

# Attitude

Essential Attitudes of A Living Faith

**Our Attitude Towards The  
CHURCH of CHRIST MATTERS**

(Matthew 16:16-19; Ephesians 5:22-31; 2 Corinthians 11:28)





# Attitude

**Our Attitude Towards  
The CHURCH of CHRIST  
MATTERS**



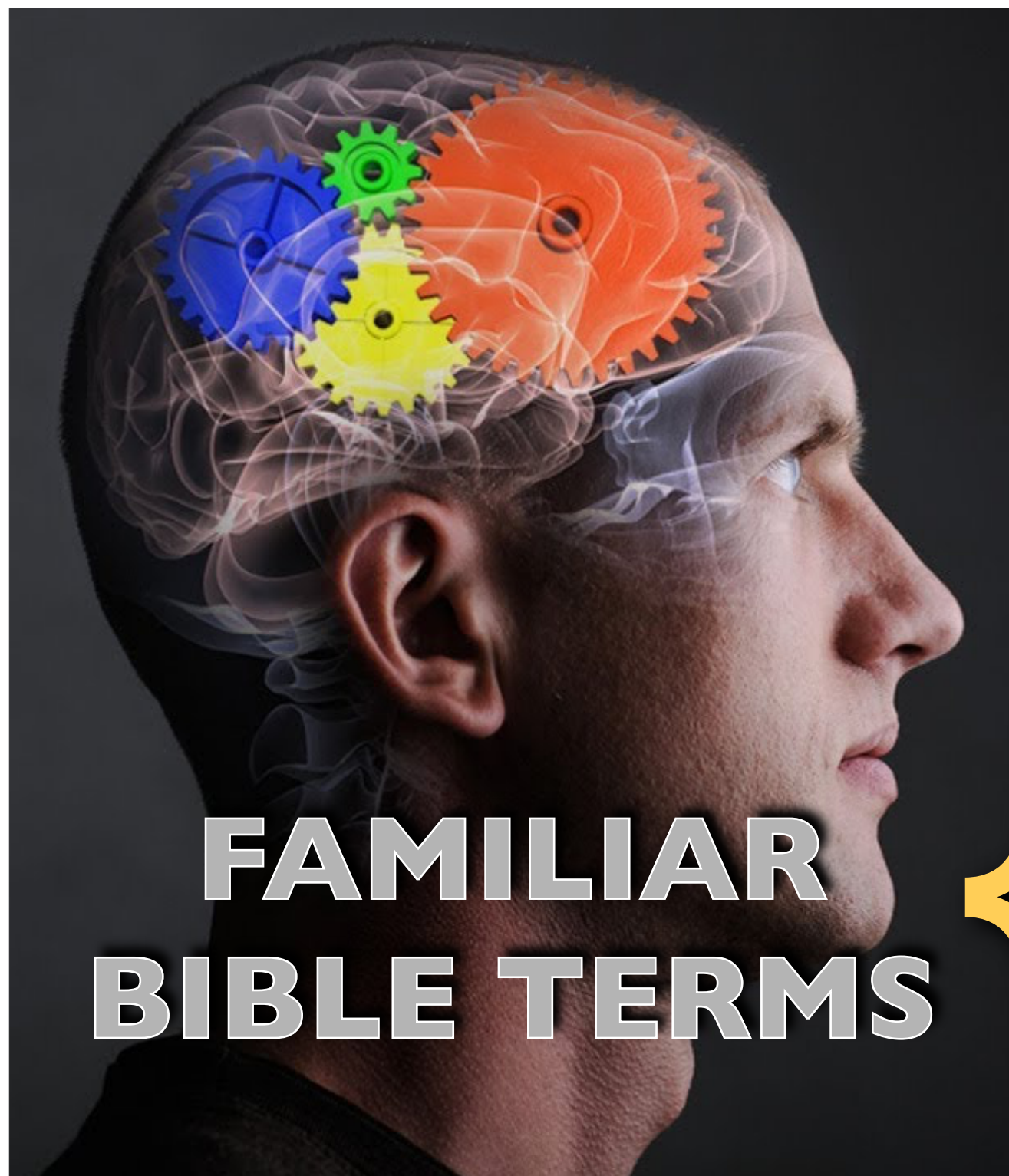
## Definition of Attitude

- "A settled way of thinking or feeling about someone or something, typically one that is reflected in a person's behavior."
- "Beliefs, emotions, and behaviors toward a particular object, person, thing, or event"



