

“The Origin & Teachings Of The Methodist Church Pt. 2”

Lesson Text: **Acts 17:11; Ephesians 4:15.**

I. Beliefs About The Church.

- The Church Has Many Branches (Denominations), and new forms.
(Historical Statement, Pg. 15 & 18, Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church 1912).
- What Does The Bible Say? The Branches Of **John 15:1-8** Are Individuals— Not Churches!

II. Babies Are Born In Sin.

- *“Original sin... is the corruption of the nature every man.”*
(Articles of Religion, Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church 1912, Pg. 23).
- What Does The Bible Say? Sin Is An Act, Not A Genetic Disease!
- **John 3:4; James 1:14-15; Ezekiel 18:20; Matthew 19:14.**

III. Man Has No Free-Will In Salvation.

- *“The condition of man after the fall of Adam is such that he cannot turn and prepare himself, by his own natural strength and works, to faith, and calling upon God;”* (Articles of Religion, Discipline 1912 Pg. 24).
- What Does The Bible Say? **John 6:44-45; Matthew 11:28-29; Revelation 22:17.**

IV. Salvation By Faith Alone.

- *“...that we are justified by faith only is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort.”*
(Articles of Religion, Discipline of the Methodist Church 1948, Pg. 27).
- What Does The Bible Say? We Are Saved By Faith, But Not Faith Alone:
Gal. 3:26-27; Acts 2:37-41; Acts 22:16.

V. Methodist Beliefs On Baptism.

- Baptism Is Only *“a sign of regeneration or the new birth.”*
(Articles of Religion, Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church 1912, Pg. 27).
- What Does The Bible Say? **Mark 16:15-16; Romans 6:3-6.** Baptism is a burial with Christ.

VI. Beliefs On The Church Organization.

- *“The General Conference shall have full power to make rules and regulations for the Church”*
(Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church 1912, Pg. 40).
- Bishops Are Elected By The Conference, The Elders And Deacons Are Appointed By The Bishops, The Pastor Has Charge Of The Preachers, The Preachers Are Elected And Approved By The Quarterly Conference.
- What Does The Bible Say? **Acts 14:23; Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-4.**

VII. The United Methodist And LGBTQ+.

- The 2024 Policy Shift:
General Conference: In May 2024, the UMC's General Conference in Charlotte, NC, overwhelmingly voted to remove restrictive language and bans.
- This Has Caused A Major Division In The Methodist Church, and Caused The Formation Of The Global Methodist Church.
- What Does The Bible Say? **Deuteronomy 22:5; Romans 1:26-27.**
- It Should Be Automatic That God's People Should Be For And Against What God Wills...
- But Such Is Not Always The Case, When Men Vote and Decide Their Own Beliefs & Creeds.