

The Members of the Church of Christ accept the Bible as written and therefore, we only speak where the Bible speaks and remain completely silent where the Bible is silent and allows the Scriptures to guide us as to what God demands we do.

Only One Church is HIS CHURCH

There is only **ONE TRUE CHURCH** of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ
(Ephesians 4:4-6)

This information is provided freely to ALL in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

With or Without Jesus Eternity is Forever.

Introduction

The beliefs and practices of the Church of Christ have the **POWER** and **AUTHORITY** of the Word of God.

We challenge all believers to apply this simple test to the tenets of their faith. Using only the King James or other generally accepted translation of the Holy Bible begin with the name of a denomination, religion, creed, sect, faction or other division and point to its name in the Word of God.

Next, take each and every component, belief, tradition and practice of your faith, such as the label that is applied to the members of your faith (Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist, Mormon) and point to the passage in the Bible, which indicates that the

Christians of the first century were known by that name. Then apply the same simple test to the balance of its component, belief, tradition and practice of your faith

This is very important, since we have been firmly instructed by the Scriptures to conduct the affairs of the Church in a specific manner, no man other than the Apostles, who walked with Jesus, is or has ever been empowered to make any changes to Doctrine of Christ. In John 12:48 Jesus make it quite clear that will be judged only by His words in the last day. The pure, simple and very specific Doctrine of the Church of Christ is based solely upon the following from the Word of God.

Doctrine of the Church of Christ

■ Jesus has all authority in heaven and on earth

Matthew 28:18

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

■ We will be judged by the words of Jesus.

John 12:48

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.

■ Words spoken by Jesus were not spoken on His own authority, but He spoke only what God instructed Him to speak

John 12:49-50

For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

■ God in His mercy has shown us the way to eternal life. It is up to us to determine to follow the narrow way which leads to life.

Matthew 7:13-14

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

■ The Holy Spirit has revealed the Word of God

1 Corinthians 2:6-12

Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

Ephesians 3:1-5

For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward:

How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,

Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)

Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;

■ The Holy Spirit revealed all Truth to the Writers of the Scriptures

John 16:12-13

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come

2 Peter 1:20-21

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

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.

■ Since ALL TRUTH was revealed to them, no additional TRUTH could be revealed after their death. Therefore we can know with certainty that anything written or spoken by men that are not present in the scriptures is FALSE.

Matthew 7:15

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Galatians 1:8

But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

Jude 1:3

Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

Revelation 22:18-19

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:

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.

■ Paul did not build the Church.

1 Corinthians 1:13-15

Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?

I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius;

Lest any should say that I had baptized in mine own name

■ One who worships according to the teachings of men is worshipping in vain.

Matthew 15:9

But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

■ There is only One Plan of Salvation and One Church.

Ephesians 4:4-6

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Timothy 3:15

But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

Colossians 1:13-14

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Colossians 1:18

And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Ephesians 1:22

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 fullness of him that filleth all in all.

Ephesians 5:23

For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

Forms of Worship

Just as Jesus built His Church on a Rock, "Upon the rock I will build my church" (Matthew 16:18), the modern Church of Christ was organized upon the firm foundation of the Holy Bible. Our source of authority is based only on God's inspired Scriptures. We actively seek to be guided in all we do by God's Holy Bible. The Scriptures are sufficient for all our needs (2 Timothy 3:16-17), our Worship contains only that which is commanded by God in the Bible.

■ **Worships in Spirit and in Truth.**

John 4:23-24

But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

■ **Meets on the First 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.

Hebrews 10:25

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

■ Several Prayers are offered to God during each Service.

James 5:16

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Acts 2:42

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

1 Timothy 2:1

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;

1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

■ Sing and make melody in each heart.

Ephesians 5:19

Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; thanks, be made for all men;

Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Matthew 26:30

And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives

Acts 16:25

And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

Hebrews 2:12

Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.

James 5:13

Is any among you afflicted? Let him pray. Is any merry? Let him sing psalms

Note: Since we live and worship under the New Covenant (Testament), members of the Church of Christ sing without the aid of instrumental music. This was the pattern set by the early Church and therefore is the pattern we follow. The true Christian gives of himself, in worship, when he sings from the heart his spirit is uplifted.