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Mindset

Perspective

Disposition

Spirit

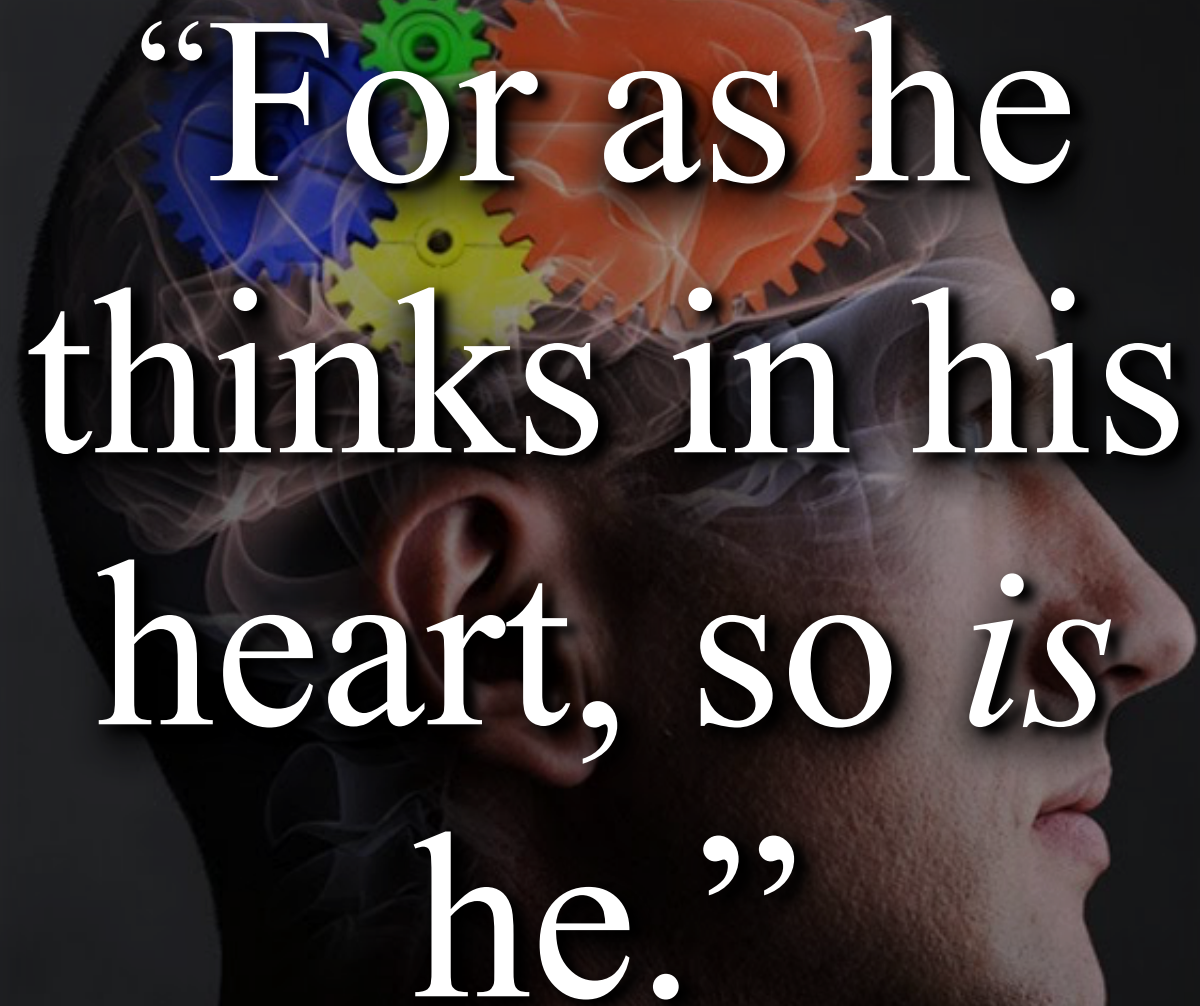
Mind

Godliness



# Attitude

Our Attitude Towards  
The **CHURCH** of **CHRIST**  
**MATTERS**



“For as he  
thinks in his  
heart, so *is*  
he.”

