

A Doctrinal Challenge to Biblical Accuracy

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Satan and his angels have so covered the image of the one true church; he has tainted her with traditions, opinions, church councils, man-made doctrines, Satanic concocted innovations, and anything-will-do-isms that the honest seeker after God's emancipating truth finds himself lost in a maze and whirlwind of many churches.

Yet, the word of God boldly affirms there is One Church. The line has been drawn; the gauntlet has been thrown down. *Will you accept this challenge?*

Examine For Yourself: The Bible is Right!

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The Word is Right

Visit just about any hotel across the nation, open up the desk drawer and the Bible is there. Around this country in elaborate church buildings, the Bible occupies a place of almost divine reverence. In homes, from coast to coast, the Bible may be treated as a family heirloom; carefully handed down from generations to generation.

It has been translated into every known language around the world. It is loved and regarded, revered and admired. Yet, in spite of all this admiration about the Bible, there remains such widespread ignorance of this book. Everyone agrees that it is the world's best seller, and yet so many know so little concerning it. If one is to show himself approved unto God, he must not simply read this book; he must **study** it as well, rightly dividing its truths.

The church of Christ maintains that the Bible is right! Yet, where there are groups of believers who give a statement of their views on the Scriptures, it is usually read something like this: **"We believe in the Scriptures, both of the Old and New Testaments, as verbally inspired by God and inerrant in the original writings..."** Very seldom does one see a statement by those who hold views other than the above mentioned.

The fate of the Bible my friends, is the fate of Christianity. In every generation Christians have had their own battle to uphold the truthfulness of Scriptures, and ours is no exception. The author of this page and site stands unashamedly for Bible inerrancy, (say it with me; "The Bible is Right".) But, there are others who do not, and it is well to consider their views. When we encounter a modern-day view of the Bible we are thus encountering more than a view of Scripture. One's view of the Bible is so foundational that it will also bound up with a total theology concerning God, Christ, Holy Spirit and man. Let us consider some of the views which are held concerning the Bible in our day:

Views of the Bible

The Liberal View

The Liberal View, which regards the Bible merely as a collection of human writings containing fallible human insights, which under the scrutiny of reason and experience, are subject to revision and even reversal as human understanding advances.

While this view (and variations of it) enjoys a considerable acceptance today, it nevertheless has led to a widespread loss of confidence in the authority of the Bible, and has produced a liberal perspective along with a labyrinth of modern theologies, which are mere echoes of modern culture.

This view would “de-sex” the Bible, making it read so that males would not feel superior to the female. “*Our Father who art in heaven,*” would read, “*Our Parent...*”. “*Son of God*” would be changed to “*this Unique Being*”. Instead of crying “*Abba Father*” we would say, “*My loving parent*”. Such terms which designate God as Father, Lord, King or “*He*” are accidents.

To the modernist and liberals, it is a matter of “believe what you want, reject all else.”

The Existentialist or Neo-Orthodox View

The Existentialist or Neo-Orthodox View, which identifies the Word of God not with Biblical writings as such, but solely with Jesus Christ who is encountered existentially through the errant Scriptures.

There is no recognition of Christ as the revelation of God (Christ’s existence to reveal God), yet what has been written about Him was done by fallible human witness (not those who were moved and guided by the Holy Spirit).

Such a belief would deny the bodily resurrection of Jesus the Christ; in fact, it would even deny that Jesus is the Christ. It does not hold Jesus as deity. It has no confidence in the triune nature of God.

This view lacks any objective, informative, Divine world of truth from which to derive a sure foundation of its theology and living. It provides the people a set of blocks void of any G’s or O’s or D’s, and bids man to spell God the best way he can.

The Neo-Evangelical View

The Neo-Evangelical View, which uses language of Scripture to give the impression of a true belief in the inerrancy of Scripture, but stresses a “love for everybody, offend none regardless of beliefs”. It is not necessary to believe in the virgin birth of Jesus as the Christ, hell could be a figurative term, etc. Doctrine is relatively unimportant.

Fellowship with all is accepted, so long as they have a “Biblical language”.

This is a permissive age – no room for narrow minds. No room for separation. If the Bible doesn’t spell something out in “black & white,” then do it regardless of example.

The Bible has no real design, and can be interpreted in any number of ways, to suit one's needs. Error is not vigorously opposed. Always be positive never negative. Love is the one and only standard. Membership in a local congregation is not important. The end justifies the means. In other words, this view says the Bible doesn't really mean what it says, although they claim to be Christians. They maintain that the Bible is a good book, but cannot afford to be as restrictive as the Bible. So embrace all, reject none. It is a come as you are and stay as you are party.

Views Of The Bible II

Historical & Evangelical View

But my friends, "The Bible is Right!" There is the Historical & Evangelical View that affirms that God not only acted redemptively in history to reveal Himself, but also declared the meaning of His acts and life itself through the prophets and apostles.