In the Old Testament they did, in fact, worship God with musical instruments, but in the New Testament there is no directive or mention of using any type of musical instrument in the worship of God. Does it really matter? It matters if an individual wishes to strictly follow the Word of God. It matters to those who desire to steadfastly obey and be pleasing to God, rather than following doctrines of men.

■ Teaching and Preaching of the Word to one another.

Matthew 24:14

And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Romans 10:15

And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

1 Corinthians 9:14

Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.

Colossians 1:28

Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus

2 Timothy 4:2

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

■ Partake of the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week.

Matthew 26:26-30

And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. 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. And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

Acts 2:42

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

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.

1 Corinthians 11:20-32

When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's Supper. For in eating every one taketh before other his own supper: and one is hungry, and another is drunken. What? Have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? or despise ye the church of God, and shame them that have not? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you in this? I praise you not. 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: 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.** 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.** For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

■ **Cheerfully give of their means.**

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.

1 Corinthians 16:1-2

Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

Members of the Church of Christ

- Are guided by the same Word as the First Century Christians, which is accepted unconditionally as the Inspired Word of God.

1 Peter 1:22-25

Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, unspotted, furnished unto all good works.

- Unconditionally reject any creeds, catechisms, manuals or other documents created by man or the use of any items not mentioned in the New Testament.

Matthew 15:9

But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

Note: What was the first century church like? Had weekly services that consisted of singing, pray, teaching/preaching, the Lord's Supper, offering and some form of invitation. Since there is no mention of the of creeds, catechisms or such items as candles, incense, titles that glorify men, robes, choirs and the like, WE REJECT ALL, since they are all the creation of men.

■ Recognize the distinctions between the Old Testament and New Testament.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

Hebrews 8:7-13

For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.

Hebrews 8:6

But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.

Hebrews 9:15-24

And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth. Whereupon neither the first testament was dedicated without blood. For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you. Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

John 1:17

For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 1:10-12

Of which salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you:

Searching what, or what manner of time the spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.

2 Timothy 3:16

ALL SCRIPTURE IS GIVEN BY INSPIRATION OF GOD, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

Romans 15:4

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

Note: It is important to study the Old Testament, which was written for our benefit, is part of God's Word, and to learn from it examples. THE OLD COVENANT PASSED AWAY, including the Ten Commandments, animal sacrifices, polygamy, incense, Sabbath Day etc. It was replaced with the New Covenant or Testament at the moment of Christ's death. The blood of Christ paid the price on the cross, on our behalf, for the new Covenant.

Colossians 2:14

Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

■ Plead for religious unity in one faith.

John 17:20-21

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

Ephesians 4:4-6

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

1 Corinthians 1:10-13

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 judgment.

For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?

■ Wear the name of Christ.

Romans 16:16

Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.

Acts 4:12

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Acts 11:26

And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

1 Peter 4:16

Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

Note: The Church was called several names in the New Testament including Church of Christ, Church of God, House of God, Kingdom of his dear Son, Church of the First Born and House of Prayer, all of which are Scriptural. All others, not mentioned in the Bible will not be acceptable.

■ Believe that a child of God can be lost.

1 Corinthians 9:27

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 10:12

Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

Galatians 5:4

Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.

Hebrews 3:12-19 .

Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called Today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end; While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation. For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses. But with whom was he grieved forty years? Was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness? And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

2 Peter 2:20-22

For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, the dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

■ Believe that a member who has fallen away can return to the Church.

Act 8:22

Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.

James 5:16

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

■ Believe that the blood of Christ cleanses members of the Church, as they walk in the light of God.

1 Peter 2:9-10

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his ullness light; Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

1 John 1:5-10

This then is the message, which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

■ We believe that Jesus Christ established the Church

Matthew 16:18

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

■ We believe that Jesus Christ shed his blood for the Church

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.

■ We believe that Jesus Christ loved the Church.

Ephesians 5:25

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

■ We believe that the only the Lord can add saved people to the Church.

Acts 2:47

And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

■ We believe that Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church and that he will save the Church.

Ephesians 5:23

For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

Ephesians 1:22-23

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 fullness of him that filleth all in all.

