

...GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
MATTHEW

...e generation of Jesus
...David, the son of Abra-
...Isaac; and Isaac begat
...gat Judas and his brethren;
...at Pha'-res and Za'-ra of
...-res begat Es'-rom; and Es'-
...gat A-min'-a-dab; and A-
...Na-as'-son; and Na-as'-son
...gat Bo'-oz of Ra'-chab; and
...of Ruth; and O'-bed begat
...David the king; and David
...son of her that had been
...o-bo'-am; and Ro-bo'-
...-a begat A'-sa;
...phat; and Jos'-a-
...am begat O-zi'-as;
...am; and Jo'-a-
...begat Eze-

...CALL HIS NAME EM-MAN'-U-EL; which
...interpreted is, God with us.
24 Then Joseph being raised from the
...the angel of the Lord raised from the
...unto him his wife:
25 And knew her not till she had brought
...her firstborn son: and he called his
...JESUS.

2 NOW when Jesus was born in Be-
...hem of Ju-dae'-a in the days of Her-
...king, behold, there came wise men from
...east to Jerusalem,
2 Saying, Where is he that is born King
...Jews? for we have seen his star in the
...are come to worship him.
3 When Herod the king had heard
...things, he was troubled, and all Jeru-
...him.
4 And when he had gathered
...priests and scribes of the people,
...demanded of them where
...born.
5 And they said unto him,
...Ju-dae'-a: for thus is written,
6 AND THOU BETHLEHEM

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

We Believe It Makes A Difference What

One Believes



- I. There is an Objective Standard
- II. There is One Faith
- III. It is Possible to Believe a Lie & Be Lost
- IV. One Can be Religious and be Wrong
- V. Absurd Consequences

We Believe There is Only One Church

- I. Jesus Only Promised One Church
- II. The Bible Says There is Just One
- III. The Bible is Silent About Churches
- IV. It Makes a Difference What One Believes
- V. Division is Wrong

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

1. When was the church established?

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

When was the one church established?

- Acts 2:1 "When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place."
- Versus how it was referred to prior to Acts 2
 - Matthew 16:18 "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

1. When was the church established?
2. Where does a name come from?

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Names matter

- Many names exist in the world
 - Catholics
 - Lutheran's
 - Baptists
 - Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
 - Methodist
 - Presbyterian

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Names matter

- Many names exist in the world
- What is the Biblical example?

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Names matter

- Many names exist in the world
- What is the Biblical example?
 - Romans 16:16 "Greet one another with a holy kiss. The churches of Christ greet you."
 - 1 Corinthians 1:2 "To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called [to be] saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:"

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Names matter

- Many names exist in the world
- What is the Biblical example?
 - 1 Timothy 3:15 “but if I am delayed, [I write] so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”
 - Hebrews 12:23 “to the general assembly and church of the firstborn [who are] registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect,”

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Names matter

- Many names exist in the world
- What is the Biblical example?
 - Colossians 4:16 "Now when this epistle is read among you, see that it is read also in the church of the Laodiceans, and that you likewise read the [epistle] from Laodicea."
 - 1 Thessalonians 1:1 "Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Names matter

- Many names exist in the world
- What is the Biblical example?
 - churches of Christ
 - church of God
 - church of the Living God, house of God
 - church of the Firstborn
 - church of [name of some town]

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

1. When was the church established?
2. Where does a name come from?
3. What guides the one church?

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Creed or **ONLY** the Bible

- Why a set of documents, Creed, manuals, ordinances, or a statement of faith in the first place?

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Creed or ONLY the Bible

- Versus the Bible, and only the Bible?
 - Deuteronomy 12:32 "Everything that I command you, you shall be careful to do. You shall not add to it or take from it."
 - Mark 7:7-9 "And in vain they worship Me, Teaching [as] doctrines the commandments of men.' 8 "For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men--the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do." 9 He said to them, "[All too] well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition."
 - 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, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

1. When was the church established?
2. Where does a name come from?
3. What guides the one church?
4. What is the structure of the church?

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Structure of the one church

- Christ is head
 - 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 may have the preeminence."
 - Ephesians 1:22-23 "And He put all [things] under His feet, and gave Him [to be] head over all [things] to the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all."

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Structure of the one church

- Christ is head
- The body is composed of individuals
 - 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27 "For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also [is] Christ. 13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free--and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many. ... 27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. "

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Structure of the one church

- Christ is head
- The body is composed of individuals
- Individuals join together
 - Acts 2:42 "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers."

