

**The**  
**CHURCH**  
**Verses**  
**DENOMINATIONALISM**

**Editor:**  
**Larry Hendrix**

**FOURTH ANNUAL  
KENTUCKY BIBLICAL VIEWPOINTS  
LECTURESHIP**

**SEPTEMBER 23-27, 1992**



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**THEME:**

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**Held at the  
HURTS CREEK CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Hyden, Kentucky 41749**

## DEDICATION

We would like to dedicate this Lectureship book to **the cause of Christ and the furtherance of the gospel**. As Christians, our priority and responsibility is to carry out the Great Commission as Christ set forth in Matthew 28:19-20. Everything we attempt to do is toward this goal. Therefore, the main purpose of this year's Lectureship is to explain the different doctrinal beliefs, in hopes that you, the reader, will be better enlightened to make an informed choice about which church is Scriptural. It is not our intention to offend anyone in any way. We simply offer this book and the Lectures therein for your study and examination in light of the scriptures. We hope you use it diligently.

*Larry Hendrix  
August, 1992*

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## APPRECIATION

We are privileged to have such friends as the Big Willard Congregation, Lothair Congregation, Ralph Howard, and Ralph Howard, Jr., without whom this Lectureship would place an extra burden on the Hurts Creek Congregation. They have contributed very generously every year to ease the financial burden of hosting the Lectureship. They do this from the heart not expecting any praise of men. It is often the ones behind the scenes which make everything work, however, we would like to acknowledge their support and say thank you. We know that God will bless them for their kindness.

The Elders

Clayton Lewis  
Clifford Morgan  
Eugene Feltner

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Jehovah's Witness</b>	
<i>Jim Hayes</i> .....	7
<b>Where Do We Find The Sinner's Prayer?</b>	
<i>Garland M. Robinson</i> .....	9
<b>Latter Day Saints</b>	
<i>Keith Cozort</i> .....	11
<b>Why Doesn't The Church Of Christ Practice "Foot Washing?"</b>	
<i>Garland M. Robinson</i> .....	17
<b>Presbyterian</b>	
<i>HaliBurton Greer</i> .....	19
<b>Lutheran</b>	
<i>Clarence Howard</i> .....	23
<b>Mennonite</b>	
<i>Richard Freeman</i> .....	27
<b>Is The "Rapture" A Doctrine Of God Or Man?</b>	
<i>Garland M. Robinson</i> .....	31
<b>Catholic</b>	
<i>Mike Tanaro</i> .....	33
<b>Where Did All The Religions In The World Come From? Did God Or Man Start Them?</b>	
<i>Garland M. Robinson</i> .....	35
<b>The Eastern (Greek) Orthodox Church</b>	
<i>Clayton Winters</i> .....	37
<b>Baptist</b>	
<i>Jerry Brown</i> .....	41
<b>Christian Church</b>	
<i>Paul Vaughn</i> .....	45

<b>Methodist</b>	
<i>Jerry Stephenson</i> . . . . .	49
<b>What Is "Vain Worship?"</b>	
<i>Garland M. Robinson</i> . . . . .	51
<b>Seventh-Day Adventist</b>	
<i>Roy T. Doss</i> . . . . .	53
<b>The Sin Of Denominationalism</b>	
<i>Bill Brumit</i> . . . . .	57
<b>Humanist</b>	
<i>Timothy Hall</i> . . . . .	61
<b>Pentecostal</b>	
<i>Eddy Craft</i> . . . . .	67
<b>Armstrong</b>	
<i>Benjamin J. Barr</i> . . . . .	71
<b>Why I Chose To Become A Member Of The Church Of Christ</b>	
<i>Charles E. Moore</i> . . . . .	77
<b>Methodist</b>	
<i>Charlotte Tanaro</i> . . . . .	83
<b>What About The Thief On The Cross?</b>	
<i>Garland M. Robinson</i> . . . . .	85
<b>Baptist</b>	
<i>Judith H. Brown</i> . . . . .	87



Jim Hayes

## RESUME

James (Jim) Morgan Hayes was born at Gravette, Arkansas, on April 27, 1931. He is married to the former Lillian Cornett. They have seven children, all of which are members of the church.

He attended public schools in Oklahoma and Arkansas and attended George Peabody College, Harding College, and Eastern Kentucky University where he earned a bachelor and masters degrees as well as Rank I (an education ranking). He started teaching in the elementary schools of Leslie County in 1955 and still teaches in that capacity to this day. He is a veteran of the United States Coast Guard.

He started preaching when he was just a young boy and has continued to do so until this day. He is minister of the church of Christ at Camp Creek located in Leslie County at Wendover, KY. He has served that congregation for almost all of 36 years.



# Jehovah's Witness

*Jim Hayes*

1. *"But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up"* (Matt. 15:13).
2. Gal. 1:6-12.

## **DISCUSSION:**

### **I. FOUNDER AND BUILDER OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESS.**

- A. This doctrine was founded by Charles Taze Russell.

### **II. FOUNDATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESS.**

- A. This doctrine is founded upon the teachings of:
  1. Charles Taze Russell.
  2. Joseph F. Rutherford.
  3. Frederick William Franz.
- B. The only version of the Bible which is acceptable to them is the New World Translation.

### **III. PLACE OF ORIGIN.**

- A. The place of origin is uncertain.

### **IV. DATE OF ORIGIN.**

- A. 1879-1884.
- B. Most witnesses will accept 1884.

### **V. NAMES GROUP IS KNOWN BY.**

- A. Jehovah's Witnesses.
- B. Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society.

### **VI. HEADQUARTERS.**

- A. Watch Tower Society, 117 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

### **VII. SOME BASIC BELIEFS.**

- A. No "Trinity."
- B. Christ not diety — God.
- C. No Hell.

- D. Christ honored too much.
- E. Christ's death not a ransom for sin.
- F. The 144,000 of Revelation has been sealed since 1914.
- G. The president of Watch Tower Society has "papal" powers.
- H. Watch Tower teachings are infallible.
- I. The Watch Tower president has only reliable interpretation of the Bible.
- J. All Churches are satanic in origin.
- K. Most members expect an eternal heaven here on earth.

#### **VIII. EVANGELISM.**

- A. 1,200,000 yearly conversion.
- B. Prints and distributes daily 15 tons of Watch Tower literature.

#### **IX. MISSION.**

- A. To usher in the Kingdom Age of the Millennium and join Jehovah's forces at Armageddon.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

- 1. The heavenly Father has not planted the Jehovah's Witnesses; therefore, they shall be rooted up.
-

## WHERE IS THE SINNER'S PRAYER IN THE BIBLE?

—Garland M. Robinson—

THERE'S NO SUCH THING! It's a marvel how preachers of the various denominations beg for people to "come down" to the mourners' bench and pray the "sinner's prayer!" I wonder where they get it, it's not from the Bible! They usually say something like, "I accept you into my heart to be my personal saviour," or "Oh Lord, I confess you with my mouth and I confess my sins, please forgive me for Jesus' sake." There are no such statements to be found in the Bible!

I challenge anybody anywhere to come up with a Biblical example of the "so-called" sinner's prayer for salvation! It's just not there. As a matter of fact, nowhere are sinners ever told to pray anything. A sinner does not have the right to pray. God does not hear the prayer of an alien sinner (John 9:31), but he does one of his children (I Peter 3:12). One must first become a child of God before he has the privilege of praying to the Father in the name of Jesus (Luke 11:1-2; Acts 8:22).

The teaching and practice of man-made churches is in full contradiction to the Bible's teaching on the plan of salvation. To request for someone to "pray the sinner's prayer" is an attempt to get away from the plain teaching of the Bible's "plan of salvation," and the Bible most definitely presents a "plan" whereby sinful men can OBEY and be saved (Matthew 7:21; Hebrews 5:8-9; II Thessalonians 1:7-9). It's God's plan, not man's.

Can men neglect to obey the commands of Christ and still be saved? Can one DISBELIEVE? Jesus commanded it (John 8:24)! Can one refuse to REPENT? Jesus commanded it (Luke 13:3)! Can one refuse to CONFESS the Christ? Jesus commanded it (Matthew 10:32)! Can one refuse to be BAPTIZED? Jesus commanded it (Mark 16:16)! Can one refuse to live FAITHFULLY? Jesus commanded it (Matthew 10:22)! Which one of these commands can people leave off and think they can still go to heaven? NOT A SINGLE ONE!!!

Why men hate to accept and obey the commands of the Lord to be saved is beyond my comprehension. I just do not "know any better" than to believe the Lord when he said, "he that **belleveth** AND is **baptized** shall be saved" (Mark 16:16). Denominational preachers do not like that arrangement so they come up with anything and everything to avoid it. The "sinner's prayer" concept is just one of them.



Keith Cozort

## RESUME

Keith Cozort was born on April 27, 1955 in Lansing, Michigan. He is married to the former Cheryl Ann Williams and they have three children: Adam (9); Nathan (7); Aaron (5).

Keith attended the Florida School of Preaching in Lakeland, Florida, and graduated in January of 1983. He has also attended Harding College (1973-1975), Alabama Christian School of Religion (1983), and Pike Community College, Denver Colorado (1986).

Keith has preached for churches of Christ in Steel, Missouri; Limon, Colorado; Grand Ledge, Michigan; and presently is preaching for the Paintsville Church of Christ in Paintsville, Kentucky.

# LATTER DAY SAINTS

*Keith Cozort*

1. I John 4:1 *“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”*
2. I Thess. 5:21 *“Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.”*

## DISCUSSION:

### I. TRUTHS THE MORMONS HOLD.

- A. Notice some of the doctrines the Mormons hold which are true.
  1. Men will be punished for their own individual sins and not for Adam’s transgression.
  2. All mankind may be saved through the atonement of Christ and by remission of sins.
  3. They teach faith, repentance, and baptism by immersion for the remission of sins.
  4. They observe the Lord’s Supper each Sunday.
  5. They have a **“word of wisdom”** which is actually a health code which they encourage each member to follow.
  6. They believe every member is a missionary.

### II. SOME REASONS WHY THEY CANNOT BE THE TRUE CHURCH.

- A. The Mormon church was established at the wrong time.
  1. April 6, 1830 — the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints was organized in N.Y. (*“About Mormonism”* — President Stephen L. Richards).
  2. Acts 2
- B. Their founder is the wrong man.
  1. The founder of the Mormon church is Joseph Smith, born Dec. 23, 1805.
  2. Matt. 16:18
- C. Their prophecies are false.
  1. Independence, Missouri was “the land of promise, and the place for the city of Zion” (*Doctrine & Covenants, 57:1-3*).

2. Deut. 18:22

D. Their organization and government are wrong.

1. There are 6 Mormon denominations and they differ in organization and government.

### III. WHAT MORMONS TEACH CONTRARY TO THE BIBLE.

A. Concerning God.

1. Mormons teach:

- a. There are many gods.
- b. Gods have flesh and bones.
- c. Gods have sex and marry and bear children.
- d. Their children come to earth as human beings to get bodies.
- e. Adam is God.
- f. God is an exalted man.

2. The Bible teaches:

- a. There is only **one** God, with **three** in the Godhead (Gen. 1:26; Ex. 20:1-3; Matt. 28:19; Jn. 1:1-3; 14:25,26; 16:7-10).
- b. God is a spirit (Jn. 4:24).
- c. God's only marriage relationship is with Israel (Jer. 3:14).
- d. Christ's only marriage relationship is with Christians (Eph. 5:23-33).
- e. Christ is the husband and head of the church (Jn. 3:29; Col.1:18).
- f. There is no marriage relationship after death (Mk. 12:25).
- g. Adam is not God, but was created by God (Gen. 1:27; 2:18).
- h. Man is a created being (Gen. 2:7).

B. Concerning Christ.

1. Mormonism teaches that:

- a. Adam is God and Christ is his son by natural generation.
  - 1) Some confusion on this point.
  - 2) Brigham Young: "Jesus Christ was not begotten by the Holy Ghost") *Shadow or Reality*, p. 260).
  - 3) Book of Mormon: "She being a virgin, a precious and chosen vessel, who shall be overshadowed and conceive by the power of the Holy Ghost, and

- bring forth a son, yea, even the Son of God”  
(*Shadow or Reality*, p. 260).
- 4) Joseph Fielding Smith (*Shadow or Reality*, p. 260).
  - 5) Apostle Orson Pratt (*Shadow or Reality*, p. 260).
- b. Adam (God) was a polygamist.
    - 1) Brigham Young (*Shadow or Reality*, p. 227).
    - 2) Sermon by H. W. Naisbitt (*Shadow or Reality*, p. 227).
  - c. Jesus was a polygamist.
    - 1) Apostle Orson Pratt (*Shadow or Reality*, p. 227).
    - 2) Fanny Stenhouse (*Shadow or Reality*, p. 228).
2. The Bible teaches.
    - a. Christ was born of the Holy Spirit (Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:18-23).
- C. Concerning the Bible.
1. Mormonism teaches:
    - a. The Bible is not all of the word of God.
    - b. The **Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants** and **Pearl of Great Price** are on par with the Bible.
  2. The Bible says:
    - a. It is complete and all-sufficient (2 Tim. 3:16,17).
    - b. It is not to be added to nor taken from (Rev. 22:18,19).
- D. Concerning Salvation.
1. Mormonism teaches that salvation is the resurrection of the dead.
    - a. The dead may be saved by a living person being baptized for them.
  2. The Bible teaches:
    - a. Both good and bad are to be resurrected (Rev. 20:11-15; John 5:28-29).
    - b. The command to obey baptism is based on hearing, believing, and repenting (Rom. 10:13-17; Matt. 28:19,20; Mk. 16:15,16).
- E. Concerning the Church.
1. Mormons teach there can be no true church today without living apostles and prophets.
  2. The Bible teaches:
    - a. The church was not founded upon the personalities of the apostles and prophets, but upon the Divine teaching which they revealed (2 Pet. 1:21; 3:1-3; Acts

- 1:1-3).
  - b. An apostle is a witness (Acts 1:1-3, 19-22).
    - 1) A witness can have no successor, so there can be no apostles personally in the Church today.
  - c. The twelve were to sit on twelve thrones (Matt. 19:28,29).
    - 1) Every Mormon apostle will have to stand up since there is no seat left for him.
  - d. Miracles are a sign of apostleship (2 Cor. 12:12).
- F. Concerning prophets.
- 1. Mormonism teaches that Joseph Smith was a prophet and makes belief in him an essential article of faith (D. and C. Sec. 28:2; 35:17; Millennial Star, Vol. 5, p. 118, Brigham Young).
  - 2. The Bible teaches:
    - a. True prophecy has been given (1 Cor. 13:8; Gal. 1:7-9).
    - b. Many false prophets were to come (Matt. 7:15; 24:11).
- G. Concerning Marriage.
- 1. Mormons teach that there are two kinds of marriage.
    - a. Earthly and celestial.
    - b. The earthly marriage bond is to have as many child-bearing wives as possible to insure a great kingdom in heaven.
    - c. The celestial marriage bond is a sealing of other men's wives to a man so that he may have enough wives in eternity.
  - 2. The Bible teaches:
    - a. Child-bearing was to replenish the earth, not heaven (Gen. 1:28).
    - b. They neither marry nor are given in marriage in heaven (Mk. 12:35; Lk. 12:35; Ex. 20:17).
    - c. The woman is freed from her dead husband (1 Cor. 7:39).
- H. Concerning polygamy (polygamy).
- 1. Mormons teaches that polygamy (having more than one wife) is a law to be obeyed and if disobeyed damnation is the penalty (D. and C. 132).
    - a. How many wives did Joseph Smith have?
      - 1) Andrew Jensen, Assistant Mormon Church Historian, listed 27 women who were married to Joseph



Smith (*Historical Record*, p. 233-234).