■ Are Faithful to Christ.

Revelations 2:10

Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

Congregational type Church Government

■ Each local Church has Autonomy and are bound to other local Churches of Christ only through Jesus as the Head of the Church and their shared faith.

Acts 14:23

And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

Titus 1:5

For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:

■ Each local church has Elders (Bishops) who oversee and tend their members

1 Timothy 3:1-7

This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover he must have a good report of them, which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

■ Each local church has Deacons, who serve the church

1 Timothy 3:8-13

Likewise must the deacons be grave, not double tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

■ Each local church has Evangelists (Ministers) who teach and proclaim the gospel

Ephesians 4:11-12

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

2 Timothy 4:1-5

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

■ Each local church has Members, who love the Lord and each other

Philippians 2:1-4

If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others

Matthew 22:37-38

Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment.

1 John 5:1-2

Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.

The Missions of the Church of Christ

■ Benevolence

Galatians 6:1

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

1 Timothy 6:18-19

That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;

Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

2 Corinthians 1:3-5

Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;

Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.

■ Evangelism

Mark 16:15-16

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Romans 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

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 I, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

■ Edification and Spiritual Growth

Ephesians 4:11-16

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Acts 9:31

Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

■ Glorification and Worship of God

Psalms 100:1-5

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the

Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

1 Peter 2:9

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should who hath called you out of darkness into his ullness light;

1 Peter 4:11

If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 2:12

Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

Romans 15:6

That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 10:31

Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

■ Fellowship

Colossians 3:12-15

Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Conclusions

■ We firmly believe that the Church of Christ is HIS Church as a result of extensive study and research of the Holy Bible. We unconditionally accept the Bible as the Inspired Word of God, as written and that the written Word was the gift of the Holy Spirit.

■ We reject all other uninspired documents written by man in regard to our Worship of God or any other religious practices. Our intention is to be what God wants us to be, so that He will be praised. We will not practice anything according to the doctrines of men, even those offered by members of the Church of Christ.

■ We believe Jesus is the savior of the Body and the Body is the Church. (Ephesians 5:23) That those outside of THE ONE TRUE CHURCH that Jesus built WILL NOT BE SAVED.

■ We believe HIS CHURCH was established, in Jerusalem, on the day of Pentecost, ten days after ascension His to Heaven. Any Church that was established at a different time in history or at a different place cannot be THE ONE TRUE CHURCH that Christ built. This includes all man-made denominations of today. In spite of all, it grieves us deeply, but we must clearly state that the millions of individual who follow these false teaching are not a part of HIS One True Church, but substitute a man-made organization and therefore HAVE NO PROMISE OF SALVATION.

■ Jesus built only ONE TRUE Church and only those worshipping, as defined in the Holy Bible have any Hope of Heaven.

2 JOHN 1:9

Whosoever Transgresseth, And Abideth Not In The Doctrine Of Christ, Hath Not God. HE THAT ABIDETH IN THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST, HE HATH BOTH THE FATHER AND THE SON.

■ HIS Church is the Church of Christ, which was the name of HIS ONE TRUE Church in the first century. Thus the great Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 16:16, "The churches of Christ salute you".

Make no mistake; you will not accidentally wind up in Heaven. Jesus promised to prepare place for people who were willing to prepare themselves for their place in Heaven. Over the next few moments, we request that you consider the:

Pure and Simple Facts of Eternal Life

Someday we will all die and there will definitely be a Judgment Day.

ECCLESIASTES 12:13-14

13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this [is] the whole [duty] of man.

14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether [it be] good, or whether [it be] evil.

HEBREWS 9:27

27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

The Words of Jesus from Word of God will judge every man and woman, who has ever lived, on Judgment Day.

JOHN 12:48

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.

Jesus Christ will be the judge all mankind on Judgment Day.

JOHN 5:22

For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:

ACTS 17:30-31

And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by [that] man whom he hath ordained; [whereof] he hath given assurance unto all [men], in that he hath raised him from the dead.

MATTHEW 25:31-33

When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth [his] sheep from the goats:

And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

The sheep will go into eternal life and the goats will go to eternal everlasting punishment.

MATTHEW 25:46

And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

What shall I Do? I have already been baptized.

