

How can we go wrong if we all do that? Can you imagine how good it would be if all who believe in God were truly one? **Are you working to fulfill the Lord's prayer of unity** (John 17:20, 21) by being certain that you are truly following nothing but the Bible in religion?

The atheist is correct whenever he sees all the division in the so called Christian world and says **this cannot be right**. The atheist recognizes the fact that **IF** all were truly following the **same Bible**, all would be teaching and practicing the very same thing. Therefore, all would truly be of that **one true church** that you read about in the Bible. Only God knows how many atheists have been made because of all the division and confusion. Jesus knew it would be so and therefore prayed: "That they all may be one: ... that the world may believe" (John 17:21).

Every person has the God given responsibility to be sure that what they believe and practice in religion is indeed from God. We must not believe what the preachers say without checking it out thoroughly with what the Bible actually says (I John 4:1). We are to: "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good" (I Thessalonians 5:21). We do so by "searching the Scriptures" (cp. Acts 17:11). We must be certain that we are truly following the Bible by examining ourselves (II Corinthians 13:5).

We are **forewarned** by God that there are many false teachers in the world and will lead many astray (II Peter 2:1-3; I John 4:1; Matthew 7:13-23; Acts 20:28-30, etc.). If we allow men to deceive us into believing things that are not in the Bible we will be **lost** (Matthew 15:9-14; Colossians 2:18). We must be ever watchful (I Peter 5:8) and search the Scriptures to be sure we are being taught correctly (Acts 17:11). We must keep the Scriptures in their proper context and apply only that which applies to us in this age (II Timothy 2:15).

Following (on the reverse side) is a list of questions for you to consider. Verses are given so that you can plainly see what God teaches. A column is provided for you to answer whether your church practices what the Bible says – what God wants. If we expect to please God we must always be honest (Luke 8:15) in our study of His Word (II Timothy 2:15) and in examining ourselves (II Corinthians 13:5).

If you have any questions or comments about anything in this paper I would love to hear from you. ♥



"Holding forth the word of life"



(Phil 2:16 cp. John 6:63, 68)

Church of Christ (Rom. 16:16) Mission USA

c/o Perry Sexton 231 Rainbow Dr. #13140 Livingston, TX 77399

Email: jpsexton@peoplepc.com

Website: www.mission-usa.org

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Is Your Church Wholly Following The Bible?

by Perry Sexton

There are many different churches in the world today, yet the Bible only speaks of **one!** Jesus promised to build **only one** church (Matthew 16:18). Paul declares the **oneness** of the church (Ephesians 4:4 cp. 1:22, 23; I Corinthians 12:13, 27, 28, etc.). Christ is the Foundation, the Builder, the Head, and the Saviour of the **one true church** (I Corinthians 3:11; Matthew 16:18; Colossians 1:13-18; 5:23). All of the different churches today claim to be of that one church, but this cannot be! The church that Jesus built and someday will receive into glory (Ephesians 5:25-27) is not divided (made into denominations)! Jesus prayed for **unity** (John 17:20, 21) and condemns division (Matthew 12:25 cp. I Corinthians 1:10, 13).

I have talked with many who say that their preacher or church goes right by the Bible. No matter what church they are members of they all say they are following the Bible. This cannot be, for if they all were truly doing so, they all would be teaching and practicing the same thing (cp. I Corinthians 4:17; 1:10). There is one God, one Lord, one Spirit, one body (church), and one faith (Ephesians 4:4-6). Just as there is one God, there is only **one** true church and only **one** saving faith, but men have come up many different faiths and churches over the years.

Many **manmade churches** have a creed book, church manual, etc. If they are following the Bible why have such? If it contains more than the Bible it contains too much. If it contains less than the Bible it contains too little. And if it contains the same as the Bible why have it? Our plea and desire is for all people to follow nothing but the Bible in religion: Speak where the Bible speaks, be silent where the Bible is silent, call Bible things by Bible names, and do Bible things in Bible ways.

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