Thus the Bible is both the inspired human witness of God's revelation in the past as well as written revelation, to guide and govern our lives now.

Therefore, what the Bible teaches or affirms is the divinely authoritative Word of Truth. Since the Bible teaches us only truth from God, it is totally trustworthy.

Man has, in the Bible, true information about God, Christ, Holy Spirit, man, the world, Satan, life, ethics, death, salvation, the future, indeed all things that pertain to life and Godliness are directly revealed to man by God Himself.

The Bible is Indeed Right!

The Scriptures were designed to:

- Testify of Christ: Jn. 5:39
- Search the Heart: Heb. 4:12
- Make One Wise unto Salvation: II Tim. 3:15
- Produce Faith: Rom. 10:17; Jn. 20:31
- Promote Growth: I Pet. 2:2; Matt. 4:4; Heb. 5:12-14
- Admonish: Psa. 19:9-11; I Cor. 10:11
- Comfort: Psa. 119: 82
- Win Souls: Psa. 126:6
- Bear Fruit: Jn. 15:3, 5, 7
- Perfect The Man of God: II Tim. 3:17; Col. 3:16
- Give Victory over Satan: Matt. 4:1-10; Eph. 6:11, 17

This Book, which we call the Bible, contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter. Herein, paradise is restored, heaven opened and the gates of hell are disclosed. Christ is the grand subject, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given to you in life, will open at the judgment, and remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibilities, rewards the greatest labor, and condemns all who trifle with its contents.

The Bible is Right! The One True Church

“I will build my church” Mt. 16:18

The church of Christ dogmatically affirms that the Bible is the complete, accurate, authoritative word of God. We maintain that it is the source by which man is able to truly comprehend God. Say it with me: “The Bible is Right”. And because it is right we must submit ourselves to its principles and precepts. Therein is the mind of God revealed.

Approximately 2,000 years ago, Jesus enunciated to the world at Caesarea Philippi, “Upon this rock, I will build my church.” Every since this sacred proclamation, the devil and his angels have waged a tremendous battle, in an endeavor to hide and distort the Lord’s true church. Some six days after Jesus made this profound statement, Peter while on the mountain of Transfiguration with Jesus said; “Lord, it is good for us to be here; let us build three tabernacles (churches). Can you not see that Satan is trying to destroy the image of Christ’s church? This is a troubling and disturbing thought. And I am troubled; because Satan and his cohorts have deliberately set out to give men and women distorted concepts, deranged and confused images of Christ’s church in order to prevent them from recognizing the one true church.

The Church Is Not a Building

The building is the place where the local church meets, the church is the body of Christ (Eph. 1:22). And the members make up the Body. “Now ye are the body of Christ and members in particular.” I Cor. 12:27

The devil has twisted and perverted the image of the church in the minds of so many until they decide in which church they will attend by the beauty and size of the structure. Yet, as I have stated, “The building is not the church.” Consider Acts 11:22 “then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem...” Now ask, “How can a building have ears?” No, the building is not the church!!

The Church is Not a Denomination

This word means division. God detests division (I Cor. 1:10). The church was established and lived for nearly 600 years before the first denomination was established. The 1st century Christians were saved from past sins and worshiped in the church without ever belonging to a denomination. Are you not tired of hearing general sermons which condemn nothing and embrace nothing and the audience is left hanging as to what the minister believes. The Bible does not teach that there are Christians in every church. There is no wider fellowship of the body of Christ; stipulating room for the other sheep. If salvation is found in man-made religions then Jesus’ concept of the one church is incorrect, but Jesus is not incorrect! The Bible is Right! There is but one church.

The Church Is The Body Of Christ

Note Paul admonishes to be reconciled to God; (2 Cor. 5:20) “Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ’s stead, be reconciled to God.” Now read Eph. 2:16, “

And that He might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross. “What is “the body”? Col. 1:18 “And He is the head of the body, the church.” The body is the church. Eph. 1:22 says, “And hath put all things under his feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church which is His body.” The church is the body. Eph. 4:4 teaches that there is but “one body”. Since the church is the body, and the body is the church and there is only one body; it follows as the sun rises in the east and sets in the west, that there is only one church.

Remember we are “reconciled” in the body, and the “body” is the church, then reconciliation is in the church, which is the body of Christ. (Col. 1:24) If you are not in the body of Christ which is the church of Christ, then you are not reconciled unto God. Do you not see how vital the church is?

The church is the body of Christ; the saved are members of that body. The circulation of the body is necessary to the life of each member of the body. If you have no connection with the body, you do not have the life emanating from the body and it cannot live, for the life of the member is dependent on connection with, and the circulation of the body. It is not possible for you to have connection with the body and not have membership in the body.

Membership In The Body

The church belongs to Jesus Christ it is not regulated by any man or group of men. The church is an indispensable part of man’s salvation. Some people say that they are saved before they became members of the church; others advocate that they don’t have to be a member at all in order to be saved.