- 2) John J. Stewart, a Mormon author, states Joseph Smith may have married 36 or even 48 wives (*Brigham Young and His Wives*, p. 31).
- 3) Stanley S. Ivins at one time stated that the number of Joseph Smith's wives "can only be guessed at, but it might have gone as high as 60 or more" (*Western Humanities Review*, Vol. 10, p. 232-233).
  - a) Before his death Stanley S. Ivins prepared a list of 84 women who may have been married to Joseph Smith during his lifetime.
  - b. How many wives did Brigham Young have?
    - 1) Stanley P. Hirshom lists 70 women who may have been married to Brigham Young (*The Lion of the Lord*, p. 190-221).
2. The Bible teaches:
  - a. Man is to cleave to his "wife" not wives (Gen. 1:18-25).
  - b. As Christ has one church, man has one wife (Eph. 5:23-33).
  - c. Elders are to be the husband of one wife (1 Tim. 3:2).
- I. Concerning Communion.
  1. Mormons use water in the place of fruit of the vine in the Lord's Supper.
    - a. 3 Nephi 18:8 — the Lord "commanded his disciples that they should take of the wine of the cup and drink it."
    - b. D. and C., Sec. LXXXIX: 6, "This should be wine, year, pure wine of the grape of the vine, of your own make."
    - c. D. and C., Sec. XXVII: 2, "It mattereth not what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, when ye partake of the sacrament."
  2. The Bible teaches:
    - a. Fruit of the vine is always used (Matt. 26:26-29; Mk. 14:22-25; 1 Cor. 11:20-34).
- J. Concerning the Book of Mormon verses the Bible.
  1. The Book of Mormon contradicts the Bible concerning:
    - a. The darkness at the crucifixion (three days — Helaman 14:20).

- b. The place of Christ's birth (at Jerusalem — Alma 7:10).
  - c. The establishment of the church (at least 147 years before Christ — Mosiah 18:17).
  - d. There were Christians (at least B. C. 73 — Alma 46:15).
2. The Bible teaches completely different (Lk. 23:44; Matt. 2:5; Lk. 1:17; Matt. 17:12; 16:18; Acts 11:26).

**CONCLUSION:**

1. Much more could be shown concerning the doctrines of the Mormon Church.
-

**WHY DOESN'T THE CHURCH OF CHRIST PRACTICE  
"FOOT WASHING?"**

—Garland M. Robinson—

Whatever is done in word or deed must be done by the Lord's authority (Colossians 3:17). Nowhere in the New Testament is "foot washing" authorized as a church function. The example of our Lord washing the disciples' feet is found in John 13:1-5. A careful reading will note this to be an example for individuals, not churches—an act of service, humility; not an act of worship!

It was a well established custom in Bible times for one to wash their feet upon entering a house due to the wearing of sandals which allowed the feet to become soiled from the hot dusty roads. It was a menial task and usually performed by a servant. The example of John 13 took place in the context of the disciples discussing who should be greatest among them (Luke 22:24). Instead of merely telling his disciples what they should do, the Lord translated the principles of humility and service into practice. On other occasions he had taught them this lesson; now, they were seeing it performed by the Lord's own hands. The example was one of humility and servitude. Instead of seeking positions of preeminence, they should follow his example of service to others.

To practice this as a part of worship, places it in the category where it belongs—**vain worship**—because it is a doctrine and commandment of men, not God (Matthew 15:9). Acts 2:42 says the disciples "*continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine....*" They did not practice "foot washing" for there is no command or example of it in the church. It was not until the fourth century that "foot washing" began to be practiced as a church ordinance. Therefore, it was not a part of the apostles' doctrine! It was not a part of the truth to be practiced in worship. See John 16:13 and II Peter 1:3.

There is no command, example or implication in all the New Testament for washing feet as an act of worship. What is practiced by religious groups today does not match what was done by our Lord. He washed **all** the disciples' feet and he washed **both** feet! This was a practice of hospitality. The lesson is one of humility and Christian service, not a church ordinance or part of Christian worship. Christian "service" and Christian "worship" are two separate things.

Let us be humble servants of our Lord and obey him in All things.



HaliBurton Greer

## RESUME

HaliBurton Greer was born on April 9, 1926 in Hazard, Ky. He is married to Ben Wiley Hatley and they have two children and three grandchildren.

HaliBurton attended University of Tennessee Junior College in Martin, TN, University of Tennessee in Knoxville (B.S. Degree), and East Tennessee University in Johnson City (M.A. Degree).

He was baptized on June 8, 1949. His preaching career began in the spring of 1957 while worshipping with the Laurel Ave. Church of Christ in Knoxville, TN. He also preached for the Broyles St. Church of Christ in Erwin, TN; the Fries Hill Church of Christ in Galax, VA; the Pigeon Roost Church of Christ in Relief, NC; and then after moving back to Hazard in 1972, he presently preaches for the Lothair Church of Christ in Hazard, and the Couchtown Church of Christ in Typo, KY.

Haliburton was very instrumental in helping the new congregation in Jackson, KY.

# PRESBYTERIAN

*HaliBurton Greer*

1. Do you know why you are what you are **RELIGIOUSLY**?
2. This question could be asked concerning membership in any number of carnal organizations.
  - a. Why am I a Republican or a Democrat?
  - b. Why am I a member of the Lion's Club, the Kiwanis Club, the Rotary Club, the Country Club, the Garden Club.
  - c. Whatever club or organization we might be associated with, we should be able to give a reason/s for belonging.
3. This day we are speaking in the negative rather than the positive.
4. **WHY I AM NOT A MEMBER OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!**

## DISCUSSION:

### I. BASIC FACTS.

#### A. JOHN CALVIN.

1. Lived in Switzerland.
2. Established the doctrine of Calvinism.
3. A reformer — not a restorer.

#### B. Personal background.

1. Grew up in Presbyterian Church.
2. Was a member.
3. Learned of the true way.

### II. NAME.

#### A. Presbyterian is not found in the Bible.

1. Presbytery is found.
2. Presbytery refers to Elders.
  - a. 1 Tim. 4:14, only found this one time.

#### B. CHRIST — the only name in which man can be saved (Acts 4:9-12).

### III. GOVERNMENT.

#### A. Courts.

1. Local congregation.
  - a. Session composed of:

- 1) Pastor.
- 2) Elders, Deacons.
2. Presbyteries.
3. Synods.
4. General Assembly.
- B. Bible.
  1. CHRIST is Head of the Church.
    - a. Eph. 5:23.
  2. Each local church is autonomous.
  3. Each congregation under the leadership and oversight of elders.
    - a. Titus 1:5.

#### IV. DOCTRINES.

- A. Confessions.
  1. The Scots Confession.
  2. The Second Helvetic Confession.
  3. The Westminster Confession of Faith.
- B. Creeds.
  1. The Nicene Creed.
  2. The Apostles' Creed.
- C. Christian confessions.
  1. Christ.
  2. Sins.
- D. Christian creed.
  1. The Bible and the Bible only.

#### V. SPECIFIC TEACHINGS OF PRESBYTERIANISM COMPARED WITH BIBLICAL TEACHINGS.

- A. Total Depravity.
  1. Psalm 51:5.
  2. Infant baptism (Sprinkling — not burial).
- B. Bible teaching concerning total depravity.
  1. "Suffer little children to come unto me."
    - a. Matt. 19:14; Luke 18:16.
  2. "One of these little ones."
    - a. Matt. 10:42; 18:6,10,14; Mark 9:42; Luke 17:2.
  3. "He that believeth and is baptized..."
    - a. Mark 16:15-16.
- C. Predestination.
  1. Elect of God.

2. So many predestined to Heaven and to Hell.
- D. Bible teaching concerning PREDESTINATION.
  1. Predestination (Rom. 8:29-30).
  2. Foreknowledge (1 Pet. 1:2).
- E. Elders/Deacons.
  1. Women are used in the Presbyterian church.
  2. Elders are elected for a certain period of time in the Presbyterian church.
- F. Bible Teachings.
  1. 1 Tim. 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9.
- G. Lord's Supper.
  1. Once every three months — quarterly.
    - a. Presbyterian *Book of Order* states:
      - 1) "The Lord's Supper is to be observed on the Lord's Day, in the regular place of worship and in a manner suitable to the particular occasion and local congregation. It is appropriate to celebrate the Lord's Supper as often as each Lord's Day. It is to be celebrated regularly and frequently enough to be recognized as integral to the Service for the Lord's day." (*Book of Order*, 1990-91; W-2.4009).
- H. Bible teaching of the Lord's Supper.
  1. "On the first day of the week..." (Acts 20:7).
- I. Instrumental Music.
  1. Piano, Organ, Violin, etc.
  2. Calvin's teaching.
- J. Bible Authority.
  1. Sing (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; Rom. 15:9; 1 Cor. 14:5; Heb. 2:12; James 5:13; Rev. 15:3).

## CONCLUSION:

1. Jesus said:
    - a. John 14:6 "*Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*"
    - b. Matt. 7:21-23.
  2. We must listen to God, not man.
-



Clarence Howard

## RESUME

Clarence Howard was born in Perry County, Kentucky in 1935. He graduated from Buckhorn School (KY), Lees Junior College (KY), and Eastern Kentucky University with additional graduate work at Eastern.

Clarence taught school for 17 years in the Perry County School System and for the past 11 years has served as the Perry Co. Court Clerk.

Clarence is married to the former Helen Jean Hoskins and they have one son: Steven Ray. Clarence presently serves as one of the Elders and Ministers of the Big Willard Church of Christ at Busy, Ky. He also preaches on the radio every Sunday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. in Hazard, Ky.



# LUTHERAN

*Clarence Howard*

1. As we begin this study of the Lutheran faith, it will be interesting to note some of their doctrines concerning many principles.
2. It is not our intent to offend those of the Lutheran faith, but to examine their teachings in light of the scripture.

## DISCUSSION:

### I. THE LUTHERANS BELIEVE AND TEACH JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH ONLY.

- A. The doctrine stated in source #1: The Lutheran Church gives a great deal of prominence to the doctrine of justification by faith alone.
  1. Luther was reacting to the work-salvation system of the Catholic Church.
  2. Luther added the word “**alone**” to (Rom. 3:28).
    - a. *Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law* (Rom. 3:28).
    - b. No where can I find the word **alone** in this passage of scripture.
- B. Biblical Response:
  1. Works (James 2:24).
  2. Works plus faith (James 2:26).
  3. Must do (Acts 9:6).
  4. Obedience (Heb. 5:9).
  5. Father’s will (Matt. 7:21).

### II. LUTHERANS BELIEVE THAT FAITH IS A DIRECT GIFT FROM GOD TO THE HEART.

- A. The doctrine stated in source #2: The Lutherans believe that they cannot do anything by their own reason or strength to believe in Jesus Christ.
  1. This statement declares that:
    - a. Faith is not the results of man’s reasoning.
    - b. Faith is the result of God’s will.
    - c. Not at all man’s free will.
    - d. It is the work of God and it is without man’s coopera-

tion.

B. Biblical Response:

1. Paul reasoned with the Jews (Acts 17:2-4).
2. The Bereans believed (Acts 17:11-12).
3. Faith is not the gift of God (Eph. 2:8-9).

**III. LUTHERANS BELIEVE IN INFANT BAPTISM.**

A. The doctrine stated in source #3: Infants too are to be baptized.

1. Because they are included in the words ALL NATIONS (Matt. 28:18).
2. Because Holy Baptism is the only means whereby infants can be born again.
3. Because infants can believe (Matt. 18:6).

B. Biblical Response:

1. He that believeth (Mark 16:16).
2. Humble (Matt. 18:4).

**IV. LUTHERANS BELIEVE THAT THE TEN COMMANDMENTS ARE BINDING UPON ALL TODAY.**

A. The doctrine stated in source #4:

1. In the sight of God a good work is everything a child of God does, speaks, or thinks in faith according to the Ten Commandments for the benefit of his neighbor.
2. God threatens to punish all that transgress these commandments.