Proverbs 23:7

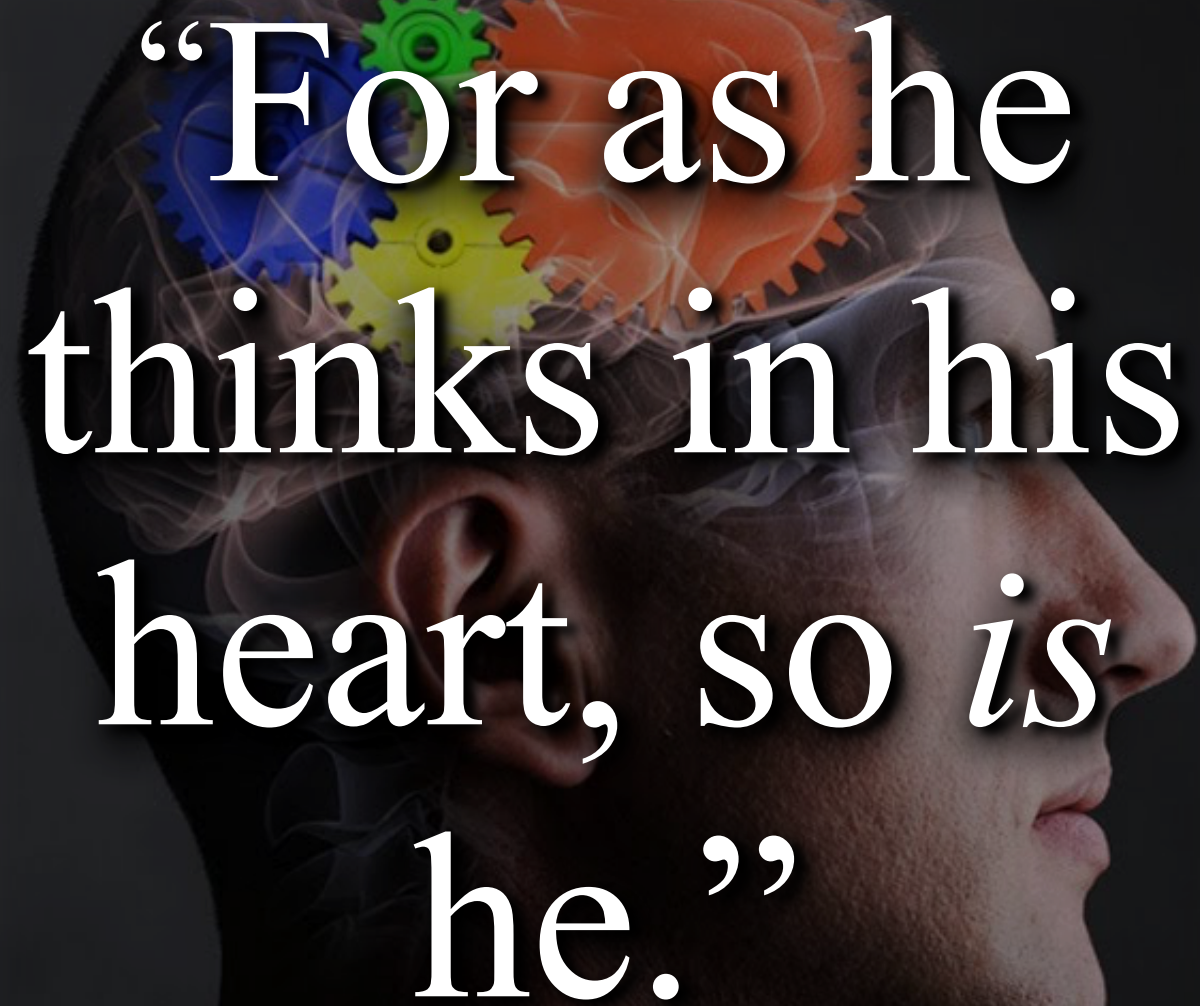
## Components of Attitude

- **Cognitive:** Your thoughts and beliefs about the subject.
- **Affective:** How the object, person, issue, or event makes you feel.
- **Behavioral:** How attitude influences your behavior.



# Attitude

## Our Attitude Towards The CHURCH of CHRIST MATTERS



“For as he  
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Proverbs 23:7

- OUR ATTITUDE MATTERS
- OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS GOD MATTERS
- OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS SCRIPTURE MATTERS
- OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS GOD'S AUTHORITY MATTERS
- OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS The CHURCH of CHRIST MATTERS



# Attitude

**Our Attitude Towards  
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Our attitude towards the church of Christ will NOT be RIGHT if we do not believe and accept what the Bible teaches about it!



