

Investigate the Scriptures

The need for you to investigate the scriptures is a very important one because it has a lot to do with your soul. Today we see a multitude of churches with diverse beliefs, teachings and doctrines. These often conflicting beliefs stem mostly from departures and changes from God's New Testament plan of Christianity.

These unscriptural changes render true biblical injunctions unpopular among misguided worshippers. It is a pity that most people do not investigate the scriptures like the Bereans to find out the truth of the message left with them in the name of the gospel of Christ. (Acts 17:11.) Let us, therefore, search the scriptures--the one and only infallible guide on religious matters. Let us try to find the truth and follow after it. Where we spend eternity depends on what we do now.

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

The church of Christ is not a denominational body because Christ founded it as a unit and not a part of any whole. (Matthew 16:18, Eph. 4:4.) The church of Christ is not a materialization of some human plan. It is built on a design of God, concealed in the mind of God and brought about by Christ. (Eph. 3:10,11; Col. 1:18)

Membership in the Lord's church is not like that of a social club, nor the conditions of membership anything contrary to the Bible pattern. One is saved only by obeying the will of God; God forgives one's sin upon obedience, adding him to the church. (Acts 2:37,38; Eph. 2:8,9; Acts 2:47.)

God's plan includes faith in Christ, repentance, confession of faith and baptism and also an obligation to remain faithful as a Christian. The following scriptures make this clear. (Matt. 10:32, Rom. 6:3-4; Rev. 2:10.)

The followers of Christ in the first century were of one accord, teaching and doing one thing. But today we see that the reverse is the case. Religious confusion has become the order of the day. Should we wonder about this development? NO! for it is a fulfillment of inspired predictions. (1 Tim. 4:1; Acts 20:28-30; 1 Cor. 1:10-13.)

We the members of the church of Christ are crusaders in the restoration movement. We are striving to restore the practice of the church to what it was in its early days. We are preaching for a return to the Bible as the only authority in religious matters and not the creed books of men. Hence, we adhere only to the elements of worship that were inherent in the early church:

SINGING: We sing to the glory of God. (Col.3:16; Eph. 5:19.)

TEACHING: (Acts 5:42, 1 Tim. 4:11; 6:2.)

LORD'S SUPPER: (Acts 20:7, 1 Cor. 11:23-26.)

GIVING: (1 Cor. 16:1,2; 2 Cor. 9:6-7.)

PRAYER: (1 Cor. 14:15; 2 Thess. 5:17.)

This is worship according to God's plan and pattern. Any additions or subtractions for personal, selfish motives contravene the Bible and are destructive to

the cause of Christ and the salvation of souls. (2 Tim. 3:16,17; Rev. 22:18,19.) Save yourself now from this untoward generation. Worship with the church of Christ in your community.