But the Bible is right. It affirms that salvation is in Christ (II Tim. 2:10; Acts 4:12). The only way that one can enter Christ is through baptism, (Gal. 3:26, 27) “For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus for as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” The only way to “put on” Christ is to be baptized. This same act of baptism is the very instrument by which one enters the church which is the body of Christ (I Cor. 12:13) “For by one Spirit, are we all baptized into one body...” Baptism is the tool by which Christ adds us to His glorious church. Baptism is for the remission of sins (Acts 2:23, I Pet. 3:20, 21).

Thus, as the birds must have air to fly, the fish must have water to swim and survive, man

In order to obey the gospel and become a member of the church, one must:	There is a need for all men to be saved. Because all have sinned and all have fallen short of God’s glory (Rom. 3:23)
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:17)• Believe in Jesus As The Christ (John 8:24)• Repent of Sin (Luke 13:3, 5)• Confess Faith in Christ (Romans 10:9, 10)• Be Baptized in Water (Mark 16:16)• The Lord Will Add (Acts 2:47)	<p>every human being needs to be reconciled to God. The means of reconciliation are only in Christ.</p> <p>The gospel in God's power to save all those who believe (Rom. 1:16, 17). This is the gospel: Jesus died and was buried, then He rose again the third day. This is what we must obey. We must die to sin, be buried in the grave of water baptism and then rise to walk in newness of life.</p>
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Denominationalism

Would it surprise you to know that denominationalism is foreign to the Bible? Denomination by definition means: "Part of a whole, separate parts or pieces". Yet the scripture advocates that all men are to be one in Christ, that there are to be "no divisions" among us (I Cor. 1:10, 11). When the church described in the Bible tried to splinter themselves into separate factions, believing and practicing different doctrines, they were reprimanded by the Apostles and told to "speak the same thing, and be of the same mind" (I Cor. 1:10, 11; Acts 15).

Check Out Your Spiritual Roots			
To Which Denomination Do You Belong?			
Wrong Institution	Wrong Place	Wrong Time	Wrong Founder
Catholic Church	Rome	606 A.D.	Boniface III
Lutheran	Augsburg	1530	Martin Luther
Presbyterian	Switzerland	1535	John Calvin
Episcopal	England	1535	King Henry VIII
Baptist (1st)	London	1607	John Smith
Baptist (1st in USA)	Providence, RI	1639	Roger Williams
Methodist	London	1729	John Wesley
Mormon	Fayette, NY	1830	Joseph Smith
Adventism	Massachusetts	1831	William Miller
Christian Scientist	Boston	1879	Mary Baker Eddy
Holiness	Chicago	1907	Howie Hoopie

The Church of Christ is not a denomination

It was built by Jesus Christ in accordance with the prophecy that the scripture

- The church of Christ was established on the first Pentecost after the resurrection. Any institution with a different time of origin or birth cannot be the true church.
 - The church of Christ was established in Jerusalem. Any institution founded in any other place cannot be the true church.
 - The church of Christ was build by Christ Jesus. Any other institution build by any other person cannot be the true church.
 - The church of Christ has one head - that is Jesus Christ. Any institution with a different head in either heaven or earth cannot be the true church.
 - The church of Christ has no creed other than Christ, its practices and doctrine can be found in the Bible, the complete Word of God. Any institution that practices any other creed and that cannot find its doctrine in the Word of God cannot be the true church.
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Investigate your spiritual condition

Are you a member of the true church?

Faith Only?

There are many denominations that advocate that all one needs to do in order to obtain salvation is “call upon the name of the Lord” and “have faith in Christ”. Many have been told to say the so-called “sinners prayer” and request the Lord to come into their heart by faith. This constitutes being born again according to many denominations. But this doctrine is not supported by the message of the scripture. Those institutions that preach a “faith only” salvation are in conflict with the message of Christ. Consider well these stern Biblical facts:

If Faith Only Saves...

- Why should the devils tremble? Are they saved? Jas. 2:19
- Why does the Bible say, “...not by faith only”? Jas. 2:24
- Why were men told to repent and be baptized? Acts 2:38
- Why are we to add to our faith? II Pet. 1:5
- Why does the Bible say, faith alone is dead? Jas. 2:17
- Why does the Bible say, faith void of works is dead? Jas. 2:26
- Why should we have love? I Cor. 13:2

Faith Is A Means To An End

Most certainly we are not saved by faith only. Faith is not the Savior, Christ is the Savior. Faith in Christ is a means to an end, salvation which is in Christ. Man is saved by repentance, but repentance is not the Savior; it too is a means to the end, salvation in Christ. The same can be said of confession and baptism, yet these cannot be and are not Saviors.

The Savior is a person, a being. Faith, repentance, confession and baptism are acts performed which are necessary to reach salvation, which is in Christ Jesus.

Faith is absolutely necessary