- **What if we BELIEVE one church is just as good as another?**
- **What if we BELIEVE the church is not important?**
- **What if we twist & misrepresent scripture in order to sustain & support an unscriptural view?**  
(Catholicism / Protestant denominational)



# Attitude

Our Attitude Towards  
The **CHURCH** of **CHRIST**  
**MATTERS**

THE CHURCH BELONGING TO CHRIST IS NOT A DENOMINATION!  
DENOMINATIONALISM IS CONTRARY TO THE TEACHING OF JESUS!

**Corn**

**Apple**

**Acorn**

**After Its Own Kind**

**Genesis 1:12**

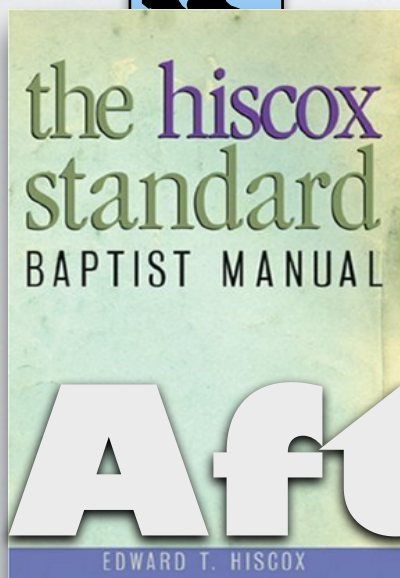


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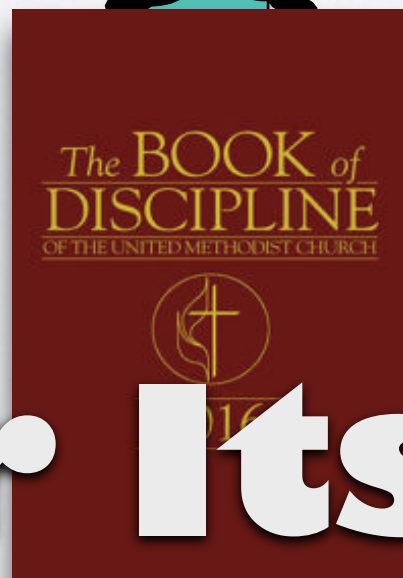
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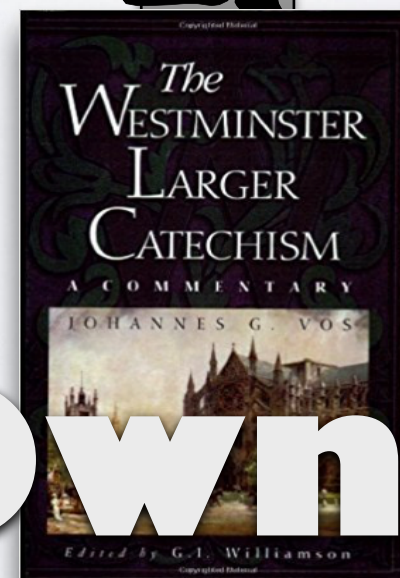
Baptist