B. Biblical Response:

1. Covenant done away (Heb. 8:6-13).
2. We are dead to the law (Rom. 7:1-4).
3. Fallen from grace (Gal. 5:4).

**V. CHALLENGE TO THE LORD'S CHURCH BY THE LUTHERAN CHURCH.**

A. The challenge stated in source #5:

1. The Lutherans display evangelistic zeal through radio, and television programs in twenty-four foreign countries.

B. Bible Response:

1. The Lord's church must be active in and committed to the task of preaching the gospel (Matt. 28:18-20).
2. Instill zeal to the local membership for evangelism.
3. Be active in world missions.

## VI. CHALLENGE TO THE LORD'S CHURCH BY THE LUTHERAN CHURCH.

- A. The challenge stated in source #6:
  1. The Lutherans are noted for their benevolence.
  2. Nearly 200 social institutions, hospitals, and schools.
  3. Benevolent attitude brings favor to the Lutheran Church.
- B. Biblical Response:
  1. The Church of the Lord does recognize and accept the responsibility to **“do good unto all men”** (Gal. 6:10).
  2. The Church of Christ as a whole must be benevolent in legitimate ways.
  3. Every individual member should adopt a benevolent attitude.
  4. A benevolent spirit in the church tells the world that we are concerned about people.

### CONCLUSION:

#### SOME SUGGESTIONS TO USE IN REACHING THE LUTHERANS WITH THE GOSPEL

1. Show appreciation for their good traits, their zeal, charity, benevolence, their fight against Catholicism.
2. Impress them with the need to return to pure undenominational Christianity, the Reformation was a good start but did not go back far enough.
3. Impress them with the unity for which Christ prayed in John 17.
4. Consider areas of agreement, Moral issues, inspiration of the Bible.

### IN SUMMARY

Even though this religious group does an abundance of good works in the community (their concern for people is to be commended), their goodness, however, does not correlate to God's plan and to God's word. *“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free”* (John 8:32). *“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).



Richard Freeman

## RESUME

Richard Freeman is married to Yolanda Freeman, they have four children, all adults. Richard was baptized into Christ in August 1976. He studied the Bible under the late D. C. Strong, and through Bible Correspondence Courses. Richard began teaching and preaching in 1978. He has taught and held Gospel meetings in Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio. Richard and his wife reside at 6941 E. Stop 11 RD Indianapolis, Ind. 46237.

## “MENNONITE”

*Richard Freeman*

1. In order to get a proper picture of the Mennonites' religion, we need to look at their early History.
2. The Mennonites usually trace the origin of their church body to the establishment of an Anabaptist (Gr. *Ana* again + *baptizein*, to baptize) congregation at Zurich in 1525.
3. The Anabaptists were a member of a Swiss sect that rejected infant baptism and practiced baptism of adults.
4. The later Mennonites however did not espouse the weird theological aberration and radical social ideas advocated by individual Anabaptists.
5. Some of the leaders of the Anabaptists denied the Trinity and the deity of Christ; others taught the restoration of all things, still others demanded complete separation of the church from the world, and withdrew from participation in social, and economic, and political affairs of life believing themselves to be the community of saints to usher in the millennium.
6. As a utopian (Utopia, an imaginary island described as having a perfect political and social system) and chiliastic scheme, the Anabaptist movement collapsed in the cataclysmic disorders under Jan Van Leyden and the catastrophe at Muenster in 1535.
7. In 1536, Menno Simons, a Roman priest from 1516 until 1536, embraced the Anabaptist doctrine, and affiliated himself with the more conservative members of the Anabaptist.
8. He was rebaptized by Obbe Philips, and spent the remainder of his life gathering the remnants of the Muenster catastrophe and organizing the scattered and leaderless Anabaptists into an orderly congregation.
9. He pursued his aims with such firmness and zeal that the Anabaptists soon became known by his name—Mennonites.
10. The first colony of Mennonites in America was organized in Germantown, under the guidance and with the aid of William Penn, in 1683.
11. In the following decades many Swiss Mennonites emigrated from southern Germany to America, and in the seventies of the nineteenth century, large groups of German and Swiss Menno-

- nites came from southern Russia to the United States and Canada.
12. In spite of the many migrations, the majority of the Mennonites have retained their ancestral customs and language.
  13. The American Mennonites may be grouped as follows:
    - a. The old order Amish, representing the most conservative.
    - b. The General Conference of the Mennonites of North America, the most liberal.
    - c. The Mennonite Church (The fusion of the original Mennonites and the main body of the Amish movement) forming the central party.

## DISCUSSION:

### I. THEIR DOCTRINAL POSITION.

- A. Though the Mennonites entertain widely divergent doctrinal views, they are all agreed on certain basic theological principles, summarized in their theology. Their source of Christian knowledge is the Bible, but at the same time the true understanding of saving truth is said to come from a mystical experience of Christ.
- B. This is “mysticism” (man ascends to and enters into union with the deity or deity comes down and speaks directly to man).
- C. The Brevis Confession of 1580 declares:
  1. Christ must be known and believed according to the spirit in His exaltation so that the form and image of Christ is developed in us, that He manifest Himself to us, dwells in us, teaches us, completes the miracles in us according to the spirit which He performed while in the flesh, heals us of the sickness of our spirit, blindness, impurity, sin, and death, nourishes us with heavenly food and makes us partakers of divine nature, so that by His power the old man in us is crucified, and we arise to a new life, experiencing the power of His resurrection.
- D. The Bible teaches:
  1. Rom. 1:16-17.
  2. John 3:16,36.
  3. John 6:47-51.
- E. The core idea of the Mennonites is **personal holiness**, to be achieved by a mystical pietism and to manifest itself in the outward purity of the church.

- F. Mennonites say that we are saved by faith. “All men without distinction, if as obedient children they would live according to God’s counsel, He has declared His true and rightful heirs.”

## II. A SUMMARY OF MENNONITE THEOLOGY.

- A. The law of Christ is contained in the Gospel, by obedience to which alone humanity is saved.
- B. Repentance and conversion, or complete change of life, without which no outward obedience to Gospel requirements will avail to please God, is necessary to salvation.
- C. All who have repented of their sins and believed on Christ as the Savior, and in heart and life accept His commandments, are born again.
- D. As such they obey the command to be baptized with water as a public testimony of their faith, are members of the church of Jesus Christ, and are incorporated into the communion of saints on earth.
- E. The Catechism states that the ground of justification in Mennonite Theology is not the “Christ for us, but the Christ in us,” for man is justified through the Lord Jesus alone, of whose righteousness we must become partakers through faith which works by love.
1. This basic principle seems more or less reflected in the eighteen articles of the Dort Confession.
  2. Article V speaks of the New Testament or the Gospel only as the Law of Christ, in which the whole counsel and will of God are comprehended.
  3. An extreme form of legalism characterizes the entire Mennonite theology.
  4. A theological system which consistently teaches a way of salvation by personal piety cannot take original sin and guilt seriously.
- F. Obedience to Christ’s law, the gospel, are ever recurring phrases, Mennonite theology Law and gospel are identified as essentially one and the same truth.
1. There is but one God, so there is but one truth, for God Himself is the truth.

### III. THE GOSPEL IS THE POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION.

- A. It is the revealed righteousness of God (Rom. 1:16,17).
1. It teaches that man must be born of water and of the Spirit to enter into the kingdom of God (John 3:5).
  2. The kingdom of God is the church (Matt. 16:18,19).
  3. The Lord adds to the church daily those that obey (Acts 2:38, 47).
  4. Baptism is a command (Acts 10:48).
  5. Baptism washes away sins (Acts 22:16).
  6. Baptism saves (1 Pet. 3:21).
  7. Belief alone cannot save, it must be accompanied with baptism (Mark 16:16).
  8. Baptism puts us in Christ (Rom. 6:3; Gal. 3:27).
  9. We are buried with Him into His death (Rom. 6:4-7).

#### CONCLUSION:

1. The Mennonites are probably best known today because of their traditional stand on non-resistance.
  2. The Mennonites hold that the Christian Gospel cannot be a part of the administrative or civil powers.
  3. When demanding oaths, inflicting capital punishment, or waging wars, the civil powers are said to be acting under the Old Testament dispensation or under human laws.
  4. They forbid all forms of luxury, membership in secret societies, any form of litigation, and the use of force.
  5. Women are obliged to wear the devotional covering in public worship.
  6. The Mennonites have established an enviable record through their honesty, integrity, industry, and other civic virtues.
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## IS THE "RAPTURE" A DOCTRINE OF GOD OR MAN?

—Garland M. Robinson—

Those who hold to the "rapture" theory say it refers to the time at which all the righteous dead and living will be "caught up" in the air while the unrighteous remain on earth. They say this begins the seven years "tribulation." But, don't expect to go to the Bible to find either the word rapture or the teaching of it—it's not there!

The teaching of the rapture is based on numerous false assumptions. The belief of it is easily destroyed by an unbiased examination of the Bible. There are numerous scriptural problems with the rapture:

**Too many resurrections of the dead.** This false system says Jesus will raise the righteous at the beginning of "seven years tribulation," which is another false doctrine, and the unrighteous at the end of it. Some claim as many as 4 resurrections of the dead. But Jesus said there is one general resurrection. "*Marvel not at this: for the **hour** is coming, in the which **all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation***" (John 5:28-29).

**Contradicts "last day" passages.** The New Testament is filled with passages which plainly speak of the "last **day**" not "last **days**." But the theory of the rapture not only has "days" but "years" involved in it! John 6:39,40,44,54 all speak of the "last day." Concerning Lazarus, "*Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at **the last day***" (John 11:24). Jesus made it plain in John 12:48, "*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**.*"

**Contradicts II Peter 3:10-12.** This passage says the Lord will come as a thief—when least expected. It will occur in a "day" and will be accompanied with a great noise when the earth and all its structures will melt with fervent heat. The rapture says the earth will continue to stand for at least seven years after the Lord's coming. This passage says the earth will be burned up. Now, which is it?

**Contradicts Revelation 1:7.** "*Behold, he cometh with clouds; and **every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him....***" The rapture theory says the righteous will disappear and the unrighteous will not know what happened to them. Will everyone see him or not? Which do you believe?

**THE RAPTURE IS THE DOCTRINE OF MAN, NOT GOD!**



Mike Tanaro

## RESUME

Mike Tanaro and wife Charlotte have three children, Dana 22, Trent 18, and Julie 16.

Mike attended the Sunset School of Preaching in 1972-74. Went to Botswana, Africa for two and half years. Spent two and half years doing associate minister work at Elizabethtown Church of Christ in Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

He has spent the last 12 years as Missionary Evangelist for the Lehman Ave. Church of Christ in Bowling Green Kentucky. These efforts include:

- New Congregation Established in (Larue County, Kentucky).
- Weak Congregation strengthened (Butler County, Kentucky).
- Trip to Pakistan
- Gospel Meetings and Youth Rallies.
- Lectures on the Home.

# CATHOLIC

*Mike Tanaro*

1. There are several reasons why one should not follow Catholic doctrine.

## DISCUSSION:

### I. THE SCRIPTURES ARE INSPIRED.

- A. *“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, thoroughly furnished unto all good works”* (II Tim. 3:16-17).
- B. *“Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake [as they were] moved by the Holy Ghost”* (II Peter 1:20-21).
  1. Man-made doctrines are not inspired of God.
  2. We don’t have the authority or privilege to change the commands of God.

### II. THE SCRIPTURES ARE ALL SUFFICIENT.

- A. For saving FAITH.
  1. *“And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name”* (John 20:30-31).
- B. For every good WORK.
  1. *“That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works”* (II Tim. 3:17).
- C. For life and GODLINESS.
  1. *“Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that [pertain] unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust”* (II Peter 1:2-4).

### III. THE SCRIPTURES ARE UNDERSTANDABLE.

- A. *“For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit”* (Eph. 3:1-5).
- B. *“And account [that] the longsuffering of our Lord [is] salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all [his] epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as [they do] also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know [these things] before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness. But grow in grace, and [in] the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him [be] glory both now and for ever. Amen”* (II Peter 3:15-18).
1. This does not agree with Catholicism or any other man made belief.

### IV. CHRIST IS SUPREME.

- A. *“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved”* (Acts 4:12).
- B. *“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ”* (I Cor. 3:11).

### V. CHRIST ALONE SAVES.

- A. *“Come unto me, all [ye] that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest”* (Matt. 11:28).

### CONCLUSION:

1. If we want to receive the blessings of God, we must heed to His teachings.
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**WHERE DID ALL THE RELIGIONS IN THE WORLD  
COME FROM? DID GOD START THEM?**

—Garland M. Robinson—

The Bible says plainly that *"God is not the author of confusion, but of peace"* (I Corinthians 14:33). God is not now, nor has he ever been, the originator of the various religious beliefs. When men differ in religion, it is due to their own designs, not God's! Everything God has done from the beginning has been to avoid confusion.

Jesus died on calvary to establish a new universal law (Hebrews 9:15-17; 10:9). It is the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2). This new law, which is the New Testament, is to be preached around the world to **every** creature (Mark 16:15-16) because all men everywhere are answerable to it (John 12:48). This ONE law, governing all men, will stand until judgment (Matthew 24:35). There should be no confusion over it. What God demands of people has always been clear and distinct! Men have never been left in the dark as to God's Word and Will.

Who then is to blame for religious division? In America, there are three main religious groups recognized: Catholic, Protestant, Jewish. The Bible does not authorize either of the three because it teaches there is only ONE FAITH, not many (Ephesians 4:5)! God's people are Christians and Christians only (Acts 11:26)—nothing more, nothing less. Christ is the head of the body of Christians (Ephesians 1:22-23). He prayed for there to be NO DIVISIONS among men (I Corinthians 1:10).

Division exists! People accept differing doctrines taught by many preachers but would stand appalled if one preacher were to teach all those different doctrines. Why is it accepted with many and not with one? *"There is **one body**, and **one Spirit**, even as ye are called in **one hope** of your calling; **one Lord**, **one faith**, **one baptism**, **one God**"* (Ephesians 4:4-6). Why do people accept there is ONE Spirit, Lord and God; but believe there are MANY bodies, faiths, and baptisms?

