



*Is The Church of
CHRIST A
Biblical Church?*

**Submitting
To Christ's
Authority**

Is The Church of CHRIST A Biblical Church? 2



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Is the Church of Christ a good biblical church?

- There have been many questions & objections raised regarding the “church of Christ”
 - ◆ “Questions a church of Christ preacher cannot answer” - So says David Martin of the so-called “Rock Solid Baptist Church”
 - ◆ “Is the church of Christ denomination a cult” - Freedom Quest Ministries - <http://www.chocd.org>
- Regardless of the answers given, (even if the answers are Biblically sound), many refuse to listen, or even objectively consider their legitimacy. - [Stephen answered the Sanhedrin but not as they deemed “satisfactorily” (Acts 7:54-60)] -

Is The Church of CHRIST A Biblical Church? 3



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Is the Church of Christ a good biblical church?

Answer: This is a difficult question to answer due to the phrase "Church of Christ" being such a broad description. There are many churches who refer to themselves as the "Church of Christ." Even within the most widespread "Church of Christ" denomination, there can be significant differences between the churches. There is no doubt that many in the Church of Christ denomination are genuine believers in Christ who desire to truly worship, follow, and obey Him. At the same time, there are others in the Church of Christ, and some Church of Christ churches, that are borderline cult-like in their preferences, practices, and doctrines. We are by no means disparaging the entire Church of Christ denomination or every church that refers to itself as the "Church of Christ." The purpose of this article is to express some concerns and answer some questions about the Church of Christ that we have observed and experienced.

<http://www.gotquestions.org/Church-of-Christ.html>

Is The Church of CHRIST A Biblical Church? 4



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Is the Church of Christ a good biblical church?

“... A second issue is the fact that some in the Church of Christ claim to be “the one true church,” outside of which there is no salvation. By no means do all Church of Christ members believe this, but it is prevalent enough to warrant concern. Some go so far as to argue that since the name is “Church of Christ,” that indicates that the church / denomination is the one and only true Church of the Lord Jesus. This is completely unbiblical. There is no one church or denomination that encompasses the entire Body of Christ. The “one true church of Christ” is comprised of all those who have, by grace through faith, personally received Jesus Christ as Savior. The Church is composed of true believers everywhere, no matter the local church or denominational affiliation. The claim of exclusive access to salvation is another common identification of a cult, not the teaching of a good biblical church.

<http://www.gotquestions.org/Church-of-Christ.html>

Is The Church of CHRIST A Biblical Church?

A Biblical Understanding of The Church Jesus Built



**“CHURCH”
In The
Universal
Sense**

A Denomination is smaller than the universal church, but larger than the local church. **Such is not found in the New Testament**



**“CHURCH”
In The
LOCAL
Sense**

“There is no one church or denomination that encompasses the entire Body of Christ.” ... ?

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The church of Christ Submits To Christ!

THEREFORE, JUST AS THE CHURCH IS SUBJECT TO CHRIST,... EPH 5:24

“I don’t think it makes any difference what CHURCH you join!”

“You have to be a member of “MY” denomination in order to go to heaven!!”

The Bible Doesn't
Teach Me to Be A
Member of One "KIND"
of Church And You Another!!

.. The Lord added daily to the church those who were being saved – Acts 2:47

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BIBLICAL UNITY

- The one body is an organism, not an organization.
(Col. 1:18-24)
- Unity is NOT maintained by bringing all Christians into a “visible body of Christ”.
(2 Peter 5:1,2)
- Unity is maintained as Christians remain faithful to the revealed TRUTH of God **(Eph. 4:1-6)**.

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And the disciples
were first called
Presbyterians in
Antioch.

And the disciples
were first called
Methodists in
Antioch.

The Bible Doesn't
Teach Me to Wear
One Name and You
to Wear Another

**... And the disciples were first called
Christians in Antioch. Acts 11:26 (NKJV)**

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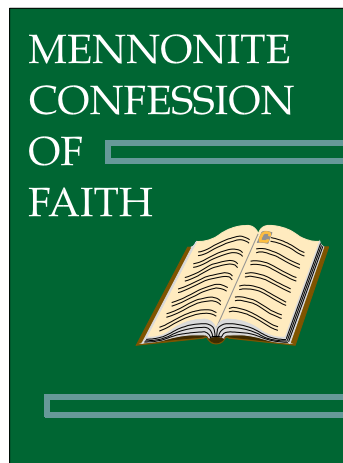
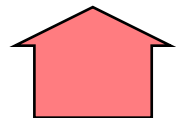
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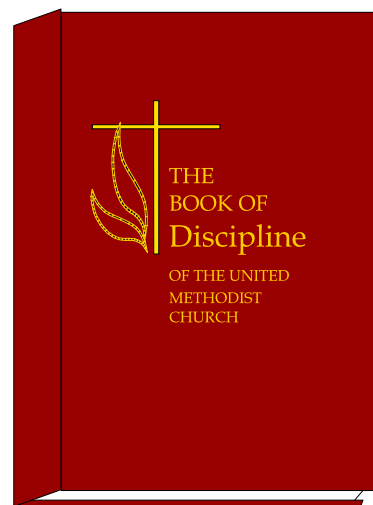
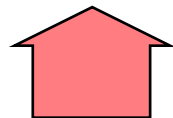
“According to Its Kind”



