

The Church of Christ

Text: Romans 16:16

Introduction

- A. If I go to a restaurant; I am looking for food. If I go to an auto store, I am looking for a part for my car. If I go to church I am looking for Christ and his people.
- B. Larry recently attended the Hendersonville Church of Christ, in TN. He had never been to a Church of Christ before in his life. The preacher asked him why he picked the Church of Christ. He answered, "Your sign said 'The Church of Christ.' I figured since it said that, I would be able to find the people of Christ.
- C. We must look to the Bible and only the Bible. 2 Tim. 3:16-17

Body

- I. Who started the church? (What does the Bible say?)
 1. Christ is Builder Mt. 16:18
 2. Christ is it's Foundation 1 Cor. 3:11
 3. Christ is it's cornerstone Eph. 2:20
 4. Christ is it's purchased Acts 20:28
 5. Christ is it's Head Eph. 1:21; 23
 6. Christ is it's door John 10:17.
 7. Christ is the back bone and structure of the church.
- II. How many churches did Christ start? (What does the Bible say?)
 1. Christ prayed for one church John 17:20-21
 2. Christ promised to build only one church Mt. 16:18
 3. The church is to be of the same mind 1 Cor. 1:10-13
 4. One church Eph. 1:22-23 and Eph. 4:4
- III. What makes Christ's Church His Church? (What does the Bible say?)
 - A. The church is people who have obeyed the Gospel 2 Thes. 1:7-9 and Rom. 6:1-6.
 1. Believe and confess Christ Mt. 10:32, Mt. 16:16-18, Rom. 10:9,10
 2. Repent of sin Luke 13:3,5, Acts 17:30, 31.
 3. Baptized into Christ for the remission of sins Acts 2:38, Acts 22:16, 1 Peter 3:21
 4. Continue to believe and live out the teachings of Christ Mt. 28:20, Rev. 2:10
 - a. Teachings of love, 1 Tim. 1:5 and 1 Jn. 3:14-17.
 - b. Teaching of moral living Mt. 5-7.
 - c. Teaching of Salvation. (Jn. 8:24, Mt. 10:32, Lk. 13:3, Mk. 16:16 and Mt. 28:19-20.
 - d. Worship together on the first day of the week Acts 20:7 and Heb. 10:24-25.
 - B. The church is people who called and wears the names Christ authorizes:
 1. It is the church of Jesus Christ Mt. 16:18
 2. It is the church Acts 8:1
 3. It is the Way Acts 9:2; 19:9
 4. It is the churches of Christ Rom. 16:16

5. It is the church of God 1 Cor. 1:1-2; Acts 20:28
 6. It is the body of Christ Eph. 4:12
 7. It is the household of God 1Ti 3:15
 8. It is the church of the living God 1Ti 3:15
 9. It is the church of the firstborn Heb 12:23
 10. It is the Bride of Christ Rev. 21:9
- C. The members of Christ's church are called:
1. Disciple Acts 20:7
 2. Saints 1 Cor. 1:2
 3. Brethren Heb. 2:11
 4. Children of God 1 John 3:1 and Gal. 3:26
 5. Christians Acts 11:26
 6. Believers 1 Tim. 4:12
- D. Christ's members in the church is organize:
1. Members Rom. 12:3 and 1 Cor.12:27 all have different functions some are to be:
 - i. Elders, Shepherds, Bishops, or Overseers 1 Tim. 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9, Acts 20.
 - ii. Deacons 1 Tim. 3:8-13
 - iii. Evangelists 2 Tim. 4:2-5
 - iv. Teachers Eph. 4:11 and Titus 2:2-6
 - v. Every member is to have a job and work but they are not all the same job Eph. 4:16
- E. The church meets to provoke one another unto love and deeds:
1. By worshiping on the first day of the week in spirit and truth John 4:24.
 - i. Singing Eph. 5:19 and Heb. 13:15 (not singing not playing).
 - ii. Praying Acts 2:42
 - iii. Fellowshiping Acts 2:42
 - iv. Studying and preaching God's Word Acts 2:42, 1 Tim. 4:13, 2 Tim. 2:15
 - v. Giving of our money Acts 2:45 and 1 Cor. 16:1,2
 - vi. On the first day of the week, is resurrection of Christ day so Christians partake of the Lord's Supper:
 1. Acts 20:7
 2. Mt. 26:26-29, Lk. 22:29-30
 3. Memory of Christ 1 Cor. 11:23-29
 4. Unleavened bread Mt. 26:26
 5. Fruit of the vine or unfermented grape juice Mt. 26:27-29
 6. Proclaim the Lord's death 1 Cor. 11:26
 2. Encourage one another to teach others or are lost the gospel message of Jesus Christ.
 - i. 1 Cor. 15:1-4
 - ii. Mark 16:15-16
 - iii. Acts 8:30-39
 - iv. 2 Cor. 5:18

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Answer these questions for next week by using your Bible (hint a Bible concordance might help you). These questions will then be discussed in class.

1. Does it matter what church a person goes to?
2. Do all "churches" teach the same thing? Can I go to the church of Satan, or Mormon's church, Jehovah Witness's church, Methodist church, or Catholic church and still get to Heaven?
3. If these are wrong and don't teach the same message could other religious groups be wrong?
4. Is there a guideline or a pattern for us to use and understand for us to be a part of Christ's church today? 2 Tim. 3:16-17
5. If the Bible is our model for the church; can the church exist today? Mt. 13:37-43
6. What is the church?
7. Who started the church?
8. How many churches did Christ start?
9. What makes Christ's Church His Church?
10. How does the Bible teach us to worship?
11. How does one become a Christian?
12. What are the names for the church?
13. How often does it meet for worship? Bible study? To work?
14. How is the church lead and by whom? Can we still be Christ's church without having Biblical leadership? For how long?

15. Is the Little Hocking Church of Christ the church that God wants us to be? Why or why not? How can you help the church fulfill its purpose?