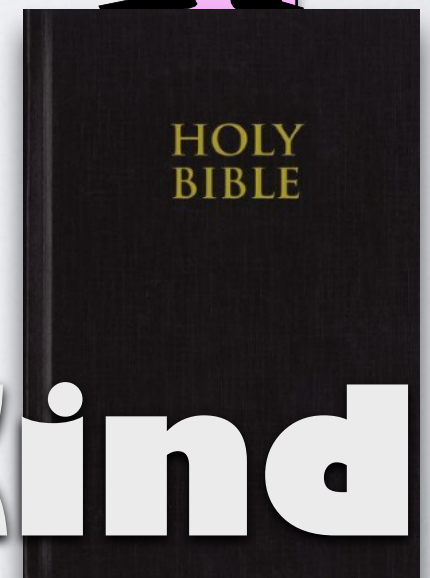
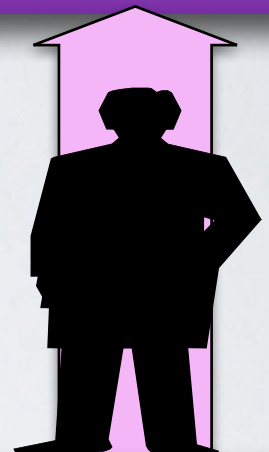
Methodist



Presbyterian



Christian



After Its own Kind

Luke 8:11



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DENOMINATIONALISM IS CONTRARY TO THE TEACHING OF JESUS!

## After Its Own Kind

**Luke 8:11**



A church that **FOLLOWS ONLY** the teaching of Christ  
**is a CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Eph 5:24; Col. 3:17; Jn 10:27; 2 Jn 9

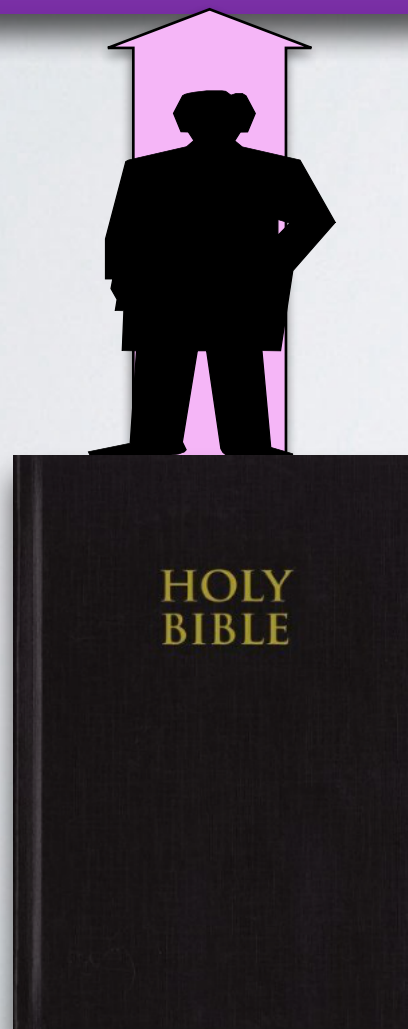


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**A CHURCH OF  
CHRIST**



Eph 5:24; Col. 3:17; Jn 10:27; 2 Jn 9

- ▶ **How to be saved** - Acts 2:14-38; 16:30-33 ...
- ▶ **Organization** — Phil. 1:1
- ▶ **Worship** — Jn 4:24; Eph 5:19; Acts 20:7; etc.
- ▶ **Work** / Evangelism / edification / benevolence - Eph 4:11 - 16; 1 The 1:8; Acts 2:42 ff ...
- ▶ **Doctrine** - what Christ has revealed - not what He hasn't ... 2 Tim 3:16,17; 2 John 9;
- ▶ Does NOT follow the doctrines and commandments of men - Mat. 15:7-9, 13



