

- ✓ Only those who obey the true gospel (above) are members of the church of Christ for the saved are added to this church (Acts 2:47). One cannot join the church of Christ. He must be added by the Lord (Acts 2:47).
- ✓ Jesus only built one church (Matt. 16:18).
- ✓ The church is the body (Eph. 1:22, 23; Col. 1:18).
- ✓ There is one body, thus only one church (Eph. 4:4).
- ✓ Jesus promised to build one church, not “churches,” Jesus promised to build His church (Matt. 16:18). Only the true church belongs to Jesus, no other churches.
- ✓ The one church has many members (1 Cor. 12:12). The members are individual people who have been saved through obeying the gospel (v.13 cp. Acts 2:37-47).
- ✓ The church is not divided, it is not a denomination, nor is it made up of denominations (cp. 1 Cor. 1:10,13; Matt. 12:25).
- ✓ Denominationalism and wearing of manmade names are condemned (1 Cor. 1:10,13).
- ✓ To truly be the church that Jesus established one must follow Jesus totally. One must follow the pattern (cp. Heb. 8:1-5).
- ✓ The plan of salvation must be right.
- ✓ The worship must be strictly in accordance to the will of God (John 4:24).
- ✓ The church must follow the Bible wholly without addition or subtraction (Rev. 22:18,19). In everything, we must have book, chapter, and verse for authority (Col. 3:17; John 4:24).

The Church Is The Same As The Kingdom

- ✓ Jesus uses the word church and kingdom interchangeably because they refer to the same institution (Matt. 16:18,19).
- ✓ The kingdom was in existence (Col. 1:13; Rev. 1:9) in the First Century, and is still in existence. Can you imagine a kingdom without a kingdom? Jesus is now King (Acts 2).

Jesus is the Savior of only His church (Eph. 5:23,26,27). Are you in the true church, the kingdom? Do you want to learn more of this church and about salvation? Please let us know your questions and concerns. ♥



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You Should Know

(Some Basics of Worship, Salvation, and the Church)

by Perry Sexton

May we worship God anyway we want? Many think so, but this is not according to God’s Word. Christians are to worship God according to God’s will. Anything short of that, or more than that is not acceptable to God. Jesus said it very plainly: **“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”** (John 4:23,24).

To worship God **“in spirit”** is to worship God with the proper attitude: reverence and sincerity, etc. To worship **“in truth”** is to worship in strict accordance to what God teaches in His Word. Truth is the Word of God (John 17:17). We must never add to or take away from the Word of God (Rev. 22:18,19). We must be very careful that we have clear authority for all that we do (Col. 3:17).

The Five Acts Of Worship

We have Bible authority for the following acts of worship under the new covenant or testament. Please study the Scriptures.

- ✓ **Sing** praises unto God (Eph. 5:18-20; Col. 3:16,17; 1 Cor. 14:15). {Without mechanical instruments of music}
- ✓ **Pray** to God the Father (Matt. 6:9; 26:26; 1 Tim. 2:8; 1 Thess. 5:17). We are to pray in the name of Jesus (John 15:16).
- ✓ **Give** an offering to God (1 Cor. 16:1,2; 2 Cor. 9:6,7).
- ✓ **Partake of the Lord’s Supper** (Matt. 26:26-30). This is to be done every Lord’s Day (Sunday) like all the other acts are to be done (Acts 20:7). It is a memorial to remember the Lord’s death (1 Cor. 11:26).

- ✓ **Preach the Word** (Acts 20:7; 2 Tim. 4:1-4; Mark 16:15,16; Rom. 1:15,16). Those who do not accept and obey God's Word will be lost forever and ever (2 Thess. 1:8-10).

All of these approved acts of worship unto God are to be done upon the "first day of the week" (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1,2), which is Sunday. The first day of the week is the Lord's Day (Rev. 1:10).

