

What's Wrong With Religious Denominations?

Denominations	The Lord's Church	Denominations	The Lord's Church
1. Many bodies.	1. One body (Matthew 16:18 16:18; I Corinthians 12:20).	8. Change teaching.	8. Bible stays the same (Matthew 24:35).
2. Founded by men.	2. Founded by Christ (Matthew 16:18).	9. Many faiths.	9. One faith (Ephesians 4:5).
3. Human heads.	3. Christ the head (Ephesians 1:22-23).	10. Many baptisms.	10. One Baptism (Ephesians 4:5).
4. Human creeds.	4. Bible alone (II Timothy 3:16,17).	11. Men join denominational churches.	11. God adds to His church (Acts 2:47).
5. Human names.	5. Christians - Disciples (Acts 11:26).	12. Approve of division.	12. Jesus prayed for unity (John 17:20,21).
6. Many gospels.	6. One gospel (Galatians 1:8,9).	13. Follow human traditions.	13. Rejects human traditions. (Col. 2:8).
7. Membership not essential for salvation.	7. Membership essential for salvation. (Ephesians 5:23).	14. Practice unscriptural worship.	14. Worships in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24).

Why Be A Part of A Denomination?

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Faithful Sayings

Olsen Park Church of Christ

4700 Andrews Avenue Amarillo, Texas 79106
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Services

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.
10:20 a.m.
6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Elders:

Ken Ford
Charles Kelley
Pat Ledbetter

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Bill Davis
Pat Goguen
Neil Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Fred Perez
Rusty Scott

Evangelist:

Kyle Pope

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Olsen Park church of Christ

Invites you to our Fall

Gospel Meeting

with

Wayne Moody

October 7-12, 2007

Sunday 9:30; 10:20; 6:00
Monday-Friday 7:30

4700 Andrews Ave.
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Come Study With Us!

“What Must I Do To Be Saved?”

When the apostle Paul question by their jailer. and his companion The frightened man Silas were imprison- asked them earnest- ed in the city of Philippi ly—“Sirs, what must I because of their work for **do to be saved?**” (Acts the cause of Christ, after 16:30, NKJV). Although the Lord miraculously he may have been con- freed them, they were cerned with his physical asked a very important salvation (Cont. on pg. 2)

“What Must I Do To Be Saved?” (Cont. from pg. 1) because the prison security had been compromised, the apostle Paul taught him something much more valuable. He responded—**“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.”** (Acts 16:31). The jailer, heeded Paul’s words. The text tells us—**“Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized.”** (Acts 16:32-33).

This example serves as an important lesson to us in this day and age when we must ask this same question in our lives. Let’s notice some elements of this account:

I. Belief & Confession

The first thing that the apostle teaches him is that he must believe in Jesus Christ. The book of Hebrews tells us—**“without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”** (Hebrews 11:6). This is not

a faith based upon opinion, or personal imagination, but on the solid evidence of the message of God’s revealed word. Romans 10:17 teaches us—**“faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”**

The kind of belief that Paul advocates is not simply a recognition of who Jesus is, but an active and living faith that lives out what it has accepted. Part of this involves the courage to acknowledge before others the faith which one has come to possess. In Matthew 10:32,33 Jesus taught—**“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.”** James teaches us that true faith must be accompanied with obedience, declaring to us—**“faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”** (James 2:17).

II. Repentance.

In the account of the Philippian jailer, after Paul told the man about faith in Jesus he **“spoke the word of the Lord to him”** (Acts 16:32). Something about what Paul said led the man to do a dra-

matic thing—**“he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes”** (Acts 16:33). Did Paul talk to the man about repentance as he had done on other occasions? In Acts 26:20 Paul claimed that he declared—**“to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance.”** Was the necessity for repentance a part of the “word of the Lord” which he declared to the man? It certainly was when Peter taught on the day of Pentecost. When Peter was asked—**“what shall we do?”** (Acts 2:37). He responded—**“Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit”** (Acts 2:38). Repentance means that we stop doing what is wrong and commit ourselves to do right. In the example of the Philippian jailer this seems to be what is reflected in his tending to their wounds. Perhaps he had been responsible for some of those wounds.

III. Baptism.

The text tells us that after all these

things—**“immediately he and all his family were baptized.”** (Acts 16:33). In his epistle to the Galatians Paul taught that in baptism one puts on Christ. He wrote—**“For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”** (Galatians 3:26-28). Paul himself had once been taught this same truth. Acts 22:16 recounts that he was told—**“now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”** At that time, he (just like the Philippian Jailer) was obedient and put on Christ in baptism.

What Must We Do To Be Saved? As we consider our own relationship to God we would do well to consider the example of the Philippian jailer. The same things that were involved in his conversion still apply to mankind today. If we would be saved we must believe in Jesus Christ as the son of God, confess Him before others, repent of our sins and be baptized into Christ for the remission of our sins.

By Kyle Pope