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*<sup>15</sup> Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. — 2 Timothy 2:15 (NKJV)*

**IF WE RESPECT, BELIEVE & LOVE GOD'S WORD ...**



- ▶ We will accept everything the Bible teaches as truth & strive to follow the teaching of Jesus accurately.
- ▶ We will love & respect the church for which Jesus died.
- ▶ We will strive to uphold the TRUTH & keep the church pure.





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## Matthew 16:18–19 (NKJV)

<sup>18</sup> And I also say to you that <sup>n</sup>you are Peter, and <sup>o</sup>on this rock I will build My church, and <sup>p</sup>the gates of Hades shall not <sup>7</sup>prevail against it.

<sup>19</sup> <sup>q</sup>And  I will give you the keys  of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth <sup>8</sup>will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”



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## Matthew 16:18–19 (NKJV)



- **“Upon This Rock”** — Its Foundation no other than JESUS
- **“I Will Build”** — Its origin of It.
- **“My Church”** — Its Ownership, Intimacy & Singularity.
- **“The Gates of Hades Shall Not Prevail Against It”** — Its Inevitability & Invincibility!
- **“The Keys of The Kingdom”** — Its Means of Access & Standard of Authority! (Acts 2:21,37-47)



# Attitude

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## Ephesians 4:1–6 (NKJV)

**4** I, therefore, the prisoner <sup>1</sup>of the Lord, <sup>2</sup>beseech you to <sup>a</sup>walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, <sup>2</sup>with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit <sup>b</sup>in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup><sup>c</sup>*There is* one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup><sup>d</sup>one Lord, <sup>e</sup>one faith, <sup>f</sup>one baptism; <sup>6</sup><sup>g</sup>one God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and <sup>h</sup>through all, and in <sup>3</sup>you all.



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one another in love, as the church, which is the body of Christ, of the

Spirit, which is the church, the body of Christ, which is the church, and one

Spirit, which you heard from us, you welcomed *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also

5 <sup>d</sup>effectively works in you who believe. 6 He is the Father of

all, who is above all, and <sup>h</sup>through all, and in <sup>3</sup>you all.

### 1 Thessalonians 2:12–13 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory. <sup>13</sup> For this reason we also thank God

without ceasing, because when you received the word of God and one

Spirit, which you heard from us, you welcomed *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also

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### 2 Thessalonians 2:13–15 (NKJV)

<sup>13</sup> But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, <sup>14</sup> to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>15</sup> Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.



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*Sp* Seeing we are called by the same gospel, given by thee *ur* calling;  
*5 d* same Holy Spirit, adherence to the TRUTH will produce *l* Father of  
the godly attitudes needed to promote unity & peace  
(Gal. 5:22,23; Mat. 5:3-12; Rom. 12:1-16)  
*all*



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## Ephesians 4:1–6 (NKJV)



### Ephesians 4:4–6 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> *There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*

- SINGULARITY
- STANDARD
- HOPE
- HEAD
- UNITY
- ADMISSION
- FELLOWSHIP



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## Ephesians 5:23–32 (NKJV)

<sup>22</sup> Wives, <sup>g</sup>submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

<sup>23</sup> For <sup>h</sup>the husband is head of the wife, as also <sup>i</sup>Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. <sup>24</sup> Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands <sup>j</sup>in everything.