The baptism you received was not scriptural and therefore had no force or effect. God foresaw that this would occur and provided a solution. In the book of Acts, we have a clear example.

Certain disciples had been properly baptized by John the Baptist by immersion, but were not baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, as they were under the Old law at the time of their original baptism. Paul instructed them to be baptized a second time, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins.

Acts 19:3-5

And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.

Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

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

What could it harm to be baptized again, if you did not properly understand the purpose of baptism the first time?

Why would anyone risk the loss of salvation?

Now is the time for YOU to make your Choice.

■ God desires that everyone in the world would follow His Plan of Salvation and then remain faithful; "Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." (1 Timothy 2:4)

■ When we are baptized, our sins are washed away. At that very moment, you are saved.

"And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." (Acts 22:16).

■ All that remains is to follow the narrow way and remain faithful to the end.

■ If we do just what our Lord commanded we know that our salvation is certain.

Which will You Choose?

There are millions of choices in this world, but in the **HEREAFTER** there will only be **TWO ALTERNATIVES**.

Choice Number One

Is to be among the few who have submitted to His Will, labored in the Lord's work and accepted their redemption. Heaven is beyond our wildest imaginings or dreams. The beauty, wonders, splendor, majesty, grandeur, magnificence, brilliance and stately dignity of Heaven simply cannot be adequately described in the language of humans. Love and the Light of God will fill it and endless happiness, peace and joy will abound. Jesus promised in Revelation 2:7 **To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.** The only way to experience Heaven is to be among the souls that have been saved from everlasting damnation.

Choice Number Two

To be in the much larger group who failed to obey or did NOT worship in spirit and in truth in accordance with the teachings of the Bible? Will YOU be standing worst of humanity? The larger group will be punished in a second death in a never ending eternal Hell. Will you remember this commentary?

When you hear the Jesus say, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:" (Matthew 25:41), or "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." (Revelation 21:8), or how will you answer the question of Jesus "Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?" (Matthew 23:33)

Many people do not even want to think about the concept of forever or everlasting. This concept is difficult for many to comprehend. Some like to think of forever as a circle or never ending. Others look at the night sky and try to imagine where it begins and ends. It is the opinion of many that the universe is like eternity or unending. The fact is that God has always been and will always be.

Please take a few minutes of quiet time and consider intensely the concepts of eternity and **continuous creaseless retribution.**

Life is too Short and time without end or eternity is simply too long and the everlasting punishment in **the fires of Hell too terrifying to make any mistakes.**

Then make a choice, before it is too late.

Once you pass away from this Life you have lost the Golden opportunity to have the Hope of Heaven. If you fail to accept God's Grace and Love, by becoming His faithful servant, **you have selected Hell and to spend eternity as a angel of Satan, in everlasting Fire, by default.**

Now is the **TIME** to **SEARCH** the **HOLY SCRIPTURES** to confirm our convictions and to find the **Narrow Way**, which will lead you to a **Glorious Crown of Eternal Life**

Hear the Gospel.

"How shall they call on him whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe him whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?" (Romans 10:14)

Believe.

"And without faith it is impossible to be well pleasing unto him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that seek after him" (Hebrews 11:6)

Repent of Past Sins.

"The times of ignorance therefore God overlooked; but now he commandeth men that they should all everywhere repent." (Acts 17:30)

Confess Jesus as Lord.

"Behold here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, if thou believeth with all thy heart thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 8:36-37)

Be Baptized for the Remission of Sins.

"And Peter said unto them, Repent ye, and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38)

Live a Christian Life.

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light;"
(1 Peter 2:9)

If we do just what our Lord Jesus commanded, we know that our salvation is certain.

Take Personal Control of Spiritual Life; come with us as we go back to the Bible, back to Christ and his Church.

MATTHEW 7

13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide [is] the gate, and broad [is] the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

14 Because strait [is] the gate, and narrow [is] the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Sources of further immediate Assistance

Telephone the Minister of your local Church of Christ and tell him you have visited this website and as a result, that you realize that you need to make some changes. That you have decided to take personal control of your Spiritual Life and wish to meet with him as soon as possible.

The telephone number(s) are listed in the white pages under Church of Christ.