Confusion in religious matters comes about by adding to and taking from God's word. God did not start the religions of the world and therefore certainly does not accept them. Men must do what God says, not what seems right to them! *"And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say"* (Luke 6:46). *"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death"* (Proverbs 14:12).



Clayton Winters

## RESUME

Clayton Winters was born near Mountain City, TN on July 15, 1931. He and his wife Vivian are the parents of three children: Evelyn, Sandra, and David.

Clayton has been preaching for forty-two years. This includes full time work with congregations in Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee. Presently he is with the Broyles Street Church of Christ in Erwin, TN, where he has labored for the past twenty-eight years. He has also conducted gospel meetings in eight states.

He received his formal education at Milligan College and Immanuel School of Religion, Milligan, TN, specializing in Bible languages. He also holds an Honorary Preaching Certificate from Tennessee Bible College, Cookeville, TN.

Clayton has been a regular speaker on the Biblical Viewpoints TV program since its beginning over twelve years ago, and is also involved in weekly radio ministries in Erwin, TN., Jackson, MS, Bristol, VA-TN, and Luray, VA. He is the author of a number of books, workbooks, and tracts.

# THE EASTERN (GREEK) ORTHODOX CHURCH

*Clayton Winters*

1. Followers of Christ were repeatedly warned of the dangers of false teachers and apostasy (Matt. 7:15,16; 1 Tim. 4:1-3; 2 Pet. 2:1-3).
2. Failing to heed the Master's warnings, the church was indeed shredded by false teachers seeking preeminence over the Lord's body.

## DISCUSSION:

### I. AN OVERVIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS APOSTASY.

- A. The church established by Jesus Christ.
  1. Established A.D. 29 or 30, in the city of Jerusalem, on the first Pentecost after the resurrection of Christ, at about 9:00 a.m. on a Sunday morning (Isa. 2:1-3; Lev. 23:15,16; Acts 2:1,15).
  2. Each local congregation was autonomous, serving under its head Jesus Christ, and locally governed by men called bishops, pastors, elders, or overseers (Acts 14:23; 20:17,28; Eph. 4:11; 1 Tim. 3:1).
- B. The Roman Catholic Church.
  1. The Roman Church has a larger membership than all other "Christian" churches combined — over one billion members, fifty-five million of which are in the USA.
  2. This apostasy, anchored originally in a departure from God's plan of church government, began soon after the establishment of the church of Christ (Acts 20:28-30; 1 John 2:18,19), but took several centuries to reach its full-grown status—the Roman bishop as ruler over all the churches.
- C. The Eastern Orthodox Church.
  1. With the conversion of the Roman Emperor Constantine in the fourth century, Christianity became the state religion, and the church was organized around five centers called Patriarchates. These were (a) **Rome**, (b)

**Constantinople, (c) Alexandria in North Africa, (d) Antioch in the East, and (e) Jerusalem.**

2. From this point the Eastern churches began to drift away from Rome. By the sixth century the patriarch of Constantinople and Rome continued until A.D. 1054 when a complete rupture resulted in the division between the Roman and Eastern churches.

## **II. THE EASTERN ORTHODOX CATHOLIC CHURCH.**

- A. Having rejected the central control of Rome and its pope, the Eastern church retained the organization of regional bishops serving as leaders of their respective churches, with a presbyter acting as head of each local congregation. The Greek Church has about seventy million members (mostly in Russia), with fifty thousand in the USA.
- B. They do not hold to the doctrine of the infallibility of the church, rather the Bible serves as their written authority.
- C. Traditionally their bishops are not permitted to marry, but the presbyters can; baptism is performed by triple immersion; and they hold to the doctrine of transubstantiation.

## **III. BOTH THE EASTERN AND THE ROMAN CHURCH ARE APOSTATES FROM THE TRUE NEW TESTAMENT ORDER.**

- A. The New Testament church was locally overseen by a plurality of men called elders, bishops, pastors, or overseers (Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5; 15:2; 20:17; Phil. 1:1; Eph. 4:11; 1 Tim. 5:17; Heb. 13:17; 1 Pet. 5:1-3). The corruption of this organization by both the Romans and the Greeks has resulted in all sorts of evil departures from truth, among which are the following, characteristic of either one or both churches.
  1. The infallibility of the church or the pope (1 Cor. 4:6).
  2. One man ruling many or all churches (Acts 14:23; 3 John 9).
  3. Sprinkling and infant baptism (Rom. 6:3,4; Col. 2:11,12; Mark 16:16).
  4. The corruption of God's marriage laws (1 Tim. 4:1-3).
- B. May we as members of the body of Christ be made to realize that any departure from the truth is deadly, and can have



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implication for generations yet unborn. God help us to  
**“Buy the truth, and sell it not”** (Pro. 23:23).

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## RESUME

Jerry Brown

Birth: August 17, 1939, in Corbin, Kentucky

Marriage: February 24, 1967, to Judith Helton

Began Preaching: London, Kentucky, January 1, 1961

Education: Eastern Kentucky University, 1961, (B.A. with majors in English and Business; M. A. in 1967 with a major in School Administration; Additional graduate work at Eastern Kentucky University)

School Career: London High School (1961-1970), teacher of English; Sue Bennett College (1969-1971) part-time instructor in Economics; Laurel County High School (1972-1988) English Instructor; London Junior High School (1970-1972) Principal; Laurel County Schools (1980-1982) Athletic Director; Laurel County High School (1983-1988) Chairman, English Department; Kentucky Retired teacher (1988).

Churches Served: Mt. Zion Church of Christ, London, Kentucky (1961-1964); Shiner Church of Christ, Williamsburgh, Kentucky (1964-1967); Mt. Zion Church of Christ, London, Kentucky, (1967-Present).

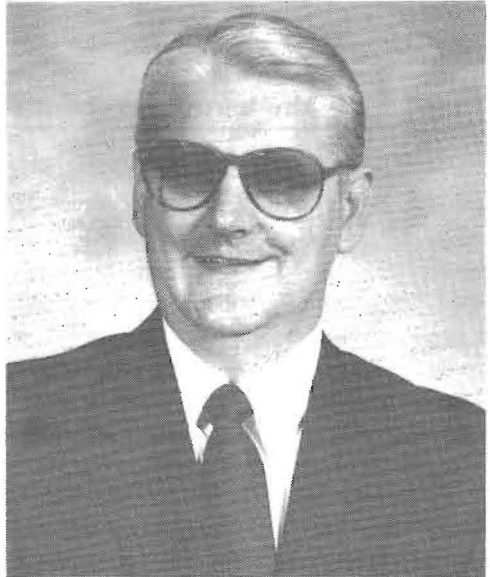
Gospel Meetings: Kentucky, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia, South Carolina, Preaching Appointments:

Papers: The World Evangelist, The Kentucky English Journal

Radio: Daily Program, Meditation, (WFTG, WWEL — London, since 1970), Sunday Morning Bible Lesson (WFTG, London, since 1967) Both programs have been continuous.

Baptism: January 10, 1953, Corbin, Kentucky

Address: P.O. Box 215  
London, Kentucky 40741



Jerry Brown

# BAPTIST

*Jerry Brown*

1. Brief history of the Baptist Church.
  - a. Origin.
  - b. John Smythe in Holland.
  - c. First Baptist church in England — 1611.
  - d. Particular Baptists in England — 1633, 1641.
  - e. American Baptists (Roger Williams and Ezekiel Holliman).
  - f. Creeds and Confessions of Faith.
2. Present Status.
  - a. Twenty-seven denominations.
  - b. More than twenty-five million members.

## I. CHURCH HISTORY AND DOCTRINE.

- A. Baptists' belief on the establishment of the church.
  1. Establishment in the days of John, the Baptist.
  2. Widely accepted idea.
- B. Scriptural teachings on establishment of the Church.
  1. Death of John (Matt. 14:1-12).
  2. Jesus' statement after the death of John (Matt. 16:18).
  3. Jesus' statement about the kingdom (Mark 9:1).
  4. Power given to the apostles (Acts 2:1-4).
  5. Rebaptism of John's disciples (Acts 19:1-5).
  6. John, a friend, not the bridegroom (John 3:29).

## II. BAPTIST TEACHING ON THE PLAN OF SALVATION.

- A. Salvation by faith only.
  1. Acceptance by most Baptists.
  2. Comforting doctrine.
- B. Scriptural teaching on faith and works.
  1. Faith without works (James 2:17,26).
  2. Demonstration of faith by works (James 2:18).
  3. Faith of devils (James 2:19).
  4. Perfection of faith only (James 2:22).
  5. Salvation, not by faith only (James 2:24).
- C. Repentance, then faith.
  1. Baptist proof text (Mark 1:15).

2. Explanation of text.
- D. Scriptural teaching on faith and repentance.
  1. Definition of Gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-4).
    - a. Before cross, no gospel.
    - b. Before cross, repentance to believe the gospel.
  2. Since the cross, faith, then repentance.
    - a. Heb. 11:6; Rom. 10:17
    - b. Acts 2:38, an example.
- E. Rightly divide the word (2 Tim. 2:15).
- F. Baptist's anti-scriptural confession.
  1. The confession **"God for Christ's sake has forgiven our sins"** — before baptism.
  2. Scriptural teaching.
    - a. Scriptural confession (Matt. 16:18).
    - b. Confession, a command (Matt. 10:32).
  3. Reasons for a confession.
    - a. Confession of man by Christ (Matt. 10:32).
    - b. For preacher's information (Acts 8:36-39).
    - c. For confessor's salvation (Rom. 10:10).
    - d. For God's glorification (Phil. 2:9-11).
- G. Baptism, a non-essential to salvation.
  1. Baptist practice of baptism — to enter the Baptist Church, not to find forgiveness of sins.
  2. Scriptural teaching on baptism.
    - a. To flee the wrath of God (Matt. 3:7).
    - b. To fulfill all righteousness (Matt. 3:15).
    - c. To obey a command of Christ (Mark 16:16).
    - d. To have a new birth (John 3:5).
    - e. To gain remission of sins (Acts 2:38).
    - f. To put one into Christ (Gal. 3:26-27).
    - g. To walk in newness of life (Rom. 6:1-4).
    - h. To save (1 Pet. 3:21).
    - i. To be added to the Church by the Lord (Acts 2:38).

### III. BAPTIST RELIGIOUS PRACTICE.

- A. Once saved, always saved.
  1. Doctrine — impossible to fall from Grace.
  2. Comforting doctrine.
- B. Scriptural teachings.
  1. Falling because of willful sins (Heb. 10:25-26).
  2. Falling from grace by obeying the law (Gal. 5:4).

3. Danger of falling (1 Cor. 9:27).
4. Peter's warning (2 Pet. 2:21-22).
- C. Baptist's — no salvation in a name.
- D. Scriptural teaching on the name.
  1. Same name for Adam and wife (Gen. 5:2).
  2. Adam, a figure of Christ (Rom. 5:14).
  3. Adam's symbolism to Christ; Adam's wife's symbolism to Christ's bride, the church (Rev. 22:17).
  4. Prophecy of a new name in Jerusalem (Isa. 62:1-2).
  5. Beginning of salvation with Jews (Acts 2:1-47).
  6. Beginning of salvation with Gentiles (Acts 10:1-48).
  7. Identification of Jews and Gentiles by a new name (Acts 11:26).
  8. Recognition of Christians by others (Acts 26:28).
  9. Command of Peter (1 Pet. 4:16).
  10. Salvation in the name (Acts 4:12).

#### **CONCLUSION:**

1. Other reasons too numerous to discuss.
  2. Need for Scriptures for all practice (2 Tim. 3:16-17; John 5:39).
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Paul Vaughn

## RESUME

Paul Vaughn was born in Maysville, Kentucky. He is married to the former Ricki Jett. He attended Maysville Community College, Lexington Technical Institution, and is a 1986 graduate of East Tennessee School of Preaching and Missions.

Paul has had articles published in several brotherhood journals; he has debated with the Independent Christian Church on the "Authority of the New Testament."

Brother Vaughn has preached for the Brown County Church of Christ in Ohio for five years and is presently the preacher for the Jackson Church of Christ in Jackson, Kentucky. In Brown County, Ohio and in Jackson, Kentucky, Paul has had a weekly radio program.

# CHRISTIAN CHURCH

*Paul Vaughn*

1. Churches of Christ and Christian Churches were once a united people.
  - a. Both stood for undenominational Christianity.
  - b. Both stood for the authority of Christ.
  - c. Both stood for the simplicity of worship that is described in the New Testament.
  - d. Both were united in fellowship based upon God's word.
2. Broken fellowship.
  - a. First wedge, Missionary Society (1849).
  - b. Second wedge, mechanical instrumental music (1859).
  - c. Third wedge, pious unimmersed.
  - d. Fourth wedge, theological liberalism.
  - e. Separation was completed in 1906.

## DISCUSSION:

### I. THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH DOES NOT RESPECT THE AUTHORITY OF CHRIST.

- A. All things practiced and taught in Christianity must have divine authority (Col. 3:17).
  1. God speaks exclusively through Christ Jesus (Heb. 1:1,2).
  2. Jesus declares that He has all authority (Matt. 28:18).
  3. Jesus placed that authority in His words (John 12:48).
  4. Jesus gave that authoritative word to the writers of the New Testament (John 14:26).
- B. God demands that we respect the authority of the New Testament.
  1. The teachings of men do not supersede the word of God (1 Cor. 4:6).
  2. We cannot go beyond the Doctrine of Christ (2 John 9).
- C. Practices in the Christian Church not authorized by God's word.
  1. Women preachers and elders.
  2. Open fellowship.
  3. Holy days.
  4. Mechanical instrumental music.

## **II. THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH ACCEPTS DENOMINATIONALISM.**

- A. Denominationalism is condemned in the New Testament.
  - 1. Jesus prayed that His followers be one (John 17:20-23).
  - 2. Paul taught against division (1 Cor. 1:10).
- B. The Christian Church promotes denominationalism when they practice open fellowship with different denominations.

