

WHY I AM A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST #7

I Am A Member Of The Church Of Christ Because...

ITS ONLY AUTHORITY IS THE BIBLE, THE WORD OF GOD.

The Lord's church (Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:47), the church of Christ (Rom. 16:16), does not recognize any religious authority upon the earth — whether is be a single individual or legislative body. It has no head but Jesus the Christ (Eph. 1:22-23; Col. 1:18). It has no conference, convention or synod and follows no creed, discipline or manual. All of these came from man, not God. The Lord's people demand nothing more or less than the Holy, Inspired Word of God!

The Bible came from God and is able to supply every spiritual need. It is perfect and complete. Second Timothy 3:16-17 says, "*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.*" Likewise it says that God has "...given unto us **all things** that pertain unto life and godliness..." (2 Peter 1:3).

The Bible is True. It is the Word of Truth and every one of God's righteous judgments lasts forever (Psalm 119:160, 43). It is Right (Psalm 33:4). It is the Gospel of our salvation (Eph. 1:13). It is a Lamp unto our feet and a Light unto our path (Psalm 119:105). "*How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!*" "*O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.*" "*Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate*

every false way" (Psalm 119:103,97, 104).

Every manual, creed, discipline or tradition that claims to direct man's spiritual welfare, other than the Bible, is false because it came from man. When a creed says more than the Bible it says too much. When it says less than the Bible it says too little. And, when it says the same as the Bible it's not needed because we have the Bible.

Man cannot improve upon God's Holy Divine Word, the Bible! We must respect God's commandments (Psalm 119:6). The curse of God rests upon anyone who would change or modify the Bible in any way. Paul, speaking of himself, another apostle or even an angel said, "*though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed*" (Gal. 1:8).

All mankind will be judged by the Bible, not human creeds or disciplines. The Lord said, "*He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: **the word** that I have spoken, **the same shall judge him in the last day***" (John 12:48). Those who lived under the time of the Old Testament will be judged by it. Those who lived under the time of the New Testament will be judged by it.

Are you ready to be judged? Follow the Bible, the Word of God, for it alone is man's ONLY spiritual guide! Believe, repent, confess Christ, be baptized, remain faithful all your life!

— Garland M. Robinson