

What Makes You Think the church of Christ Is Better Than Any Other Church? by John T Polk II

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: "What makes you think the Church of Christ is better than any other church?"

REPLY: The church of Christ is made up only of people who have accepted, and been saved by, what Jesus taught, not what humans have said about it!

- 1) The church of Christ was begun on the first Pentecost after Jesus' resurrection, described in Acts 2. The 12 Apostles were baptized in the Holy Spirit, and preached the Gospel of Christ to assembled Jews "from every nation under heaven" (Acts 2:5). Not Moses, but the new Prophet, Jesus Christ, was preached (Acts 2:21-36). Realizing their obedience to Moses no longer was acceptable, they asked, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" They were told to "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). They obeyed and "the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved" (Acts 2:41-47). The church to which the Lord added them was not any sect, denomination, or cult known today that professes to follow Jesus, for none of them existed then! Every time the Gospel is preached, and people are told to do that same thing to respond, Jesus saves them and adds them to the same church! If not, why not?
- 2) People accuse the church of being like they are in terms they are familiar with, but not Scripturally accurate. When Paul was in Rome, Jews came to him to learn more of "this sect, we know that it is spoken against (Acts 28:16-22). Paul corrected their misunderstanding by explaining and testifying "of the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus from both the Law of Moses and the Prophets, from morning till evening. And some were persuaded by the things which were spoken, and some disbelieved" (Acts 28:23-24). The church was not then, nor has it ever been, a "sect," or part of Judaism or of so-called "Christian" denominations. Christians are forbidden to be such as these: "Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. Now I say this, that each of you says, 'I am of Paul,' or 'I am of Apollos,' or 'I am of Cephas,' or 'I am of Christ.' Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?" (1 Corinthians 1:10-13)

People want to claim their salvation, and live by, some man's name or man-made doctrine, but then die "in Christ!" People who trust in men cannot die in the hands of Christ! "It is better to trust in the LORD Than to put confidence in man" (Psalm 118:8). Sectarianism cannot save anyone!

JTPII February 3, 2019