## **III. THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH PRACTICES OPEN MEMBERSHIP.**

- A. There is only one way to be a member of the church, complete obedience to God's word.
  - 1. Hear the gospel (Rom. 10:17).
  - 2. Believe in Christ (John 8:24).
  - 3. Repent of sin (Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3).
  - 4. Confess Christ (Acts 8:36,37; Rom. 10:9).
  - 5. Be baptized (Acts 22:16).
- B. Christian Church receives those into their membership who have been sprinkled or have not been baptized (immersed).

## **IV. THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH ABIDES NOT IN THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST.**

- A. There is only one doctrine of christ (2 John 9).
  - 1. The doctrine of Christ is the teaching of Christ.
  - 2. To abide not in the doctrine of Christ is to lose God and His blessings.
  - 3. To abide not in the doctrine of Christ is to cross the boundary from saved to lost.
  - 4. To abide not in the doctrine of Christ is to be too progressive for God, Christ and the Scriptures.
- B. Christian church teaches that doctrine is not important when they fellowship those who teach false doctrines.

## **V. CHRISTIAN CHURCH PERVERTS THE WORSHIP TO GOD WITH MECHANICAL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.**

- A. There is only one type of music authorized by the New Testament.
  - 1. There are two types of music.
    - a. Vocal music.
    - b. Mechanical instrumental music.
  - 2. God authorized vocal music (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16).



- B. Mechanical instrumental music is sinful.
  - 1. It goes beyond the teachings of Christ (2 John 9).
  - 2. It makes the worship vain (Matt. 15:9).
  - 3. It is “will worship” (Col. 2:23).
  - 4. Examples of unauthorized worship:
    - a. Cain’s worship rejected (Gen. 4:5).
    - b. Nadab and Abihu punished (Lev. 10:1-3).
    - c. Polluted offerings (Mal. 1:6-10).
    - d. Cornelius (Acts 10:25,26).

## VI. CHRISTIAN CHURCH HAS WOMEN PREACHERS AND ELDERS.

- A. The Bible teaches that women cannot have dominion over men (1 Tim. 2:12; 1 Cor. 14:34,35).
- B. The Bible teaches to be an elder or a deacon one must be a man (1 Tim. 3:2,12).
- C. The Christian Church uses women as deacons, preachers, and elders.
  - 1. First ordination of a woman in the ministry of Christian Church was in 1988, her name was Mrs. Clara Babrock (*Christian Standard*, Vol. CXXIV. no. 30, August 6, 1989).
  - 2. Percentages of women deacons, elders, and preachers (Ibid.).
    - a. 7% deacons
    - b. 1% elders
    - c. 15% preachers

## CONCLUSION:

- 1. I chose not to become a member of the Christian Church:
    - a. Because they compromise the truth.
    - b. Because they have evolved into a denomination.
    - c. Because they went out from us and need to repent and return.
    - d. Because they reject the Restoration Plea to speak where the Bible speaks and be silent where the Bible is silent.
  - 2. The Christian Church has abandoned the authority of Christ.
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Jerry Stephenson

## RESUME

Jerry L. Stephenson is married to Rita "Zenon" Stephenson. They have four children: Margaret Angela, Nicole Lynn, Jerry Louis and Lydia Ann.

Jerry is serving as Preaching Minister and Deacon for the Midwest Church of Christ with a congregation of 250 active members in Louisville, Kentucky.

His education includes a two year Associate of Arts Degree from Martin Methodist Junior College, Pulaski, Tennessee; a B.S. Degree in Sociology with a minor Psychology from Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tennessee, 1972.

Under the leadership of Jerry, the Midwest Church of Christ is serving its members and community with multi-level ministries to include: Bus Ministry, Personal Worker's Ministry, Family Life and Development Center. This includes several ministries within the Family Ministry, including Family Counseling Ministry; Sewing and Design Ministry; Audio and Video Training Center; Single Parent Support Ministry; Wellness Ministry; and Youth Development School.

# METHODIST

*Jerry Stephenson*

1. God is not the author of confusion, but of peace.
  - a. *“For God is not [the author] of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints”* (I Cor. 14:33).
2. He broke down the barriers that separate men.
  - a. *“For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition [between us]”* (Eph. 2:14).
3. He abolished the enmity that divided men.
  - a. *“Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, [even] the law of commandments [contained] in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, [so] making peace”* (Eph. 2:15).
4. He reconciled men to both God and one another, and framed us as one.
  - a. *“In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit”* (Eph. 2:21-22).

## I. DEFINITIONAL UNDERSTANDING.

### A. Methodist.

1. A member of any branch of a Protestant Christian denomination that developed from the evangelistic teachings and works of John and Charles Wesley, George Whitefield and others in the first half of the 18th century: so called from the Methodist study and worship practice by the founders in the “Holy Club” at Oxford University (1929).
2. One who adheres to a method.

### B. Denomination — A part or sect which denotes division.

## II. SUBJECT OUTLINE.

- A. The Methodist was not founded upon the foundation of the Prophets and Apostles: Christ is not it’s chief corner stone.
  1. *“And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and*

*prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner [stone];” (Eph. 2:20).*

2. I didn't want to become a branch in a denomination, because I wanted to abide in the Vine of Life (John 15:1-7), not Charles and John Wesley.
  3. I didn't want to follow the philosophy of men, because I wanted to continue in the Apostles' doctrine.
    - a. Col. 2:8; Acts 2:42.
- B. The mission of the church is more than Social Issues.
1. I didn't want to belong to a “Social Club” in this world, I wanted to belong to a Heavenly family, who gives men eternal hope.
    - a. Eph. 3:8-15.
  2. I didn't want to carry out the works of John and Charles Wesley, but I wanted to be a **worker with God**, doing the will and the things God says do.
    - a. I Tim. 4:1-3; I Cor. 3:9; Matt. 7:21-23.
- C. My worship would have been out of order.
1. Gen. 4:1-8; Lev. 10:1-3.
  2. I didn't want to worship God as a formalized method, because I wanted to worship with all my heart, soul and mind.
    - a. Matt. 22:34-40.
  3. I didn't want to worship God from the Methodist Book of Worship 1965; the Ordinal of 1980; or the United Methodist hymnal of 1988, because I wanted to worship God in spirit and in truth.
    - a. John 4:24.

## CONCLUSION:

1. Men and women are blinded in a dark world, we must help them to see the hope in Christ, to renounce the hidden things of dishonesty and to not handle the Word of God deceitfully, but the truth as revealed by the Holy Scripture.
  - a. II Cor. 4:1-7.
  - b. II Tim. 3:16-17.

## WHAT IS "VAIN WORSHIP?"

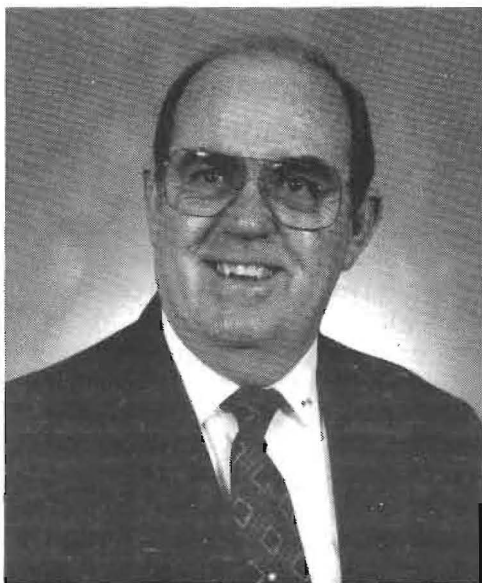
—Garland M. Robinson—

Jesus speaks of "vain worship" in Matthew and Mark. "Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But **in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men**" (Matthew 5:6-7; Mark 7:6-7).

It certainly is possible to worship God, and even do so with good intentions and sincerity of heart, and it not be acceptable. Jesus speaks of some who worshipped God but it was in vain! Why would God refuse worship directed to him? Should not he be pleased when his creatures worship him? Is this not what he desires? Jesus gives the answer as to why their worship was in vain—"teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (v.9). Instead of believing and teaching the things God had instructed, they chose to accept, along with God's commandments, their own *traditions* and *man-made laws*. This is explained further in Mark 7:8-13. They were laying aside the "commandment of God" to hold to the tradition of men (v.8). "And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition" (v.9). Jesus illustrates the point in verses 8-13.

The modern-day application of this same principle is everywhere. Many preachers are telling people to "join the church of your choice" and thereby worship God as "you choose." Does not God have a say in the matter? Are all churches acceptable with him? Not according to divine instruction! There is **one** body/church, **one** Spirit, **one** hope, **one** Lord, **one** faith, **one** baptism, **one** God (Ephesians 4:4-6). The denominational world is filled with man-made commandments and traditions: sprinkling, pouring, christening babies, mechanical instruments of music, Reverend, pastor, father, Easter observed as Christ's resurrection, Christmas celebrated as Christ's birthday, confirmation, pope, lighting candles, counting beads, choirs, creeds, manuals, disciplines, women preachers, faith only, once saved always saved, pre-millennialism, miracles, and on and on. ALL are commandments and traditions of men!

Right worship, acceptable worship, is according to God's Truth/Word (John 4:24). We walk by **faith**, not by **sight** (II Corinthians 5:7; Romans 10:17). All that we say and do must be by the authority of Christ (Col. 3:17). Anything else is VAIN WORSHIP!



Roy Doss

## RESUME

Roy T. Doss was born in Roanoke, Va. September 21, 1930. A veteran of the U.S. Navy. He is married to Joyce Young Doss and they have seven Children and eight grandchildren.

Roy is a graduate of Freed-Hardemam College, 1959. He has been preaching for thirty-seven years.

His work includes full time work in Kentucky, Virginia, and Mississippi. He has held meetings in: Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina.

# SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

*Roy T. Doss*

1. The second advent has manifested itself all along.
  - a. Immediately after His departure it was reported that Jesus would return before John died (John 21:21-23).
  - b. Later the Thessalonians were carried away with the idea that His return was right at hand (2 Thess. 2:1-5).
2. In the eighteenth century; Swedenborg was possessed with the idea that the second coming of Jesus was to take place in his revelations.
3. In the nineteenth century:
  - a. Joanna Southcott of England, started her fanatical sect on the same idea — the second advent at hand.
  - b. Ann Lee, the leader of the Shakers, claimed that she was the second coming of Christ.
  - c. The Mormons are built upon the same theory, the second advent at hand, thus Latter-Day Saints.

## DISCUSSION:

### I. THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST.

- A. Founder: Mrs. Ellen G. White.
  1. Through her numerous visions she directed the most successful attempts to keep Adventist hopes alive.
  2. She was a prolific writer; she produced 53 books and several thousands articles.
  3. Adventists regard her books as having been written under divine guidance.
  4. They accept her visions as genuine.
- B. Headquarters:
  1. In 1855 they set up their headquarters in Battle Creek, Michigan.
  2. In 1903 they moved their headquarters to its present location in Washington, D.C.
- C. Adventist beliefs:
  1. As their name suggests, Seventh-day Adventists advocate worshipping on the Sabbath instead of Sunday.
  2. That the Ten Commandments are still binding upon all

- mankind.
3. Again as their name indicates, they are Adventists that is, they are awaiting anxiously the second coming of Jesus.
    - a. The return of Jesus will be literal and personal.
    - b. Will precede a period of 1,000 years.
  4. Adventists also believe at the end of this 1,000 year period:
    - a. The wicked of all ages will be resurrected.
    - b. Only to be immediately destroyed by fire from heaven.
  5. Adventists believe that the condition of man in death is one of unconsciousness.
  6. They believe in the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- D. Membership in the Seventh-day Adventist Church depends:
1. Upon the acceptance of the doctrinal beliefs of the denomination.
  2. An entire transformation of life and character by the recreative power of God, through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
  3. They practice immersion as an ordinance.
    - a. They believe that baptism is an outward testimony of faith in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.
    - b. They believe that baptism follows forgiveness of sins.

## II. THE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH IS WRONG BECAUSE:

- A. Wrong founder.
1. Christ founded the scriptural church (Matt. 16:18).
  2. Jesus Christ is the scriptural foundation (1 Cor. 3:11; Eph. 2:20).
- B. Headquarters in wrong place.
1. Zechariah said that Christ "*shall sit and rule upon his throne*" (Zech. 6:13).
  2. Christ is now sitting at God's right hand (Acts 2:30-35).
- C. Its doctrine is false.
1. Wrong day of worship.
    - a. The Jerusalem church continued in the apostles teaching (Acts 2:42).
    - b. Church at Troas met on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7).
    - c. The early church gave of their means on the first day



- of the week (1 Cor. 16:1-2).
2. Old law done away.
    - a. Old law nailed to the cross (Col. 2:13-15).
    - b. Law has been changed (Heb. 7:12).
  3. We do not know the time of the Lord's return.
    - a. He will come as a thief in the night (1 Thess. 5:2; 2 Pet. 3:10).
    - b. No man knows the time of the Lord's return (Matt. 26:36,42).
  4. When the Lord returns there will be no 1,000 year reign.
    - a. There will be a judgment (Matt. 25:31-46; 2 Thess. 1:7-9).
    - b. The earth will be dissolved (2 Pet. 3:10-12).
  5. The Bible teaches that man is conscious in death (Luke 16:19-31).
- D. Membership in the Seventh-Day Adventist Church is different to the Bible.
1. Membership in the Lord's church is based upon an obedient faith in Christ Jesus (Mark 16:15-16).
  2. The Lord adds to the church (Acts 2:47).

### CONCLUSION:

1. Let us be faithful to the God of heaven who loves us and gave His Son for us.
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Bill Brumit

## RESUME

Bill Brumit was born and reared in Bowling Green, Kentucky. His wife's name is Linda, and they have three children.

Bill attended Bowling Green High School. He graduated *summa cum laude* from David Lipscomb College in 1967, majoring in Bible and minoring in Greek. He attended Vanderbilt Divinity School, Harding Graduate School of Religion, and the University of Louisville. He obtained his M.A. degree from Western Kentucky University in 1990.