<sup>25</sup> <sup>k</sup>Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and <sup>l</sup>gave Himself for her, <sup>26</sup> that He might <sup>7</sup>sanctify and cleanse her <sup>m</sup>with the washing of water <sup>n</sup>by the word,



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## Ephesians 5:23–32 (NKJV)

<sup>27</sup> <sup>o</sup>that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, <sup>p</sup>not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. <sup>28</sup> So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup> For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord *does* the church. <sup>30</sup> For <sup>q</sup>we are members of His body, <sup>8</sup>of His flesh and of His bones. <sup>31</sup> <sup>r</sup>*“For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the <sup>s</sup>two shall become one flesh.”* <sup>32</sup> This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.



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## **Ephesians 5:23–32 (NKJV)**



- **“Christ is the head of His church”** — His Bride (23)
- **“the savior of His body”** — His church (23; 1:22,23; Acts 2:47)
- **“the church submits to Christ”** — submits to His authority (24; Mat. 28:18-20; Col. 3:17)
- **“Christ gave Himself for His church”** — (25; Acts 20:28)
- **“Christ cleanses it, washes it w/ water by His word”** — (26; 2 Co. 11:2; Col. 1:22; 1 Pet. 2:22,23)



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## **Ephesians 5:23–32 (NKJV)**



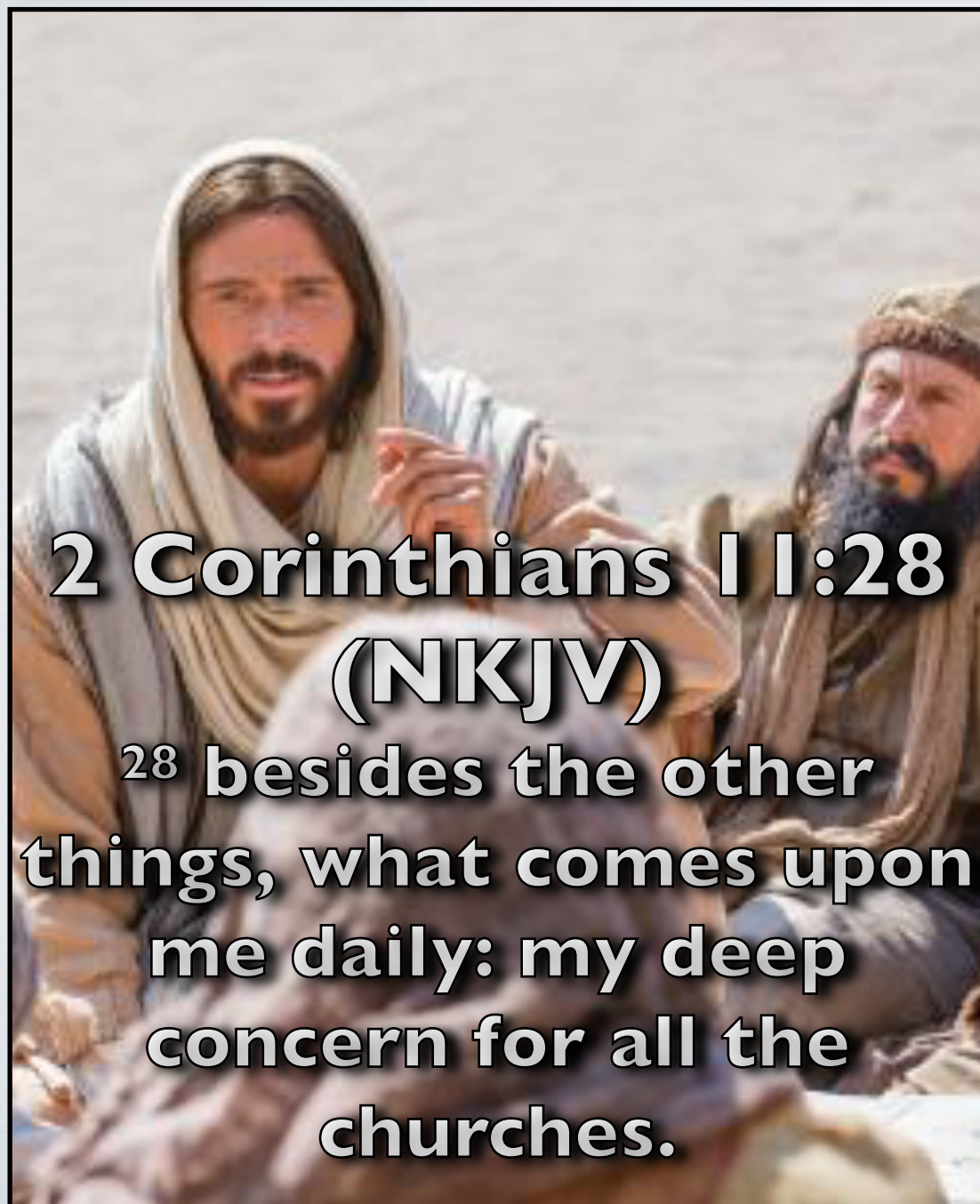
- **“Christ church is to remain pure”** — faithful to His authority (27)
- **“Christ provides all the church needs”** — He loves it and nourishes it (28,29; John 6:63; 2 Pet. 1:3; 2 Tim. 3:16,17)
- **“the church is to forsake the world and be joined to Christ”** — be holy, loyal, fully devoted to Christ (30-32; 2 Cor. 6:17-7:1; 1 Pet. 1:13-21; 1 Jn 2:15-17)