Only those who have obeyed the gospel and are faithful Christians can worship God acceptably. Have you obeyed the gospel???



What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Jesus tells us plainly what man must do to be saved. Furthermore, God shows us plainly by example what others did. Please consider these steps in obeying the gospel of Christ. The first verse or verses after each step is the command or statement, and the verse or verses after **cp.** is an example:

- ✓ **Hear:** Mark 16:15,16; Rom. 10:17 **cp.** Acts 2:37; 4:4).
- ✓ **Believe:** Mark 16:15; Heb. 11:6 **cp.** Acts 4:4; 8:12,13).
- ✓ **Repent:** Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30,31; 2 Peter 3:9; Acts 2:38.
- ✓ **Confess Jesus:** Matt. 10:32,33; Rom. 10:9,10 **cp.** Acts 8:37.
- ✓ **Be baptized:** Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:15,16; Rom. 6:3ff; Gal. 3:26,27; 1 Peter 3:21; Acts 2:38 **cp.** v.41; 8:12,13,38; 10:48; 16:15,33; 19:5. One is saved at the point of scriptural baptism and is thus added to the Lord's church (Acts 2:38,47).

Scriptural baptism is preceded by hearing and believing the truth and by repenting, (that is to stop sinning; determine to try to sin no more, but rather serve God), confessing Jesus before men. Please consider these facts:

- ✓ One cannot be taught error and be baptized right.
- ✓ One cannot be baptized wrong and be saved.
- ✓ Denominational baptism is not the baptism in the Bible.
- ✓ Scriptural baptism is the new birth: John 3:3-5 cp. Rom. 6:3-6; 1 Peter 1:22, 23.

There is only one baptism for us today, it is the baptism of the Great Commission (Eph. 4:5; Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:15,16).

- ✓ It is a command (Acts 10:48; Mark 16:15,16).
- ✓ It is a burial in water (Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12; Acts 10:47; 8:38).

- ✓ It is for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16; Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21).

Water baptism is the only means of entering into Christ where salvation is found (2 Tim. 2:10; Eph. 1:3).

- ✓ Rom. 6:3.
- ✓ Gal. 3:26,27.
- ✓ 1 Cor. 12:13 cp. Matt. 28:19.

Water baptism is the only means of contacting the blood of Jesus wherein our sins are taken away.

- ✓ Jesus was dead when His blood was shed (John 19:33,34).
- ✓ In scriptural baptism one is also baptized into the death of Jesus (Rom. 6:3).
- ✓ Thus sins are remitted in baptism (Acts 2:38; 22:16 cp. Rev. 1:5; 1 Peter 3:21).

Water baptism is not a work of man, it is from God (Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15,16 cp. Matt. 21:25).

- ✓ It is in response to true faith (John 6:29; Rom. 1:5; Gal. 5:6).
- ✓ It is absurd to think one earns salvation through baptism. Baptism is a matter of humbly obeying the Lord (Matt. 7:21; Heb. 5:9) in order to receive the wonderful gift of salvation (study carefully Romans 6). This is God's way (John 14:6).



Only In The Church Jesus Built Is There Salvation

Please consider these things very carefully for only those who seek the truth will find it (Matt. 7:7; John 8:31,32). And only those who find the truth can obey it unto salvation.

- ✓ Jesus is the builder of His church (Matt. 16:18,19).
- ✓ Jesus is the foundation (1 Cor. 3:11).
- ✓ Jesus is the head of His church (Eph. 5:23). There is no salvation in the churches of men (Matt. 7:21-27; 15:9,13,14).
- ✓ The name of the church is very important (Acts 4:12). Names give honor, and the name is naturally the same as the owner which is Jesus. Thus it is the church of Christ, or churches of Christ when considering all the churches (congregations) of Christ throughout the world (Rom. 16:16). The church belongs to Jesus, and therefore wears His name. The name of the church must be right (Matt. 16:18 cp. Rom. 16:16; Acts 4:12).