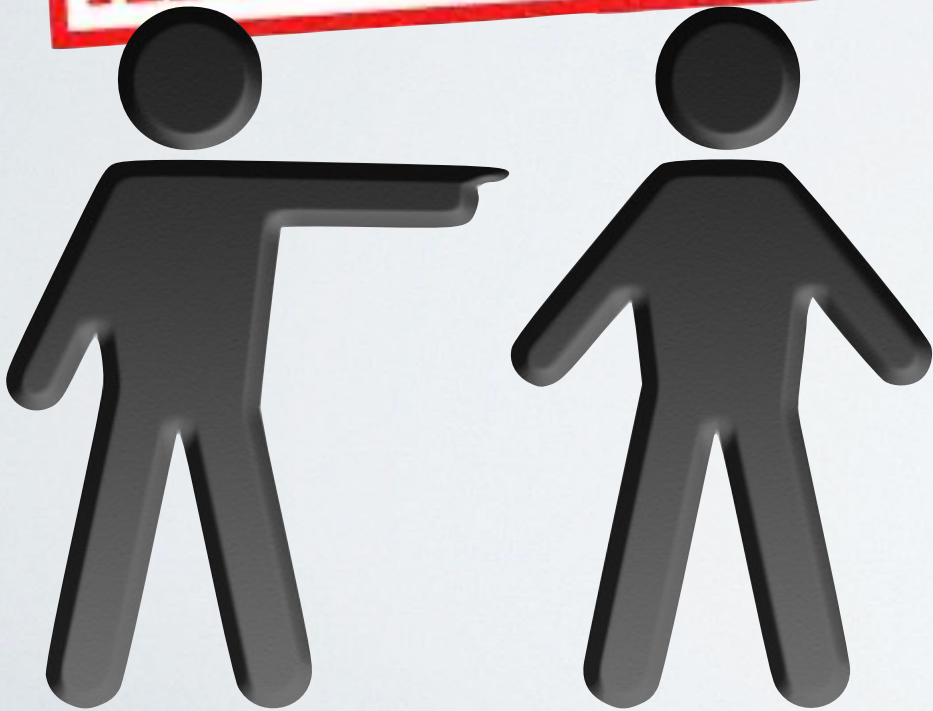
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❖ Religious People Often
Slander Those Who Stand
For The Truth ...

Acts 14:2 (NKJV)

² But the unbelieving Jews
stirred up the Gentiles and
poisoned their minds
against the brethren.

The CHURCH of CHRIST

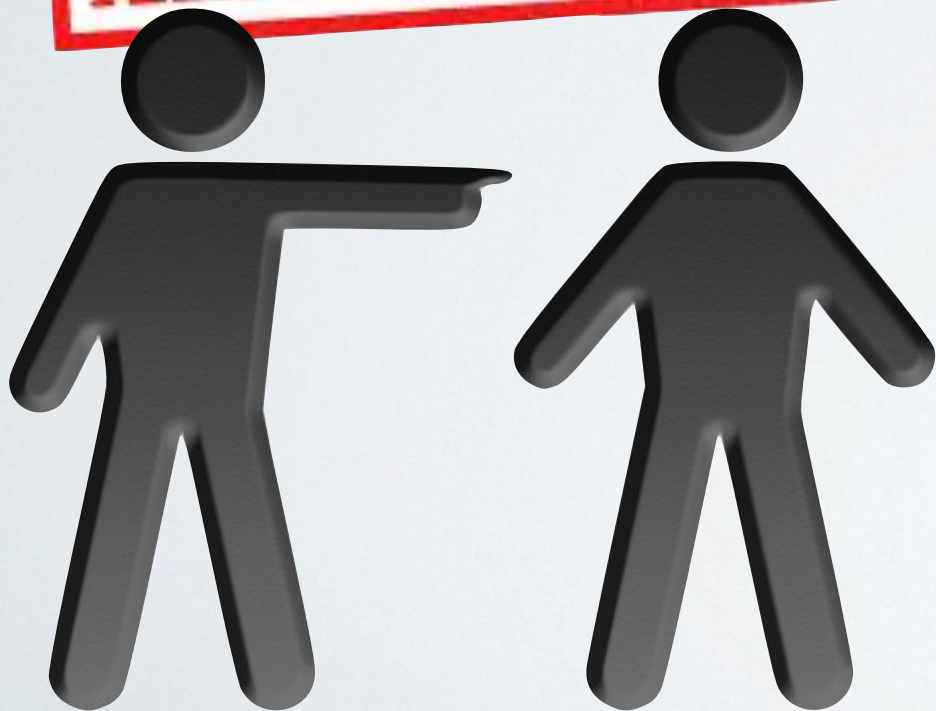
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❖ **Even This Who Profess To
Follow Christ Can Be Guilty
Of Opposing The Truth ...**