Bill started preaching as a senior in high school, beginning full-time work in 1968. He had served churches in Opelika, Alabama; Nashville, Tennessee and Louisville, Kentucky. He is presently the pulpit minister of the Greenwood Park church in Bowling Green, where he has served for 18 years.

Bill has written several Bible class workbooks. His articles have been published in several brotherhood publications. He has been the speaker on a weekly thirty-minute radio program for 18 years.

# THE SIN OF DENOMINATIONALISM

*Bill Brumit*

1. In the past we have been known for our opposition to denominationalism.
2. The Restoration Movement in America was a response to the sin of denominationalism. "All denominations are sinful; every one is formed by adding to the things God ordained. God ordained simple churches of Jesus Christ." — David Lipscomb
3. Today our stand against denominationalism appears to be weakening.
4. Many brethren are expressing discontent with doctrinal preaching and looking for inspiration to the practices of our religious neighbors.
5. We need to know what denominationalism is and why it is wrong.

## DISCUSSION:

### I. THE ONE CHURCH OF THE BIBLE.

- A. *Ekklesia* (assembly) is used in two senses only in the N.T.
  1. Literal — a local group of Christians who actually assemble for worship, discipline, etc. (1 Cor. 14:23,34; Gal. 1:2).
  2. Figurative — the church universal, the sum of all Christians everywhere, a spiritual assembly (Matt. 16:18; Eph. 3:21).
- B. Not found in the N. T. is the modern idea of the church as a denomination, something larger than the local church but smaller than the church universal.
- C. Jesus promised to build but one church (Matt. 16:18). He prayed that His disciples might be one, as He and the Father are one (John 17:21).
- D. Paul stresses the unity of the church (Rom. 12:; 1 Cor. 12; Eph. 4). He condemns the party spirit of the Corinthians (1 Cor. 1:10-15).
- E. We do not have to idealize the situation in the first century. A sectarian spirit was sometimes seen. Divisions were sometimes experienced. But never in the N.T. does a

sectarian spirit or division receive divine approval.

## II. WHAT IS DENOMINATIONALISM?

- A. Common expressions of it: “Attend the church of your choice”; “We are all headed to the same place”; “One church is a good as another.”
- B. Denominationalism holds that religious diversity is healthy. Variety is a sign of life and strength, and should be celebrated, not mourned.
- C. A denomination is a religious body with a name, some type of organizational structure, and an identifiable set of beliefs and practices, and which views itself as a part of the church universal.
- D. At one time denominational lines were sharply drawn. Creeds and traditions kept Baptists, Presbyterians, Methodists, etc. at arm’s length. Loyalty to a religious party was highly prized.
- E. Today most denominations accept one another and cooperate freely at all levels. Denominational lines are blurred. A conservative Baptist will have much more in common with a conservative Presbyterian than a liberal member of his own group.
- F. Allegiance to denominations is not what it used to be. Old religious labels mean less in today’s environment of secular humanism and unbelief.
- G. In this sense, denominationalism is in decline. But the basic conviction that there is no one right way to God is as firmly entrenched as ever.

## III. WHAT IS WRONG WITH DENOMINATIONALISM?

- A. It does not take seriously the N.T. teaching about the unity of the church.
- B. It contributes to disrespect for the Bible as the absolute standard of truth.
- C. It creates a spirit of relativism which says that all that matters is sincerity. (Note: Having a moral or political right to express a belief does **not** mean that that belief is right.)
- D. Division fosters unbelief in the world (John 17:21).

## IV. ARE WE A DENOMINATION?

- A. One branch of the Restoration Movement, the Disciples of

- Christ, has rejected the pattern concept and become a denomination in all respects.
- B. Many in our own fellowship are expressing one or all of the following ideas:
1. The New Testament allows for much greater variety in worship and organization than we have been willing to permit.
  2. We have a name and a set of beliefs and practices, so we are a denomination, in spite of our denials. We need to admit this.
  3. Holding ourselves aloof from other religious groups is a mark of spiritual pride and Phariseeism. We have fought the sects with a sectarian spirit.
- C. Obviously, these thoughts cannot be responded to in the time allotted here. These points only can be made:
1. Is the church of the Bible a denomination? No! Can we be the church of the Bible? Yes! Since the church of the Bible is not a denomination and since we can be members of the church of the Bible, the restoration plea is valid!
  2. A pure N.T. Christianity cannot be maintained in the absence of a pure religious speech. When we talk about “other denominations” or the “Church of Christ Church,” the concept of non-denominational Christianity is weakened.
  3. Many congregations need renewal. We should seek renewal by opening ourselves afresh to the **Word of God**, not by slavishly copying the practices and attitudes of our religious neighbors.

### CONCLUSION:

1. Unity at all costs is not pleasing to God. As important as unity is, our supreme allegiance must not be to unity, but to Christ and His Word.
2. Outward unity might be maintained for a while by compromising the truth, but such a unity would not be the “unity of the Spirit.”
3. “When a decision must be made between unity and truth, unity must yield to truth; for it is better to be divided by truth than to be united by error.” — Edward John Carnell



Timothy Hall

## RESUME

Timothy Hall was born in Harlan County, Kentucky, just outside of Cumberland. He graduated from Cumberland High School, and attended Freed Hardeman College, where he received B.A. degrees in Bible and in Communications in 1976. He also received the M.A. degree from the University of Wisconsin at Madison in Communication Arts in 1978.

He married Joyce Edlin in 1976, and they have three children: Nathan 14; David 12; and Rebecca, age 8.

Tim has been minister for the Central Church of Christ in Johnson City since 1983. Prior to that, he served as associate minister of the Northeast Church of Christ, in Shiloh, TN. He has been preaching since age 14.

He also has been active throughout the years in radio broadcasts, occasional television appearances, and newspaper work. He has worked with the High Rock Bible Camp in various capacities for about 16 years.

# HUMANIST

*Timothy Hall*

1. What do these have in common: **Isaac Asimov**, the late popular science fiction writer; **John Dewey**, the “father of modern education”; Harvard professor of psychology **B.F. Skinner**; **Betty Friedan**, founder of the National Organization of Woman; **Alan Guttmacher**, past president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America; **Lester Mondale**, father of past Democratic Presidential candidate Walter Mondale; and **Joseph Fletcher**, author of book, “Situation Ethics.” These were signers of either the Humanist Manifesto I or II.
2. These are, or have been, influential people in our society. Should we not follow their lead? Upon examination, I have chosen not to become a humanist. You need to consider the facts, too.

## DISCUSSION:

### I. BACKGROUND: A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF HUMANISM.

- A. The term “humanism” sounds like an attempt to provide humanitarian assistance. Nothing could be wrong with this, could there?
- B. Some statements from the *Humanist Manifesto I* of 1933:
  1. “Religious humanists regard the universe as self-existing and not created.”
  2. “Religious humanism considers the complete realization of human personality to be the end of man’s life and seeks its development and fulfillment in the here and now. This is the explanation of the humanist’s social passion.”
  3. “Though we consider the religious forms and ideas of our fathers no longer adequate, the quest for the good life is still the central task for mankind. Man is at last becoming aware that he alone is responsible for the realization of the world of his dreams, that he has within himself the power for its achievement.”
- C. Some statements from the *Humanist Manifesto II* of 1973:
  1. “As in 1933, humanists still believe that traditional

theism, especially faith in the prayer-hearing God, assumed to love and care for persons, to hear and understand their prayers, and to be able to do something about them, is an affirmation still appears as harmful, diverting people with false hopes of heaven hereafter. Reasonable minds look to other means for survival.”

2. “As non-theists we begin with humans, not God, nature, not deity.”
  3. “...We can discover no divine purpose or providence for the human species. While there is much that we do not know, humans are responsible for what we are or will become. No deity will save us; we must save ourselves.”
  4. “Ethics is autonomous and situational, needing no theological or ideological sanction. Ethics stem from human need and interest.”
  5. “To enhance freedom and dignity the individual must experience a full range of civil liberties in all societies. ... It also includes a recognition of an individual’s right to die with dignity, euthanasia, and the right to suicide.”
- D. Observations on these points from the manifestos:
1. Note the constant emphases on the thesis, “God isn’t.” This is a drastic reversal of the prevailing view for decades in America that “God is.”
  2. Note also that when God is removed from the picture, man is the measure of all things. Man is the judge of right and wrong, and every issue is again open to question.
  3. Jim Laws in *The Journal For Building Better Christian Homes*, August 1990, p. 11, summed up the direction of humanism:
    - a. Humanism denies the existence of God.
    - b. Humanism believes in the upward evolution, not digression, of human societies.
    - c. Humanism believes in science as the answer to all of man’s needs. (Julian Huxley: “Science not only helps us understand the world and control it, but it also produces values and morals for us; solves our moral problem.”)
    - d. Humanism believes man is the center of the universe.
  4. Have such ideas and beliefs taken hold? Just compare America today with America of twenty years ago!



E. In 1849, William Ernest Henley wrote “Invictus”:

Out of the night that covers me,  
 Black as the pit from pole to pole,  
 I thank whatever gods may be  
 For my unconquerable soul.  
 In the fell clutch of circumstance  
 I have not winced nor cried aloud.  
 Under the bludgeonings of chance  
 My head is bloodied, but unbowed.  
 Beyond this place of wrath and tears  
 Looms but the Horror of the shade,  
 and yet the menace of the years  
 finds, and shall find, me unafraid.  
 It matters not how strait the gate,  
 How charged with punishments the scroll.  
 I am the master of my fate,  
 I am the captain of my soul.

## II. A CHRISTIAN RESPONDS TO HUMANISM.

A. Man’s attempts to guide himself are futile:

1. Is it really true that we are the masters of our fate, captains of our souls? If so, it is a sinking ship we are guiding!
2. (Gen. 11) — The builders of the tower of Babel were convinced they were the masters of their fate. Yet their project failed!
3. *“O LORD, I know that the way of man [is] not in himself; [it is] not in man that walketh to direct his steps”* (Jer. 10:23).
4. *“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof [are] the ways of death”* (Pro. 14:12).
5. Compare: God’s ways with man’s ways:
  - a. God promises guidance and help; humanism denies that there is a God, and thus lowers morale.
  - b. God gives a system of morals which results in functioning, happy homes and societies; humanism gives us immorality, free sex, sexually transmitted diseases and AIDS.
  - c. God gives life; humanism offers euthanasia and suicide.

- d. God gives happy homes with the laughter of infants; humanism offers sterile and cold abortion clinics.
  - e. God gives a creation that serves the needs of man; humanism elevates animals to the level of humans, and makes humans serve their needs.
6. Is there any way at all in which humanism is superior?  
None!
- B. God will demonstrate His wisdom in due time.
- 1. A common tactic is to ridicule the “old fashioned, antiquated” views of “religionists.” Those who promote humanism feign wisdom, and take an arrogant attitude.
  - 2. Psalm 2:1-5 — Heathen have often raged against God. But in the end, God will have the last laugh!
  - 3. I Cor. 1:18,19 — Others may call us foolish, but God will destroy the “wisdom” of the “wise.”
  - 4. Psalm 14:1 — In due time it will be shown that the fools are the ones who have denied God.
  - 5. Let us not be intimidated, We have truth, reason and logic on our side. We will be exonerated!
- C. Christians must take the offensive in this battle.
- 1. In the last twenty years, we have been passive. Humanism has had its effect on the church!
  - 2. II Cor. 4:3,4 — We must recognize the evil force behind such efforts. It is Satan who is blinding the minds of men.
  - 3. II Cor. 10:4,5 — Christians have been given effective weapons! Our job is to put them to use, and take captive every thought.
  - 4. But if Christians remain passive, and allow their children and their friends to be won to the thinking of humanism, we will one day realize the awful condition we are in!

### CONCLUSION:

- 1. To the extent that humanism pushes Christianity out as an influence in America, to that extent, light has been pushed aside by darkness.
- 2. But light still has tremendous power over darkness! Dorothea Day wrote “My Captain” as an answer to Henley’s “Invictus”:  
**Out of the light that dazzles me,  
 Bright as the sun from pole to pole,  
 I thank the God I know to be**

For Christ the conqueror of my soul.  
Since His the sway of circumstance,  
I would not wince nor cry aloud.  
Under that rule which men call chance  
My head with joy is humbly bowed.  
Beyond this place of sin and tears  
That life with Him! And His the aid,  
Despite the menace of the years,  
Keeps, and shall keep, me unafraid.  
I have no fear, though strait the gate,  
He cleared from punishment the scroll.  
Christ is the Master of my fate,  
Christ is the Captain of my soul.

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Eddy Craft

## RESUME

Eddy Craft was born October 15, 1947. His wife's name is Betty and they have three children: Brian 25, Vickie 23, and Howard 22.

Eddy was baptized in 1969, and is a graduate of Memphis School of Preaching, 1972. He also graduated from Tennessee Bible College in 1988.

He has been minister of the Elizabethton Church of Christ in Elizabethton, Tennessee, for the past ten years and continues to labor with this congregation at the present time.

He is founder of "Biblical Viewpoints Television Program" and preaches on four radio programs.

# PENTECOSTAL

*Eddy Craft*

1. As a young man, on Signal Mountain, Tennessee I was a member of the denominational Church of God of Prophecy, therefore, I believe I can speak with some authority from a Pentecostal perspective, as well as from the Lord's Church on this subject.
2. It is not my intent in this lesson to make a personal attack on them or to question their sincerity and dedication for what they believe. I do however, believe that they are lost or else I would have stayed with them.
3. I want to examine many things they believe that the Bible doesn't teach. I chose not to be a Pentecostal because:

## **DISCUSSION:**

- I. THEY GO BY FEELINGS RATHER THAN A THUS SAITH THE LORD.**
  - A. They will pat their chests and talk about what they feel in their hearts.
  - B. Some have even said they would rather have what they feel in their heart than all the Bibles in the world.
  - C. While it is true that feeling right and having a good conscience is good, that is not sufficient, there is more!
  - D. My Pentecostal friends need to consider the following passages:
    1. Prov. 28:26; 14:12
    2. Matt. 7:21-23
- II. THEY DON'T PRACTICE WHAT THEY PREACH.**
  - A. They claim they can heal the sick and raise the dead but they can't.
  - B. How many cemeteries have they cleaned out?
  - C. Many of their people die and their preachers preach funerals.
  - D. No one has the power today to raise the dead.

