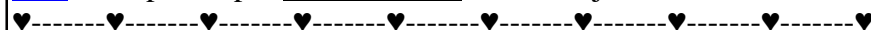


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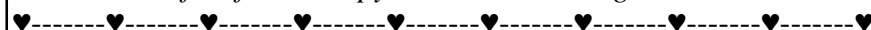
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GOD'S UNCHANGING PLAN OF SALVATION

Hear God's Word (Rom. 10:17)

Believe the truth (Mark 16:15, 16; Heb. 11:6)

Repent of all sins (Luke 13:3, 5)

Confess that Jesus is the Christ (Matt. 10:32)

Be **baptized** for the forgiveness of sins (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38)

Live a **faithful** life until death (Rev. 2:10b; 1 Tim. 4:7, 8)

Conversion accounts with some detail: Acts 2:37-42,47; 8:5-13, 30-39; 9:6-18 cp. 22:16; 10:6, 44-48; 16:14, 15, 30-34.

♥ We admonish you: **believe** and **obey** the Lord (Heb. 5:8, 9) ♥



Who will be saved? Answer: Matt. 7:21



“Holding forth the word of life”



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

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

Perry Sexton 1763 Highway 166 N. Mt. Pleasant, TN 38474

Email: jps Sexton@peoplepc.com

Website: www.mission-usa.org

Volume II

August 2009

Number 12

Why

Are You A Baptist, Jehovah's Witness, Methodist, Lutheran, Seventh Day Adventist, Presbyterian, Catholic, Mormon, Pentecostal, etc., etc....?

By Perry Sexton

Dear reader, we are very concerned for you, your family and the salvation of all. This is the reason we ask you to honestly consider the above question and what the Bible has to say about **denominationalism**. Are you willing to do as God says through the apostle Paul? “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?” (2 Cor. 13:5). We all must be willing to examine ourselves: our lives and our religion in order to determine if we are doing God's will; to know if we are in the one and only right way (Matt. 7:13-23). We must examine ourselves by the Word of God for by the Word of God we shall all be judged some day (John 12:48; Rev. 20:12-15).

We examine ourselves and our doctrine and are willing to be examined by you. This is so because our religion is **entirely** based upon the Word of God. Our **plea** is for all religious people to truly follow the Bible in all things. Yes, I know, every religious group claims to “go right by the Bible.” If this is true, why then is there so much religious division? **If all were truly following the Bible then there should be no division!** The question is: Are we truly following the Bible in all things?

If one million contractors were given the same detailed blueprint for a house for each to build and if all truly followed that same blueprint, would not the house built by each of the contractors be exactly the same? Yes, in every detail. And if the houses were not

the same, then it would be obvious someone (or ones) did not follow the blueprint. It may be that some misunderstood some details or decided their way is better or substituted an item, etc., etc. Such has gone on in religion and is still going on in full force (cp. 2 Tim. 3:13). We are warned by our loving God of the many false teachers in the world: 1 John 4:1; 2 Peter 2:1-3; Matthew 7:15; 15:9, 13, 14, etc. Since Jesus built His one church (Matt. 16:18) men have changed names, doctrines and perverted the gospel of Christ in many ways (cp. Gal. 1:6-9; 2 Tim. 3:13).

Friends, Satan uses religion to deceive people: “And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light” (2 Cor. 11:14). Therefore, we must “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.” (1 Pet. 5:8). In religion we are to: “Prove all things; hold fast that which is good” (1 Thess. 5:21). Of course, we do this by book, chapter and verse. We must have authority for everything we do in religion (Col. 3:17).

Let Us Examine Some Points of Our Religion by God’s Word

What is the name of the church where you attend? Can you find it in the Bible as a designation of the church which Jesus built? Denominational preachers say the name is not important (in order to try to justify the churches men have established), but this is seen to be false in every realm! Ask your preacher to put his house in your name or his paycheck in your name. Wives, ask your husband if you can wear some other man’s last name. Names have meaning and gives honor. Jesus died for His church (Acts 20:28); He is pictured as the husband to the church (John 3:29, etc.). Christ is the Head of His church (Eph. 1:22, 23; 5:23-27). Therefore, we must give honor to Christ by wearing His name as His church and as His people (Rom. 16:16; Acts 11:26). Read Acts 4:12 and see if you agree with God that names are important. Denominational names in no way give honor to Christ, but rather rob Him of the honor that belongs to Him. This honor does not belong to some man or system of men! Are YOU robbing Jesus of His deserved glory?

Let us (you and me) compare our doctrine with God’s Word. Doctrine or belief is very important: “Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son” (2 John 9). You can see that salvation is at stake! If we are truly following God in all things we would be able to turn in a reliable translation of

the Bible and show point after point what we believe and practice. We would have no need for church manuals, disciplines, catechisms, etc., nor would we rewrite and print our own Bibles. There are many points that we should consider concerning the church of which we are a member, such as: Who started this church (cp. Matt. 16:18)? Where and when did it begin (cp. Acts 2 as prophesied in Dan. 2:44; Isa. 2:1-3, etc.)? Who is its head (cp. Eph. 1:22, 23)? What is its creed (cp. Jude 3; Rom. 1:5)? Is its worship according to the pattern of the New Testament (John 4:24; Col. 3:17)? Is its plan of salvation according to the teachings of the Savior and as seen in the book of conversions: Acts (cp. the gospel accounts and see Acts for actual conversions)? There is not one denomination that meets any of these criterions! I speak these things for love of your soul.

Denominationalism is Sinful

The Savior prayed for unity (John 17:20,21). Denominationalism is division. This division is contrary to the Lord’s prayer and to God’s will. These are, in fact, enemies to the Lord and His church. God made it very plain through the pen of the apostle Paul: “Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment” (1 Cor. 1:10).

Not long after Jesus established His one church upon the earth men began dividing (1 Cor. 1:11, 12). But God condemned this division (v.10, 13). In process of time some Christians went into error (1 Tim. 4:1ff) which brought about the Catholic Church and then in the 16th century the Reformation Movement brought about the denominations and they have been dividing ever since! It is shameful, sinful and damnable! **Denominationalism is not of God but the evil work of misguided or wicked men.**

In the 18th century some men came about seeking nothing but the Bible in religion and thus was born the Restoration Movement. The plea was and still is: “Speak where the Bible speaks; be silent where the Bible is silent” (cp. Col. 3:17; John 4:24; 1 Cor. 4:6; Rev. 22:18, 19, etc.). Do you have the love of God to step forward and follow nothing but God’s Word in all religious matters??? It is the **ONLY WAY** (Matt. 7:13-27)! We are calling people back to the Bible: The church belongs to Christ; it is His doctrine; we did not write the Bible. Why would anyone want to be a part of a religious group that you cannot read about in the Bible? ♥