Galatians 5:11–12 (NKJV)


¹¹ And I, brethren, if I still preach circumcision, why do I still suffer persecution? Then the offense of the cross has ceased. ¹² I could wish that those who trouble you would even cut themselves off

“Answers To A Few Questions / Objections

Some Have Regarding The CHURCH of CHRIST”

False Accusation #1

The coC Teaches They Are The ONLY Ones Saved


- 
- ◆ “They think their denomination is better than all the rest”
 - ◆ “They think they are the ONLY ones who are right!”
 - ◆ “They demand you agree with them or be lost”
 - ◆ “When we get to heaven, don’t disturb them, they think they’re the only ones here.” LOL

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False Accusation #1

The coC Teaches They Are The ONLY Ones Saved

- 
- ◆ Those who make statements such as this demonstrate they do not understand what the Bible teaches regarding the church. (Mat. 16:18; Acts 2:47; Eph. 5:23-25)
 - ◆ How can we get people to remove their "denominational glasses" and view the church from a scriptural perspective?

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*Those In Christ's Church Are The Saved
According To The Bible (Acts 2:47)*

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- ◆ The church of the Bible knew nothing of “denominations” (Mt 16:18; Eph 1:22,23; 4:4-6; 5:23-25; 1 Cor. 1:10)
- ◆ Let us appeal only to God, for He is right (Rom 3:4; 2 Tim. 2:15; 3:16,17; 1 Cor. 4:6)
- ◆ I plead with people to believe & follow only the scriptures (Ac 17:11; 2 Tim 4:2)
- ◆ Only those who abide in the teachings of Jesus will be in heaven (Mat 7:13,14, 21-23; 25:31-46; Heb 5:8.9; 2 Jn. 9)

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False Accusation #2

The coC doesn't believe in the Holy Spirit

- 
- ◆ “They deny the work of the Spirit in conversion”
 - ◆ “They deny the indwelling of the Holy Spirit”
 - ◆ “They deny miraculous gifts / they do not believe in miracles”
 - ◆ “They deny Holy Spirit baptism”

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The Lord's Church Believes In The Holy Spirit! (Acts 19:1-5)

- ◆ The Holy Spirit converts through the gospel (Ac 2; 8; 10; 16; 18; Rom 10:4-17; 2 Thes 2:13,14; Eph 3:3-5)
- ◆ The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is a relationship - not possession! (Rom 8; 1 John 2:24-28; etc)
- ◆ Miracles were to confirm the truth and then cease (Mark 16:20; Hebrews 2:1-4; 1 Cor. 13:8-13)
- ◆ Holy Spirit baptism occurred 2 times for a specific purpose (Acts 2 & 10; Eph 4:5)




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False Accusation #3

The coC believes water saves people ...

- 
- ◆ “They deny that it is the blood of Jesus that saves.”
 - ◆ “The thief on the cross wasn’t baptized”
 - ◆ “It is spiritual baptism that saves, not water baptism”
 - ◆ “Baptism doesn’t save”

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The Bible teaches immersion in water is necessary unto salvation (Mark 16:16)

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- ◆ Jesus said “He who believes and is baptized will be saved” (Mark 16:16)
- ◆ Peter said “baptism now saves us ... through Jesus’s resurrection” (1 Pet 3:21)
- ◆ The Bible teaches that when a believer is baptized he contacts the death, (blood) of Jesus (Rom 6:3-6, 16-18)
- ◆ Peter told those on Pentecost to “repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38) and continued to be practiced ...



Baptism in the name of Jesus was commanded and practiced after Jesus's resurrection and part of the great commission (Mat. 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38;

| Examples | Believed | Repented | Confessed | Baptized |
|----------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| Pentecost – 2:14-41 | Implied | 37,38 | Implied | 38,41 |
| Samaria – 8:5-13 | 12 | Implied | Implied | 12,13 |
| Eunuch – 8:35-39 | 36,37 | Implied | 37 | 38 |
| Saul – 9,22,26 | Implied | Implied | Implied | 9:18 |
| Cornelius - 10:34-48 | 43 | Implied | Implied | 48 |
| Lydia – 16:13-15 | 14 | Implied | Implied | 15 |
| Jailor – 16:30-34 | 31 | Implied | Implied | 33 |
| Corinthians - 18:8 | 8 | Implied | Implied | 8 |
| Ephesians - 19:3-5 | Implied | Implied | Implied | 5 |

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False Accusation #4

The coC Teaches “WORKS Salvation” ...