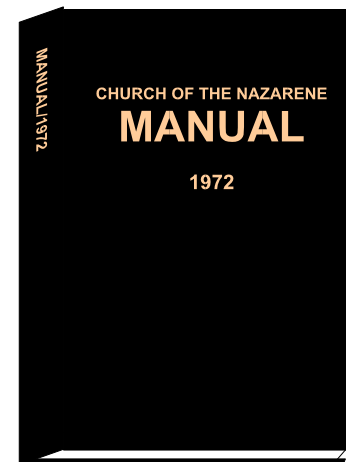
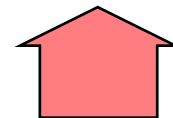
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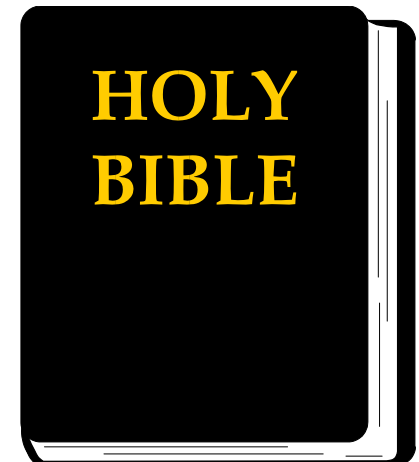
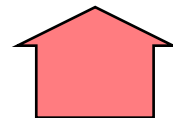
Methodist



Nazarene



Christian



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- ✦ When all men will lay down their creeds, disciplines, manuals, confessions of faith, catechisms, think-so's, maybe's, and subjective feelings, and with an unprejudiced and receptive heart turn to the Word of God, then, and ONLY then, will unity result.
- ✦ We must be committed to being nothing, calling ourselves nothing, obeying nothing, and saying nothing except that which is authorized by the Word of God.

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LUKE 6:46 (NKJV)

46 “But why do you call
Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and
not do the things
which I say?

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EPHESIANS 4:4-6 (NKJV)

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

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COLOSSIANS 3:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

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Acts 4:7-20 (KJV)

[7] . . . By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?

[10] . . . by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, . . . even by him . . .

[11] which is become the head of the corner.

[20] For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

Acts 4:12 (NKJV)

¹² Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

The Context:

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**The
Father**

“This is My beloved Son,
in whom I am well
pleased; hear ye him.” -
(Matthew 17:5)



Jesus

Hebrews 1:1-2 (NKJV)

¹ God, who at various times
and in various ways spoke in
time past to the fathers by the
prophets, ² has in these last
days spoken to us by *His Son*,
whom He has appointed heir
of all things, through whom
also He made the worlds;

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- ✦ **A Matter of Humility** – (Mat 5:3; cf. Deut. 8:2; James 4:6-10)
- ✦ **A Matter of Respect** - (Isaiah 66:2; Luke 6:46-47)
- ✦ **A Matter of Desire** – (Psalm 112:1; 2 Cor. 5:9; Ephes. 5:8-15)
- ✦ **A Matter of Love** – (John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 1 John 5:2,3)

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**The importance of staying within the
boundaries of God's revealed will**

2 JOHN 1:9-11 (NKJV)

⁹ Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. ¹⁰ If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; ¹¹ for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.

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We Cannot go beyond what is written -

PROVERBS 30:6 (NKJV)

⁶ Do not add to His words, Lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.

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We Cannot go beyond what is written -

1 CORINTHIANS 4:6 (NKJV)

⁶ Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that you may learn in us not to think beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up on behalf of one against the other.

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We Cannot go beyond what is written -

REVELATION 22:18-19 (NKJV)

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;

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**We can't do less than what Jesus
requires of us through His word**

REVELATION 22:18-19 (NKJV)

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.

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- ✦ The unprofitable servant – (Matt. 25:14-30)
- ✦ Rich Young Ruler – [one thing you lack] - (Luke 18:18)
- ✦ King Agrippa – (Acts 26:28)
- ✦ The church of Christ in Laodicea – (Rev. 3:14-22)

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- ✦ **Do not preach ANOTHER GOSPEL - (Gal. 1:6-10)**
- ✦ **Do not teach a DIFFERENT DOCTRINE - (1 Tim. 1:3-7; 6:3-5)**
- ✦ **Speak as the ORACLES OF GOD - (1 Pet. 4:11)**

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Matthew 21:25-26



From Heaven

Mt. 21:23-27

I John 4:4-6

Gal. 1:6-9

Col. 2:6-10

2 Thess. 2:15

Only Two Possible Sources

From Men

Mt. 15:1-9

I Cor. 4:6

Gal. 1:10-17

Col. 2:8

2 Thess. 2:2-4

From Heaven or Men?

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- ◆ **The New Testament Church**
- ◆ **The plan of salvation**
- ◆ **The acts of worship**
- ◆ **The day to observe the Lord's Supper**
- ◆ **The church and the support of preaching**
- ◆ **The church and helping the needy**

From Heaven or Men?

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Ask Jesus to come
into your heart . . .
Say the sinners
prayer!

There is
**ABSOLUTELY
NOTHING** you can
do to be saved!

The Bible Doesn't
Teach Me to Be
Saved One Way
And You Another

**Believe, repent, confess, and be baptized
into Christ – Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Rom. 10:9;
Rom. 6:3-6; Col. 2:11-13**

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**Walk By
Faith ...**

2 Corinthians 5:7

Hebrews 11

James 2:14-26

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EPHESIANS 5:22-32 (NKJV)

²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. ²⁴ Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

EPHESIANS 5:22-32 (NKJV)

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

EPHESIANS 5:22-32 (NKJV)

²⁸ So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. ³⁰ For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.

EPHESIANS 5:22-32 (NKJV)

31 “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