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## **Ephesians 5:23–32 (NKJV)**



**We should have the  
same attitude towards  
the church Jesus does!**

Love it

Sacrifice for it

Be faithful to it

Long for its purity

Provide what we can that it may  
grow!



# Attitude

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**ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Outside Christ Lost  
Without Hope**

NO spiritual blessings –  
NOT chosen –  
NOT children of God –  
NOT accepted –  
NO redemption –  
NO forgiveness –  
NO relationship –  
NO assurance –  
NO heavenly Inheritance

**Baptized  
Into**

**Rom. 6:3-6  
Gal. 3:26,27  
Acts 2:38,47**

**In Christ / His CHURCH  
Saved / Hope**

ALL spiritual blessings  
Chosen –  
A child of God –  
Accepted –  
Redeemed –  
Forgiven –  
Reconciled –  
Assurance –  
A Heavenly Inheritance



# WHAT IS OUR ATTITUDE?

## Do we love & respect

- ... what Jesus gave His life for — Acts 20:28; Eph 5:25; Gal 2:20; 1 Pet 1:18-21
- ... the body of which Jesus is the head — Eph 1:22,23; 4:4; 5:22; Col. 1:18
- ... ALL the saved in Christ — Gal. 3:26,27; 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph 5:25; Col. 1:13; etc.
- Local groups who adhere to the doctrine of Christ — Rom 16:16; 2 Cor. 11:28



# IF I LOVE THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

- I will seek to build it up ... Heb 10:24,25
- I will strive to serve within it ... Eph 4:16
- I will willingly sacrifice for it ... 1 Jn 3:17
- I will support its efforts ... 2 Cor. 8,9

*Matthew 16:18; Acts 20:28; Ephesians 5:22-32*





# Attitude

**Our Attitude Towards The  
CHURCH of CHRIST MATTERS**

**In order to be pleasing to God, we must have  
an attitude of complete trust & surrender.**

**DO WE HAVE AN ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE  
CHURCH THAT PROMOTES A LIVING FAITH?**











# Attitude

Essential Attitudes of A Living Faith

## **Our Attitude Towards The CHURCH of CHRIST MATTERS**

(Matthew 16:16-19; Ephesians 5:22-31; 2 Corinthians 11:28)

**Charts by Don McClain**

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## John 17:20–26 (NKJV)

<sup>20</sup> “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; <sup>21</sup> that they all may be one, as You, Father, *are* in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. <sup>22</sup> And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: <sup>23</sup> I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.



## John 17:20–26 (NKJV)

<sup>24</sup> “Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. <sup>25</sup> O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. <sup>26</sup> And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare *it*, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”