- ◆ “They do not believe we are saved by grace alone, through faith alone and Christ alone.”
- ◆ “They don’t believe John 3:16 or Romans 5:1 or 10:9,10”
- ◆ “They do not believe in the finished work of Christ.”

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The Bible Teaches We Are Saved Through A Faith That Obeys (James 2:14-26)

- ❖ Salvation by grace through faith does NOT eliminate divinely ordained conditions, such as baptism (Gen. 6:8ff; Jos. 6:2ff; Heb. 11:6,7,30; Acts 2:38)
- ❖ What is received by an obedient faith is of faith (John 3:16; etc. Heb. 11:30)
- ❖ The provision of salvation was made once for all, (Heb. 9:28; Rom. 6:10), but I must receive it through an obedient faith (Romans 6:16-18; James 2:14-26; Heb. 5:8,9; Luke 6:46; etc.)



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The **NATURE** *of* **SAVING FAITH**

**God's Universal
Kindness, Love &
Mercy.**

**The
Basis of
(Not of
WORKS)**

**The Gracious
Gift of God's
Son & The
Gospel -**

**The
Conditions We
MUST meet
(WORKS)**



Salvation

**Faith – (Repent –
Confess – Be baptized -
Persevere)**

**The
Provision
of
(Not of
WORKS)**

The **NATURE** *of* **SAVING FAITH**

SAME PRINCIPLE IN EVERY AGE ...

**GOD
SPEAKS**

**MAN
HEARS**

**MAN
OBEYS BY
FAITH**

**GOD
SAVES**

NOAH - Gen. 6:8,13-17; 22; 7:5; Heb 11:7

ABRAHAM – Gen 12:4; 15:6; 17:10,23; 22:3,16-18

ISRAEL – Ex. 12:13; 14:30; Dt 30:15-19; Jos 6; 1 Cor 10:1-13

US – Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 8:12,37; Rom 6:3-6; 10:9-13; Gal.
3:26,27; Col. 2:11-13; 1 Pet 3:21; 1 Jn 1:9

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False Accusation #5

The coC Doesn't Believe In Music ...



- ❖ “The Bible nowhere condemns musical instruments so the coC adds their prohibition to the Bible.”
- ❖ “David used musical instruments in worship and that was OK, so the coC takes away from the Bible.”
- ❖ “The coC has pews, song books, and all kinds of stuff that the Bible does not specifically mention”

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The Bible Teaches Us To Sing

- ◆ The Bible tells what God wants and it does not list everything He doesn't (2 Tim. 3:16,17; 1 Cor. 4:6)
- ◆ David also burned animal sacrifices according to the OT. We are not under the types and shadows of the OT - we are to worship according to the spiritual realities of the NC (Jn 4:24; Heb 9:9,10)
- ◆ The NT authorizes singing, not playing (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16,17)
- ◆ The church knew this for 1500 years.



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More False Accusations & Misrepresentations



- ❖ The church of Christ was started by Alexander Campbell ... (So did Jesus build and add the saved to somebody else's church? Mat. 16:18; Acts 2:47)
- ❖ The church of Christ is legalistic and pharisaical ... (Is obedience bad? Hypocrisy is bad - but obedience to Christ is not! Luke 6:46)
- ❖ The church of Christ is a cult ... (Be careful when using slander to destroy another - the truth will eventually win. Prov. 11:9)

ANY CHURCH BELONGING TO CHRIST

TEACHES ...

BELIEVES ...

IS ...



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- ◆ Those in Christ's church are the saved (Acts 2:47; Eph. 5:23-25)
- ◆ The Holy Spirit convicts, converts and sanctifies men through the gospel (2 Thes. 2:13,14)
- ◆ Immersion in water in obedience to Jesus is necessary unto salvation (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:3-6; etc.)
- ◆ We are saved through an obedient faith (Jam 2:14-26)
- ◆ The Bible teaches us to sing (Eph. 5:19)
- ◆ Faithful to Jesus (Eph. 5:24)

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- ❖ We should want to **teach** ONLY the things taught in the Scriptures.
- ❖ We should desire to **believe** ONLY what is revealed in the Scriptures.
- ❖ We should aspire **to be** ONLY what the scriptures instruct us to be.

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¹⁵ But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always *be* ready to *give* a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

*Are you in Christ's
church?*

*Are you in Faithful
To Christ?*

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Charts by Don McClain

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1 Peter 3:13–17 (NKJV)

¹³ And who *is* he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, *you are* blessed. “*And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.*” ¹⁵ But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always *be* ready to *give* a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; ¹⁶ having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. ¹⁷ For *it is* better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.