The Minister and the Elders of that Church of Christ stand ready to assist you in learning the TRUTH, in any way possible. You are invited to make a complete investigation of the

doctrine of Christ or any part thereof and they would be delighted to personally discuss any point or answer any question.

In the event you live in an area not served by His One True Church or would prefer have your questions answered via e-mail, please feel free to forward your question(s) along with your name and e-mail address to answers@seekingthelost.org and we will address your questions and provide answers as soon as humanly possible.

[Looking for an act of kindness you can do a daily basis?](#) Link to the [Hunger Site link](#) and click on "GIVE FREE FOOD" The advertisers contribute free groceries to one hungry person every time you click that button. It takes only a minute, and your click counts only once per day, but it can make a difference to someone in need.

Please report broken links or other problems to webmaster@seekingthelost.org

[Please recommend seeking the Lost.org](#)

Spread the Word

[Do you want a way to rapidly spread the Gospel?](#)

Print a hundred or a thousand copies on colored card stock, cut and leave everywhere. Include in all your personal or business mail. Be creative, lets spread the wonderful soul saving Message of Christ and the Love of God to the entire world, beginning today!

You are cordially invited to visit
www.SeekingtheLost.org
**Learn the six simple steps to be
Saved & avoid the flames of Hell**
And ye shall know the TRUTH, and the
TRUTH shall make you FREE (John 8:32)

You are cordially invited to visit
www.SeekingtheLost.org
**Learn the six simple steps to be
Saved & avoid the flames of Hell**
And ye shall know the TRUTH, and the
TRUTH shall make you FREE (John 8:32)-

You are cordially invited to visit
www.SeekingtheLost.org
**Learn the six simple steps to be
Saved & avoid the flames of Hell**
And ye shall know the TRUTH, and the
TRUTH shall make you FREE (John 8:32)

You are cordially invited to visit
www.SeekingtheLost.org
**Learn the six simple steps to be
Saved & avoid the flames of Hell**
And ye shall know the TRUTH, and the
TRUTH shall make you FREE (John 8:32)

You are cordially invited to visit
www.SeekingtheLost.org
**Learn the six simple steps to be
Saved & avoid the flames of Hell**
And ye shall know the TRUTH, and the
TRUTH shall make you FREE (John 8:32)

You are cordially invited to visit
www.SeekingtheLost.org
**Learn the six simple steps to be
Saved & avoid the flames of Hell**
And ye shall know the TRUTH, and the
TRUTH shall make you FREE (John 8:32)

You are cordially invited to visit
www.SeekingtheLost.org
**Learn the six simple steps to be
Saved & avoid the flames of Hell**
And ye shall know the TRUTH, and the
TRUTH shall make you FREE (John 8:32)

You are cordially invited to visit
www.SeekingtheLost.org
**Learn the six simple steps to be
Saved & avoid the flames of Hell**
And ye shall know the TRUTH, and the
TRUTH shall make you FREE (John 8:32)

The resources contained within this website maybe freely reproduced and distributed, provided that any reproduction or distribution is also free. Active Members of the Church of Christ are authorized to alter and personalize these materials for their personal soul winning efforts, within the generally accepted conservative Doctrine of the Church of Christ, without citation or approval.

Resources may be reproduced in whole or part for mass distribution, defined as one thousand copies or more, in an unaltered form, provided that the source, seeking the Lost.org is cited. Altered forms may be distributed, with the written approval of the Author, if cited; such approval will not be unreasonably withheld. Please direct all inquiries or requests via e-mail to jwgoddard@seekingthelost.org

JOHN 17:17

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth

This web site is sponsored by
Diplomats for Christ
James W. Goddard, Ph.D.
A Diplomat at large for Christ
and an active Member of the
Eufaula Church of Christ
220 West Grand, Eufaula, Oklahoma 74432
e-mail jwgoddard@seekingthelost.org

Author's Home Congregation, please visit Eufaula Church of Christ
<http://www.eufaulaokcfc.histruechurch.org/>

Psalms 19:1

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

Copyrighted, all rights reserved 2005-2006

This web site was written and designed by James W. Goddard, Ph.D., an active member of the Eufaula Church of Christ

