

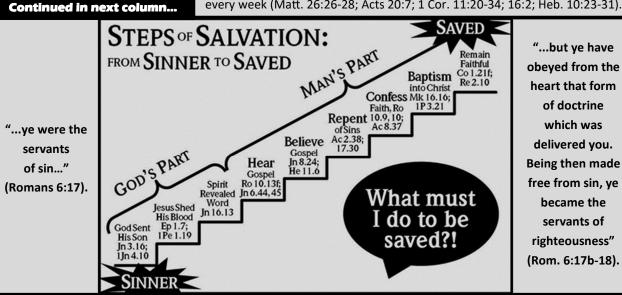
#### Of Our Number

◆ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek ◆ Jennifer Derrick—scans 8/30 ◆ Wilfred Derrick—eye problem ◆ Florene Howze—health problems ◆ Jim Ward—hip surgery needed

#### Others in Need

◆ Janet Andrews—chemotherapy Sandra Cook—chemotherapy • Elise Davis—shoulder surgery ◆ Betty Duke—hospice, bereaved • Gunner Griffith—therapy Kenneth Jones—better, weak ◆ Mary Lou Joseph—cancer ♦ Alisha Mashburn—skin cancer ◆ Jeff Mashburn—health problems ◆ Brenda Mateer—cancer ◆ Paul Mayo—chemotherapy Thad McCall—health problems ◆ Mary Milsted—lung cancer Brian Ranthom—Covid-19

• Patty Ryan—cancer treatments



• Megan Stacy—kidney stone

• Mr. Tilman and daughter—C19

Theresa Turner—Covid, rehab

◆ Ronnie Wells—health problems

◆ Hugh & Lewitt Wheelock—C19

Storm victims. Christians

Events

overseas struggling

Lord willing...

September 5

September 12

Men's Meeting

September 22

Fourth Wednesday Singing

First Sunday Meal

◆ Randall Ward—tests



give us a chance to get to know you. If you have any questions about anything said or done in Bible class or worship, please ask. We seek to give a Bible answer for everything we do (Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 3:15; 4:11).

## **Privileged to Serve**

Announcements-Mark Howze Song Leading—Sunday—David Howze; Wednesday-Caleb Howze Serving the Lord's Supper

Head: Leo Derrick; Helpers: Justin Derrick, Caleb Howze, Johnny Moss

Lord's Supper PM Head: Mark Howze Helper: Caleb Howze Scripture Reading—Logan Holt

Faithful Worship — 1) Praying to God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ (Luke 11:1-2; John 16:23; Eph. 5:20; Phil. 4:6); 2) Singing without mechanical instruments (Matt. 26:30; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16-17; Heb. 2:12); 3) Preaching God's Word (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:42; 20:7); 4) Giving weekly as prospered, cheerfully (1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7); 5) The Lord's Supper on the first day of every week (Matt. 26:26-28; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20-34; 16:2; Heb. 10:23-31).

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The church of Christ in Baker, FL

## September 5, 2021

## **Meeting Times**

Sundays: **10AM Bible Class** 11AM Worship 6PM Worship Wednesdays: 7PM Bible Class

**Other Information** 5761 Hwy. 4 P.O. Box 285 Baker, FL 32531 USA 850-669-9117 Website: churchofChristatBaker.com

**Radio Program:** 104.7FM Sundays 8:30AM WAAZ1047.com livestream Jason Hilburn's Info: 850-826-8198 jasonhilburn@yahoo.com TheBibleDomain.com JasonsBibleBlog.com

## A Few Words from Jason

Great news!! Another Pentecostal congregation, along with their preacher, has been converted out of error and into the Truth! Brother Vandan Kumar is to be commended for his great work in the 25 souls added to the Lord's church, giving all glory and praise to God through Jesus Christ! We did not have our online class last week, because brother Kumar was traveling to remote areas preaching the Gospel. The converted congregation was in an area without Internet access, so I have never had the privilege of teaching them, but brother Kumar was able to go there with the help of another brother in India, and now there is this great news to share. We thank God for the opportunity to be saved through the Gospel of Jesus Christ!



# Are You in the One True Church?

## By Jason Patrick Hilburn

Just because someone calls himself a Christian, that does not mean he is truly following Christ (1 John 1:6; 2:4), and just because a church claims to be a Biblical church, that does not mean they are truly following Christ. In fact, they may have never even done what God commanded to be added to Christ's church in the first place (Acts 2:36-41, 47).

Christ promised to build only one church, and it belongs to Him: "...I will build my church..." (Matt. 16:18). There were already divisions and false religious groups being created by alleged followers of Christ (such as the Nicolaitans) before the Bible was completed, and these divisive groups were consistently condemned by God (Rom. 16:17; 1 Cor. 1:10-13; Rev. 2:2, 6, 15). Is it possible that you could be in a religious group that is different from the one church Jesus built?

