

*In
Search
of*

Truth and Right

Tim Henderson, Editor

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"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things." Philipians 4:8 (NASB-U)

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Are You A Bible Christian

By: Richie Thetford

Walking in the Light—June 29, 2008

People grossly misuse the name "Christian." The name belongs to an individual, not nations of people, such as "Christian nation." What makes a person a "Bible Christian?" Before we answer that question, let's first look at who is NOT a Christian. Not all **"good people"** are Christians. Morality is the obligation of a Christian but that does not make them a Christian. Cornelius was a "good" man, but needed to hear "words" to be saved (Acts 11:14). Nicodemus was a "good" man, but had to be born again to be saved (John 3:5).

Not all "religious people" are Christians. Some heathens are religious (Acts 17:22-23). Any religious person that calls himself a "Christian" and was not made that way based upon the Lord's teaching is not a "Bible" Christian! "Joining" a church does not make one a Christian and neither does living "in a church" make one a Christian. Yet today many people think just because they believe that Jesus is the Son of God and that He existed they are saved, calling themselves a "Christian."

We can learn from the Bible that a "Christian" is made. To become a Christian one must be born again as Jesus stated in John 3:3-5. The physical birth is the first birth and the spiritual birth (baptism) is the second birth. To know what is required to be "born again," we must be begotten (conceived) by the Word of Truth. Paul wrote: *"For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel"* (1 Cor 4:15). We learn from the Word of Truth that man must do something to enter the kingdom of heaven and that is to be "born again."

After one is "born again" through baptism, then we can look at the name that is to be worn. What name do you wear in your family? Those in the kingdom of God take on the name that our Father has named His children. Those that **DO** what Christ has commanded are

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TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible Classes* 10:00 AM

AM Worship 10:45 AM

PM Worship 6:30 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Classes* 7:00 PM

(* Bible Classes for All Ages)

known as His disciples. The disciples *"were first called Christians in Antioch"* (Acts 11:26). The people of God honor their Head by wearing this name. There is no salvation offered in any other name but in Christ (Acts 4:12). When we put **ON** Christ through obedience to His teaching (Gal 3:27), then we have the right to wear His name.

Today's Preachers:

AM: Dan Marton

PM: Harold Marshall

In Acts 26:28, Paul was preaching the gospel to King Agrippa. Then we find Agrippa saying: *"You almost persuade me to become a Christian."* Agrippa knew that if he had obeyed the gospel that Paul was preaching, that it would make him a Christian. Friends, it will do the very same thing today! When reading the Bible we can know what is required of us to become a Christian. We need to believe in Jesus (Acts 16:31), repent of our sins (Acts 17:30), confess Jesus as the Son of God (Rom 10:9-10), and be baptized for the remission (forgiveness) of our sins (Acts 2:38; Rom 6:3-5). Jesus plainly taught His disciples in Mark 16:16: *"He who believes **and is baptized** will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."*

Once we are born into the family of God, the kingdom of God, through baptism, then we are "Bible" Christians. We then must understand that it takes a commitment on our part to serve Jesus. Are you willing to make that commitment? The name of Christ that we wear should really mean something to each one of us. His name is above every other name (Phil 2:9-11). May God help each one of us to honor the name of Christ by wearing it and living up to it.

Have you been made a Christian based upon Christ's teaching? It is only through willful obedience to Christ that you and I can wear the name "Christian" and be saved (Heb 5:9).

"Just what the doctor prescribed"

Author unknown

Editor: I unfortunately lost the email which contained the author of this fine illustration. If you know the author, please let me know so I can give them credit. *TRH*

Imagine yourself walking into a drug store to have a prescription filled. You hand the pharmacist the form from your doctor, and then watch in amazement as he throws it in the wastebasket without even reading it. Then, without reading the label, he hands you a bottle of pills. By now you've gotten your nerve up, and you ask,

"Man, what are you doing?"

"Well he answers, "I'm giving you some medicine." "But you didn't read the prescription, and you didn't even look at the label on these pills." "It doesn't matter," he says. "Medicine is medicine - one pill is as good as another."

"No sir!" you object, "I want the pills that my doctor prescribed, and no others".

There's very little chance that you will ever visit that drug store again. Common sense says that this is no way to handle the important business of our physical health.

Why not allow the same kind of common sense to help us in the far more important realm of spiritual things? For some reason folks have decided that "anything goes" in religion. "Join the church of your choice" has become more than a mere slogan - it is the rule that most people live by. "One church is just as good as another", we are told. How can this possibly be so?

Jesus said, "In vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (**Matt. 15:9**). Note that the Lord says that some worship is "vain", meaning worthless or good for nothing. He goes on to explain why it is worthless - because it follows the commandments of men rather than the will of God (**Col. 3:17**). Are you sure that one church is as good as another? Think!

The Henderson's say "Hello" and "We Miss You"



News N Notes

Remember these in your prayers:

- Phyllis Coen
- Mary Jane Myers recovering from surgery
- Phyllis Coen recovering from pneumonia
- Sue Prager, Ken Prager's mother, recovering from surgery
- Terry Smith
- Earl Miller
- Trudell Tennant
- Lucille Harless, Dave Harless' mother
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband.
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Blake Swanson, Dorothy Lancaster's grandson
- Bud and Merl Frey
- Tammy Garrison, Zeda Goddard's daughter
- Audrio Gaudio, Nancy Morris' great-granddaughter
- Marie Roberts, & Ed's father, Jim Roberts.
- Ila Marshall, Harold Marshall's mother
- Cary & Grace Lancaster

Nursing Home:

- Pauline Sellers
- Ethel Mahan

Shut-ins:

- Josephine Clow
- Mabel Fleming
- Pauline Midcap