### III. THEY ALL CLAIM TO HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY GHOST AND YET THEY ARE DIVIDED.

- A. Which Holy Ghost are we to believe?
- B. Some say there are three in the Godhead but others say no, there is only one!
- C. Some say if you don't speak in tongues you are not saved but others say that is not so.
- D. Some of them say water baptism is essential to salvation but others say no!
- E. Some say you must partake of the Lord's Supper every Lord's Day, others say no!
- F. How could so many people be led by the Holy Ghost and yet believe so many doctrines?

### IV. THEY HAVE THE WRONG PLAN OF SALVATION.

- A. We were told in the Church of God of Prophecy to come to the mourners bench and pray and maybe we would be saved.
- B. Friends, the Bible no where, I mean no where speaks of a mourners bench much less mourners bench salvation!
- C. Many of these folks talk about the sinner's prayer. By the way, where does the Bible speak of the sinners prayer?
  1. As a matter of fact the Bible says God doesn't hear sinners (John 9:31).
  2. *"For the eyes of the Lord [are] over the righteous, and his ears [are open] unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord [is] against them that do evil"* (1 Peter 3:12).
  3. Also consider Isa. 59:1-2.
- D. God's plan of salvation is plain:
  1. **HEAR THE GOSPEL** — Rom. 10:17; John 8:32
  2. **BELIEVE THE GOSPEL** — Heb.11:6; Mark 16:16; Acts 8:37
  3. **REPENT OF SINS** — Luke 13:3,5; Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30-31
  4. **CONFESS CHRIST** — Matt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10; Acts 8:37
  5. **BE BAPTIZED** — Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; I Pet. 3:21; Gal. 3:27

### V. THEY HAVE THE WRONG SYSTEM OF WORSHIP.

- A. They use all kinds of instruments of music in their worship, drums, guitars, etc.

- B. But the Bible teaches that worship must be done in *Spirit* and *Truth* (John 4:24).
- C. In our worship to God, we are to *sing* (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16-17).
- D. We should never forget that not all worship is acceptable to God. There are various kinds of worship:
  - 1. **Ignorant Worship** — Acts 17:23
  - 2. **Vain Worship** — Matt. 15:9; Mark 7:7
  - 3. **Will Worship** — Col. 2:20-23
  - 4. **True Worship** — John 4:24
- E. The way we worship *does* make a difference!

## VI. THEY ALLOW WOMEN TO BE PREACHERS.

- A. The Bible is quite clear on this matter.
  - 1. *“Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence”* (1 Tim. 2:11-12).
- B. In the New Testament no woman was ever mentioned as being a:
  - 1. Elder
  - 2. Apostle
  - 3. Preacher, etc
- C. The Pentecostal view on this point is false.
- D. Even concerning tongue speaking, I don't know of a case mentioned in the Bible, where a woman was ever told to speak in tongues (1 Cor. 14:34).

## CONCLUSION:

- 1. For the most part the real problem is one of Bible authority, Speaking where the Bible speaks and being silent where the Bible is silent.
  - 2. There are other reasons but these, which we have looked at in this lesson, are some of the major reasons why I chose not to be a Pentecostal!
  - 3. Brethren, I don't want to be a member of any denominational church. The Lord only has **one church** and that is the one of which I want to be a member. If we will follow the New Testament pattern, we can be the New Testament Church.
-



**Benjamin Barr**

## **RESUME**

Benjamin J. Barr was born July 28, 1948 in Kingstree, South Carolina. He is married and he and his wife have five children.

In 1969, he received a B.S. degree in Education, then in 1971 he attended Benedict College in SC, and from 1975-1977 he attended the East Tennessee School of Preaching and Missions and received an Associate of Arts Degree in Bible. He also attended the University of Tennessee, University of South Carolina, and Columbia Bible College from 1979-1985.

His career includes: two years in the US Navy; Counselor at South Carolina Opportunity School; Minister of Park City Church of Christ in Knoxville, TN; Assistant in Preaching at Plaza Church of Christ in Sumter, South Carolina; Minister of the Kingsbury Drive Church of Christ in Sumter, South Carolina; Minister of the Bishopville Church of Christ; and from 1990 unto the present he is Evangelist and Coordinator for Mission Work in Central South Carolina.

Further activities include: Member of Children at Risk Committee; Member of Advisory Board E.T.S.O.P.&M; Establishment of Churches of Christ in several Mission areas; and other Mission involvement work.



# ARMSTRONG

*Benjamin J. Barr*

1. My mother, through her search for a better knowledge of God's word, became a member of the World Wide Church of God over 25 years ago, so I am no stranger to this particular movement.
2. My first encounter with Armstrongism goes back to my freshman year in College when my mother invited me to church with her. The experience was a very negative one. All of the blacks were compelled to sit together. The reason being, every tribe must identify with their own kind. From that point on I had no desire to attend there again. That is one reason I chose not to follow Armstrong.
3. This movement may be known as Armstrongism, after its founder Herbert Armstrong. It is also known as, by its earlier title, **The Radio Church of God** or by its present name the **World Wide Church of God**. The radio and television program is known as **The World Tomorrow**.
4. No matter what the movement may be known as, this movement is experiencing remarkable growth.
5. Just recently I heard my mother expressing how the church is relaxing a lot of traditional rules, hoping to stimulate more interest in the church. Worship is no longer closed to the public. You can now visit other churches, or only a few.

## I. ARMSTRONGISM – ORIGIN.

### A. Its beginning.

1. In 1926 Mrs. Armstrong was convinced by Ora Runcorn in Salem, Oregon:
  - a. The Sabbath is still binding on Christians.
  - b. After six months, Mr. Armstrong became convinced of the same.
2. New affiliation.
  - a. In 1927 he identified with the Seventh-day Church of God.
  - b. In 1933 he went with a division led by A. N. Dugger, creating the Church of God (Seventh-day).
3. Broadcasting & Publication.

- a. In 1934 he began his radio work.
- b. This program is now heard on over 300 radio stations.
- c. Television programs are national and international.
- d. The Plain Truth magazine was first published in February 1973.
  - 1) It is free to all its subscribers.
  - 2) It's usually found in supermarkets and doctor's offices.
4. Divine Origin of the Church.
  - a. He claims that 90% of the Bible prophecies began to be fulfilled in 1934 at the commencement of his work.
  - b. Mr. Armstrong says "This might sound incredible—but it's true—Jesus Christ foretold this very work, which is, the fulfillment of his prophecy (Matt. 24:14, Mark 13:10)."
    - 1) A personal letter was written to Robert Sumner on Nov. 27, 1958.
- B. Jesus' Church and its beginning.
  1. It was designed before the foundation of the world (Titus 1:1-3).
  2. Established in 33 A.D.
    - a. By the will of God (Matt. 16:18).
  3. Mr. Armstrong's Church has no biblical base...
    - a. Because he founded it...
    - b. He controlled it...
    - c. He profited from it...
    - d. He named it...
  4. Because of these and many other factors I reject Armstrongism.

## II. ARMSTRONG'S MAJOR TEACHINGS.

- A. The Sabbath Day.
  1. The New Testament Church, both Jewish and Gentile, observe the Sabbath says Herbert Armstrong.
    - a. Seldom have I discussed religious matters with my mother and her sister without the importance of the Sabbath being mentioned.
    - b. Is the Sabbath for Christians today?
  2. The Sabbath was never given to Gentiles nor Christians (Deut. 5:15).
    - a. Added to God's moral laws.

3. Do Christians keep the law?
    - a. God's laws have been in existence before Mount Sinai (Gen. 26:5).
    - b. God's moral laws are for Christians today (Rom. 13:8).
  4. Was not the law nailed to the cross? (Col. 2:12)
    - a. If the law was canceled, what law do we keep?
    - b. The ceremonial law was blotted out, not the moral law or commandment.
    - c. God's moral laws must be kept.
  5. Demands of the law.
    - a. Mercy can't be given under the law.
    - b. What is the law? A legal code demanding observance and punishing violators.
    - c. From Adam, God's moral law has been broken (Rom. 10:4).
    - d. Therefore, all must be punished.
  6. Christ fulfilled the demand of the law.
    - a. Christ came not to destroy the law (Matt. 5:17).
    - b. The law came to an end with Christ (Rom. 10:4).
    - c. In Christ we keep the moral laws of God (Rom. 8:3-4).
  7. The Sabbath is not a moral law?
    - a. Christians are under no obligation to keep it.
    - b. This fatal flaw invalidates Mr. Armstrong's entire system.
- B. Will you go to Heaven asks Mr. Armstrong?
1. Listen to him:
    - a. "Think for a moment! How many sermons can you recall attempting to PROVE heaven is the destiny of Christians? Probably you can recall MANY where heaven was mentioned, was contrasted to a supposed ever-burning hell, or was described. Probably you have heard many hundreds of references to heaven as the final reward! But did you ever hear a sermon that PROVED it? No, you never did? Do you know why? Because it CAN'T BE PROVEN! " (*The Plain Truth*, Oct. 1961, page 16).
    - b. Going to heaven is a pagan doctrine preached by deluded men according to Armstrong.
  2. What does the scripture teach about heaven?
    - a. God's throne is in heaven (Psa. 11:4).
    - b. Elijah was taken to heaven (II Kings 1:11).

- c. Heaven rejoices when a sinner repents (Luke 15:7).
- d. Every Christian is a citizen of heaven (Phil. 3:20).
- C. Armstrong denies the immortal soul.
  - 1. “You have already read—as quoted from your Bible—the proof that a soul as an animal, a body can die.” (*Do you have an immortal soul?* 1971 page 2.)
    - a. “When a human being dies, mind and soul are all dead. He simply stops being.” (Ibid, page 41).
  - 2. Jesus taught that the dead are still alive.
    - a. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were still alive during his day (Matt. 22:23-33).
    - b. Jesus taught that the soul couldn’t be killed (Matt. 10:28).
  - 3. Who shall we listen to, Mr. Armstrong or Jesus?
    - a. I believe it is safer to listen to Jesus...

### III. SUMMARY OF ARMSTRONG’S BELIEFS.

- A. First of all, non-Armstrong churches are satanic and any objection to his doctrine is labeled persecution.
- B. The Holy Spirit is an impersonal force.
  - 1. Not a person, but an influence from God...
- C. The body of Jesus that was nailed to the cross is not the one resurrected.
- D. Anglo-Saxons are the lost of Israel.
- E. Each member is required to give three tithes.
  - 1. One to Pasadena, one for feasts and holy days and one every three years.
- F. Selective morality...drugs, smoking, and lust are forbidden but alcoholic beverages and dancing are accepted.
- G. Since this is Satan’s world, Christians are not responsible for keeping any more of the laws of society than necessary to keep them out of court.
- H. If a person becomes a member of the church and their mate does not, they must prepare to separate from that mate.
- I. Members are forbidden to answer questions about their religion unless the one asking desires to become a member.

### CONCLUSION:

- 1. Mr. Armstrong has many fallacies we have not dealt with.
- 2. I pray that this small message will help someone to see the error in this teaching.

3. For years I have talked with my own mother about this church—I do believe I have made some impact on what she believes—yet not enough to cause her to renounce this way.
  4. Peter warns us about false teachers (II Pet. 2:1,3). May we take his warning to heart by standing against the cults of our day.
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Charles Moore

## RESUME

Charles E. Moore was born July 28, 1939, began preaching December, 1957 and full-time since June, 1964. He is married to LaJuania Holland Moore and they have three children: Charles Steven; David Keith and John Holland.

Charles attended David Lipscomb University, Nashville, Tennessee; Morehead State University, Morehead, Kentucky.

He has served full time for: Central Church of Christ — Harrisonburg, VA (1964-1969); Highland Village Church of Christ — Bloomington, IN (1969-1971); Berea Church of Christ — Berea, KY (1971-1975); Frankfort Church of Christ — Frankfort, KY (1975-1979); North Lexington Church of Christ — Lexington, KY (1979-Present).

Charles has done both radio and television work throughout his ministry, also speaks for Lectures, Gospel Meetings, Camps, etc. He organized and directs the "Cane Ridge Restoration Lectureship" and has done so for the past twelve years, in addition to the Lectureship he conducts tours of various restoration sites in the area.

# WHY I CHOSE TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Charles E. Moore*

1. If you believe the Bible to be the Word of God, surely you will want to be a member of the church revealed in the Bible!
  - a. Denominationalism is foreign to the Word of God.
  - b. If just any church will do:
    - 1) Why did Jesus die for only one church? (Acts 20:28).
    - 2) Why will Jesus save but one church? (Eph. 5:23).
    - 3) Why is Jesus the head of only one church? (Eph. 1:22-23).
    - 4) Why does Jesus add the saved to just one church? (Acts 2:47).
    - 5) Why does the Holy Spirit instruct us that there is but “one body” and define that body as the church? (Eph. 4:4; 1:22-23).
2. Back during the early part of the nineteenth century there went forth across our country an effort that has become known as the “Restoration Movement.”
  - a. It was an effort to call men back to the Bible.
  - b. It sought to do away with the creeds and doctrines of men and go back to the Bible for our authority religiously.
    - 1) The Restoration Movement was actually a plea for Christ.
    - 2) This effort to call men back to the Bible is still a call that needs to be sounded today.
  - c. The church of Christ did not originate from the Restoration Movement.
    - 1) The church of Christ began on the first Pentecost following the resurrection of Christ from the dead.
    - 2) This is recorded in Acts 2.
      - a) In fact, all references to the church before Acts 2 points forward, but after this chapter, every reference to the church points backward.
      - b) Thus, the Scriptures indicate the church of Christ began at Acts 2 on Pentecost.
3. I chose to become a member of the Church of Christ because of

what she believes and teaches.