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Structure of the one church

- Christ is head
- The body is composed of individuals
- Individuals join together
- Elders ONLY oversee their congregation
 - Acts 20:17, 28 "17 From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church. ... 28 "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."

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CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Acts of worship on the Lord's Day

- Lord Supper: Acts 20:7, 1 Corinthians 11, Matthew 26:26-28
 - Acts 20:7 "Now on the first [day] of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight.
 - 1 Corinthians 11

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Acts of worship on the Lord's Day

- Lord Supper: Acts 20:7, 1 Corinthians 11, Matthew 26:26-28
 - Matthew 26:26-28 "And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke [it], and gave [it] to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." 27 Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave [it] to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. 28 "For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Acts of worship on the Lord's Day

- Giving:
 - 1 Corinthians 16:1-2 "Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: 2 On the first [day] of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come."

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Acts of worship on the Lord's Day

- Singing:
 - Ephesians 5:19 "speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,"
 - 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."

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Acts of worship on the Lord's Day

- Prayer:
 - Matthew 6:7-9 "And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen [do]. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. 8 "Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. 9 "In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name."
 - Acts 2:42 "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers."

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Acts of worship on the Lord's Day

- Sermon:
 - Acts 20:7 "Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight."
 - Acts 2:42 "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers."

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

Acts of worship on the Lord's Day

- Lord Supper: Acts 20:7, 1 Corinthians 11, Matthew 26:26-28
- Giving: 1 Corinthians 16:1-2
- Singing: Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16
- Prayer: Matthew 6:7-9, Acts 2:42
- Sermon: Acts 20:7, Acts 2:42

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ONE CHURCH

1 Peter 4:11 "If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."

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6. What is the plan of salvation?

STEPS OF SALVATION:

FROM **SINNER** TO **SAVED**

Jn 14:1-3; Re 21:1-22:5

SAVED

Remain Faithful
Co 1.21f;
Re 2.10

Baptism
into Christ

Mk 16.16;
1P 3.21

Confess
Faith, Ro

10.9, 10;
Ac 8.37

Repent
of Sins

Ac 2.38;
17.30

Believe
Gospel

Jn 8.24;
He 11.6

Hear
Gospel

Ro 10.13f;
Jn 6.44, 45

Spirit
Revealed
Word

Jn 16.13

Jesus Shed
His Blood

Ep 1.7;
1Pe 1.19

God Sent
His Son
Jn 3.16;
1Jn 4.10

Ro 5:8

GOD'S PART

MAN'S PART

What must I do to be saved?!

SINNER

1Jn 3:4; Jm 4:17; Ro 3:23; 6:23; Jm 2:10; Re 21:8

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7. How should funds be spent?

The Church's Authorized Work of

BENEVOLENCE

- We must have authority for all that we do.
 - This authority does not come from men.
 - “It seems to me...”
 - “I think...”
 - “I don’t see anything wrong with...”
 - Must come from the Bible.
- The “ends” do not justify the “means”.
- The church’s work is limited to saints
- Man-made institutions are not authorized!

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8. Why does it matter?

Church	Known For	Praised	Condemned	Conclusion
Smyrna	Lived faithfully through persecution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stood strong in face of tribulation - Resisted false accusations and blasphemy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nothing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More persecution was coming, Hold Fast
Philadelphia	Kept the command to persevere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Small in number but served the Lord - Spiritual warfare against the synagogue of Satan, the Jews 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nothing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hold fast
Ephesus	Left their 1st Love	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active workers in the Kingdom - Tested those who claimed to be apostles - Refused to tolerate false teaching - Kept heart during tribulations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Left their zeal/ passion for Christ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Give God our hearts and obedience
Pergamum	The neutral church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Held fast Jesus Name - Did not deny my faith - Courageous in the face of death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stood neutral to address those following Nicolaitans and Balaam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Address and respond to sin, no matter where it occurs
Thyatira	The compromised church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acknowledged their works, love, service, faith, patience, and continued growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allowed false prophetess to compromise the group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Judgement is coming - Faithful to remain clean
Sardis	Alive to the world, but dead to God	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some were considered faithful - There was some good occurring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - While they were perceived as active, God saw them as dead 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Repent, God will return as a thief
Laodicea	Lukewarm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nothing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compromised by the society and culture - Neither hot or cold for God 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To Repent

God sees and knows what we are doing. How would our letter read?

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