Regarding the church of which you are a member:

- Was it founded by Jesus Christ? (Matt. 16:18; Acts 20:28)
- Was it founded during the days of the Roman kings? (A.D. 33 Dan. 2:44)
- Was it founded in Jerusalem? (Isa. 2:1-3; Luke 24:49; Acts 2:5)
- Does it use a Scriptural name for the church? (Matt. 16:18; Rom. 16:16; Col. 3:17; 1 Pet. 4:11)
- Does it use a Scriptural name for the members? (Acts 11:26; 26:28; 1 Pet. 4:11, 16)
- Does it teach people to love God foremost and to love neighbors as ourselves, doing good to all men? (Matt. 22:36-40; Gal. 6:10)
- Is it organized the way the Biblical church was organized? (1) a plurality of qualified male elders overseeing only one local, autonomous congregation Acts 14:23, Ti-tus 1:5-11, 1 Pet. 5:1-4; 2) male deacons/servants serving under the eldership 1 Tim. 3:1-13; 3) male evangelists preaching and teaching 1 Tim. 2:11-15; 2 Tim. 4:2-5).
- Does it teach the same plan of salvation Peter taught on the day Christ's church was established? (Requiring repentance and immersion of the penitent believer in water to be forgiven/saved Acts 2:36-40; cf. 8:35-39; 22:16; Matt. 10:32; 1 Pet. 3:20, 21)
- Does it worship the same way the Biblical church did? (Praying to God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ – John 16:23; preaching the Truth – 2 Tim. 4:2; singing without musical instruments added – Eph. 5:19; giving as prospered on the first day or every week – 1 Cor. 16:2; taking the Lord's Supper on the first day of every week – Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20; 16:2).
- Does it teach the truth that people are no longer under the Law of Moses, but under

the Law of Christ? (Rom. 7:4-7; 1 Cor. 9:21; Gal. 5:3, 4; 6:2; Col. 2:14-17; 3:17)

- Does it promote religious divisions or oppose them? (John 17:21-23; Rom. 16:17; 1 Cor. 1:10-13; Eph. 5:11)
- Does it adhere to sound doctrine? (Gal. 1:6-9; 1 Tim. 4:16; 2 Tim. 2:15-18; 2 John 9-11)
- Does it adhere to the "seven ones" of unity, including the fact that there is only one body, only one faith, and only one baptism? (*"the washing of water"* for sanctification and spiritual cleansing, Eph. 4:3-6; 5:26)
- Does it "speak as the Bible speaks" in all matters, glorifying God through Christ? (1 Pet. 4:11; cf. 2 Tim. 1:13)
- Does it use the Holy Bible as its sole authority for all things? (Col. 3:17; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17)
- If two men on a deserted island who knew nothing about religion were given Bibles and they read and obeyed the Bible only, would they claim to be in the same church as you? They would not be in any denomination, but simply in Christ's church He promised to build. Should we not be like them? If we simply follow the Bible without man-made doctrines and names, we will be like them, and we can all be united as Christians without denominational divisions! This is clearly God's will, and it is very much possible if we love God enough to put His will first (Matt. 7:21-23; John 17:21-23; 1 Cor. 1:10-13; Php. 3:16; 1 John 5:3).

The Bible teaches that Christ's kingdom/church established in the first century A.D. would never be destroyed (Dan. 2:44; Matt. 16:18, 19, 28). It began on Pentecost after the ascension of Christ, and it still exists today. Christ commands men to seek the kingdom first (Matt. 6:33), and the true Biblical church can be found by comparing churches today with the church of the Bible. To say that the Scriptural requirements above do not matter is to say that the Scriptures themselves do not matter!

Some say every "church-going" believer today is in a denomination (a man-made religious group), and nobody can be in that one true, pre-denominational church, but if nobody could be in that church, nobody could be saved! Christ is the Savior of that one Biblical body, and only that body (Eph. 1:22, 23; 4:4; 5:23). Religious divisions called "denominations" are not authorized by God; rather they are condemned by God, just as the Nicolaitans were (1 Cor. 1:10-13; Rom. 16:17; Rev. 2). Denominations are smaller than the universal church and larger than the local congregation, and there is no such entity authorized in the New Testament.

Friends, we encourage you to investigate the church of which you are a member and see if it meets the Scriptural requirements mentioned above to be the true church "of" Christ, which simply means the church that belongs to Christ. The "church" of Christ is just another way to describe the "body" of Christ, the "house" of Christ, the "flock" of Christ, etc. We also encourage you to visit and investigate the church of Christ in your area, using the Holy Scriptures as your only guide! (Acts 17:11; 1 Thess. 5:21). *"The churches of Christ salute you"* (Rom. 16:16). http://www.JasonsBibleBlog.com