**DISCUSSION: “I AM A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST..”**

**I. BECAUSE OF WHAT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST TEACHES ABOUT THE BOOK OF CHRIST, THE BIBLE!**

- A. The Bible reveals the origin, purpose and destiny of all mankind.
- B. He who rejects the New Testament rejects Jesus Christ!
- C. The Bible is an inexhaustible book—a book to both live by and to die by.
- D. The Bible is the inspired Word of God (all of it), and is our Rule of Faith and Practice.

**II. BECAUSE OF WHAT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST TEACHES CONCERNING THE CHURCH!**

- A. I refer to the church Jesus promised to build (Matt. 16:18) and save (Eph. 5:23).
  - 1. The church which is the bride of Christ (Rev. 22:17).
  - 2. The church of which Christ is the head (Eph. 1:22-23).
- B. Isaiah spoke of “A WAY” in Isaiah 35:8-10.
  - 1. Jesus said that He is “THE WAY” in John 14:6.
  - 2. The church is the Lord’s spiritual body (Eph. 1:22-23).
  - 3. Therefore, since Christ is the way to the Father, His church is also that way, being His body.
- C. A plea for the Bible is also a plea for the church of the Bible.
- D. The church of the Bible is **not** a denominational church!
  - 1. Denominationalism seeks to please men, while Christianity seeks to please Christ!
  - 2. The church of Christ seeks to be like the church that is described in the Bible!

**III. BECAUSE THE CHURCH OF CHRIST EXALTS THE NAME OF CHRIST!**

- A. This was one of the emphasis of the Restoration Movement — to reject all human names and accept only the name of Christ.
- B. There is something in a name!
  - 1. Salvation is in the name of Christ (Acts 4:12).
  - 2. Remission of sins is in the name of Christ (Acts 2:28;



Luke 24:47).

3. All that is done religiously is to be done in the name of Jesus Christ (Col. 3:17).
- C. The name “Christian” stems from the name of **Christ** and identifies us as **belonging to Christ**.

#### **IV. BECAUSE THE CHURCH OF CHRIST ADHERES TO THE AUTHORITY OF CHRIST!**

- A. Everything people do in religion, they do either by the authority of Christ, or by the authority of men.
1. Christ has ALL authority (Matt. 28:18).
  2. Christ is “The King of kings and the Lord of lords” (1 Tim. 6:15; Rev. 19:16).
  3. Christ is “author and finisher of our faith” (Heb. 12:2).
- B. Christ is **THE** head over **ALL** things to the church (Eph. 1:22-23).

#### **V. BECAUSE THE CHURCH OF CHRIST TEACHES UNITY UPON THE WORD OF GOD!**

- A. John 17 records Jesus’ prayer for unity, truly the Lord’s prayer.
1. Jesus prayed that His followers would be united, as He and His Father were united “as they are one” (John 17:20-22).
  2. That unity for which He prayed was to be founded upon the Word of God (John 17:8,14).
- B. Unity at all costs is not authorized by God’s Word.
1. Christ’s unity must be based upon the Word of God (John 17:8).
  2. Christ’s unity must be founded upon the doctrine of Christ (2 John 9-11).
- C. The church of Christ teaches the doctrine of Christ and this forms the basis for their plea for unity.

#### **VI. BECAUSE THE CHURCH OF CHRIST TEACHES THE TRUTH ABOUT THE ORDINANCES OF CHRIST!**

- A. An “ordinance” is a law or decree — that which is ordained.
- B. By the “ordinances of Christ” I refer to three things:
1. Baptism
  2. Lord’s Supper
  3. Lord’s Day

- C. The three facts of the Gospel "**Death, burial and resurrection of Christ**" is magnified by these three ordinances of Christ.
1. Baptism magnifies all three — the death, the burial and the resurrection of Christ.... (Rom. 6:4).
  2. Lord's Supper magnifies the death of Christ... (1 Cor. 11:26).
  3. Lord's Day magnifies the resurrection of Christ from the dead... (Mark 16:2; 1 Cor. 15:17).
- D. Many denominations teach the Lord's Supper, but not upon the first day of each week as the Bible teaches (Acts 20:7).
1. Most reject baptism as essential to salvation, but our Lord said it was necessary to be saved (Mark 16:16).
  2. Many refer to the Lord's Day as "the sabbath", but the sabbath is the seventh day of the week, the Lord's Day is the first day of the week (Rev. 1:10).

## VII. BECAUSE THE CHURCH OF CHRIST WORSHIPS AS THE CHURCH IN THE NEW TESTAMENT!

- A. Not all worship is acceptable to God (Matt. 15:9)
- B. Jesus taught that acceptable worship must be "*In spirit and in truth*" (John 4:24).
- C. Worship in the church of Christ, as it was in the New Testament church, includes:
  1. **Prayers** (Acts 2:42).
  2. **Singing** (Eph. 5:19).
  3. **Lord's Supper (each Sunday)** (Acts 20:7).
  4. **Giving (as each are prospered)** (1 Cor. 16:1-2).
  5. **Teaching (preaching) God's Word** (2 Tim. 4:2).

## VIII. BECAUSE THE CHURCH OF CHRIST TEACHES THE TRUTH CONCERNING SALVATION!

- A. Salvation is "in Christ Jesus" (2 Tim. 2:10).
- B. The Bible tells us HOW to get into Christ (Gal. 3:26-27).
  1. All of God's children are "in Christ" (Gal. 3:26).
  2. One gets into Christ by baptism (Gal. 3:27).
  3. Those who are baptized "into Christ" also "put on Christ" (Gal. 3:27).
- C. The church of Christ teaches what the New Testament church taught people to do to get into Christ, where salvation is located.



Charlotte Tanaro

## RESUME

Charlotte Tanaro is the wife of Mike Tanaro and they have three children: Dana, Trent and Julie.

Charlotte works with her husband in the Mission fields and is active in the Lord's work.

1. **BELIEVE** that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (John 8:24).
2. **REPENT** of sins (Acts 17:30; Luke 13:3).
3. **CONFESS** Christ before men as the Son of God (Matt. 10:32; Acts 8:37).
4. **BE BAPTIZED** into Christ for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38).
5. **LIVE FAITHFULLY** for Him after baptism (Rev. 2:10; 1 John 1:7).

**CONCLUSION:**

1. I am a member of the church of Christ because the church of Christ speaks where the Bible speaks and is silent where the Bible is silent.
-

# METHODIST

*Charlotte Tanaro*

1. Personal remarks.
2. Grew up in the Methodist Church, converted to Christianity (Church of Christ).

## DISCUSSION:

### I. A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE METHODIST CHURCH, ITS DOCTRINE AND ORGANIZATION.

- A. Founded by man — Wesley.
- B. Date of beginning of Methodism does not coincide with biblical facts.
- C. Doctrines of the Methodist Church are:
  1. Man Made.
  2. Creeds and traditions of men.
  3. Baptism is a major difference.
- D. Organization of Methodist Church — No autonomy, centrally governed.

### II. CHURCH OF CHRIST.

- A. Founded on day of Pentecost at Jerusalem.
  1. Acts 2
  2. Founded by Christ — Matt. 16:18.
- B. Doctrine of church of Christ is biblical.
  1. Do not use creed books or traditions of men.
    - a. Matt. 7:7-9; 13.
  2. Bible is all sufficient.
    - a. 2 Tim. 3:16-17
    - b. 2 Pet. 1:2-4
- C. Organization of the church of Christ is Biblical.
  1. Eph. 4:11-12
  2. Phil. 1:1

### III. WHY I CHOSE NOT TO REMAIN A METHODIST.

- A. Not biblically founded.
  1. Founded by men.
  2. Creeds of men.

B. Wanted a sure religion.

1. I can know the truth (John 8:32).
2. Commanded to worship in Spirit and Truth (John 4:23-24).

**CONCLUSION:**

1. If we can't read it in the Bible, don't except it.
  2. Methodism not found in the scriptures.
-

## WHAT ABOUT THE THIEF ON THE CROSS?

—Garland M. Robinson—

Many people set out to prove they can be saved without baptism by referring to the thief on the cross. They say that since he was saved without being baptized, they too can be saved without baptism. Men today cannot be saved like the thief because the circumstances are different. Notice the following points.

While Jesus was on earth he had power to forgive sins (Mark 2:5,10). He is not on earth today to forgive you of your sins as he did the thief, Zacchaeus (Luke 19:9-10), palsied man (Mark 2:5).

The thief lived under a different law than you and I. The Old Testament law did not require baptism for the remission of sins, whereas the New Testament, under which we live today, does (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Rom. 6:3-6; I Peter 3:21). We cannot argue we do not have to pay income tax because George Washington did not pay it. The law under which he lived did not require it, the law today does. While Christ was on earth, he was giving his "last will and testament" (Luke 16:16). As long as a man lives he has the option to change and alter his will as it pleases him. But when he is dead it cannot be changed! *"For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth"* (Hebrews 9:16-17).

Why would anyone want to be saved like the thief? Do you want to be at the very point of death before you plead to the Lord? Regardless of your desires, you cannot be saved like the thief because you do not live under the same law, and Christ is not here in person to save you. It makes no difference whether he was baptized or not; either way, it has **NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU!**

The real lesson to be learned from the thief is that he saw his true spiritual condition and desired something better. Jesus said for men to be saved under his new law they would have to **believe** in him (John 8:24), **repent** of sins (Luke 13:3), **confess** him before men (Matthew 10:32) and be **baptized** in water for forgiveness of sins (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38). Who can deny it?! Will you?



Judith Brown

## RESUME

Judith H. Brown was born May 11, 1944 in Corbin, Kentucky. She married Jerry Brown February 24, 1967.

Her education includes: Union College, A.B. Degree, 1966 — Major area in English; Union College, M.A. in Education, 1971.

School Career: London High School, 1966-1970, English and speech teacher; Sue Bennett College, 1968-1971, part time instructor in speech Communication; Laurel County High School, 1970-Present, English, speech drama teacher; Chairperson — Speech and Drama — LCHS.

She was baptized January, 1967. Other facts include: Conducted Ladies Day meetings; Special classes for Ladies of Self-Esteem; Teacher teen classes; Ladies Bible Classes.

*Who's Who in Young Women of America* 1971; Fifth District — Excellence in Teaching Award 1989; Nominee for Kentucky Teacher of the Year 1992; Laurel County School's Secondary Teacher of the Year 1992.



# BAPTIST

*Judith H. Brown*

1. Historical look at the Baptist Church.
  - a. First English-speaking Baptist Church — 1609.
    - 1) Result of religious persecution under James I.
    - 2) Founder — John Smythe.
  - b. Eventual construction of a Baptist Church in London, England, by Smythe followers.
  - c. First Baptist Church in America.
    - 1) Roger Williams — founder.
    - 2) Place — Providence, Rhode Island.
  - d. John Clarke — founder.
    - 1) Date 1639-41.
    - 2) Place — Newport, Rhode Island.
  - e. Present status.
    - 1) More than twenty-seven Baptist denominations.
    - 2) More than twenty-five million members.
2. Personal story.

## DISCUSSION:

### I. REASONS WHY I AM NOT A MEMBER OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

- A. Establishment of the Baptist Church versus establishment of the church of Christ.
  1. No scripture for Baptist Church tracing roots to “days of John the Baptist.”
  2. Establishment of the church of Christ.
    - a. Promise to build His church (Matt. 16:16-18).
    - b. Promise of Jesus that some living would see His kingdom come (Mark 9:1).
    - c. Church of Christ of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4,47).
- B. Creed.
  1. Baptist creed.
    - a. Written by men in 1724.
    - b. Philadelphia Conference of Faith.
  2. Church of Christ.
    - a. No man made creed.

- b. Christ only foundation (1 Cor. 3:11; Matt. 16:16).
- C. Name.
  - 1. Importance of a name.
  - 2. Baptist — John the Baptist.
  - 3. Christians.
    - a. Acts 11:26
    - b. Rom. 8:17
- D. Admission to the Baptist Church compared to teaching of Bible.
  - 1. Baptist's belief.
    - a. After repenting and believing, converts "taken in."
    - b. Convert's confession of feelings or sins.
    - c. Salvation as a result of prayers of the church.
    - d. Baptism because of remission of sins — Hiscox Manual.
  - 2. Church of Christ's plan of salvation.
    - a. HEAR — (Acts 10:14).
    - b. BELIEVE — (Mark 16:16).
    - c. REPENT — (Acts 2:38).
    - d. CONFESS — (Rom. 10:10).
    - e. BE BAPTIZED — (Acts 2:38-39).
- E. Baptist teaching that one cannot fall from grace.
  - 1. Paul's buffeting his body (1 Cor. 9:27).
  - 2. Paul's warning to Galatian Christians (Gal. 5:4).
- F. Partaking of the Lord's Supper.
  - 1. Baptist teaching.
    - a. At least four times a year.
    - b. Some — once a month.
    - c. Special occasions.
  - 2. Scriptural teaching.
    - a. Acts 20:7
    - b. 1 Cor. 11:26
    - c. Heb. 10:25
- G. Unscriptural language.
  - 1. "Get saved"
  - 2. "Get religion"
  - 3. "Reverend"
- H. Organization of the Baptist Church.
  - 1. Pastor — preacher
  - 2. Deacons
  - 3. Trustees — property holders

4. Treasurer
5. Clerk
- I. Teaching tends to confusion.
  1. Free will
  2. Regular
  3. Particular
  4. Missionary

### CONCLUSION:

1. Why I am a member of the church of Christ.
    - a. Established on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:47).
    - b. Built upon Christ (Matt. 16:16-18).
    - c. Members wear the name Christian (Acts 11:26).
    - d. Lord adds to the church (Acts 2:47).
    - e. Plan of salvation — clear and simple.
    - f. Acts of worship include the Lord's Supper every first day of the week (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:26).
    - g. Organization of church according to God's plan.
    - h. Emphasis on **“Thus saith the Lord.”**
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