

# The Bulletin

## Meeks St. Church of Christ

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[MeeksstreetchurchofChrist.com](http://MeeksstreetchurchofChrist.com)

June 22, 2025

### ***“You Can Be Just A Christian Pt. 1”***

By Samuel Matthews

We read in Acts 11:25-26, *“Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: 26 and when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch”* ( KJV).

Loved ones, this two-part post has been written with love (Ephesians 4:15), and we thank God that His mercy and manifold blessings are allowing you to read and study it.

Among others, the following questions will be answered:

1. Why are there so many different churches or faiths?
2. Is the Bible the only book from God?
3. Why do some preachers call themselves "pastor, Father or Reverend"?
4. Does God allow a woman to become a "pulpit preacher"?
5. What must one do to accept Christ, or what must one do to be saved?

It is our prayer that you will clear your mind of all religious prejudice and study each scriptural reference from your Bible with an honest and good heart (2 Timothy 2:15; Luke 8:15).

It is also our hope that you will understand the grace and truth given you from God the Father by the Lord Jesus Christ (John 1:17).

Now please take a deep breath, fasten your seatbelt and hang-in-there ... for this post is going to tell it like it is!

#### **1. GOD SPEAKS THRU HIS WORD!**

We believe that most of you truly love and are striving to obey the Lord from your heart (Romans 6:17). But Jesus says, *“If you love me, keep my commandments”* (John 14:15). So, if you truly love God, you will believe and obey what His Word or Son says (Hebrews 1:1-2; Luke 6:46; Matthew 7:21-27; James 1:22, 25).

The Holy Spirit revealed the word to the apostles (John 14:16-17; John 16:13-14). They wrote it down in the Bible so that we might read and understand the “mystery” of Christ (1 Timothy 3:16; Ephesians 3:3-6).

The Bible is therefore the written Word of God (1 Thessalonians 2:13; John 1:1-2, 14); the written Truth of God (John 17:17; John 14:6); the written Power of God (Romans 1:16; 1 Corinthians 1:24)!

In the Bible we find *“all things pertaining unto life and godliness”* (2 Peter 1:3). We also find the Peace of God (Philippians 4:7), the Knowledge of God (Colossians 1:9-10), and the Salvation of God (Acts 28:28).

The Bible contains the only "doctrine" which will equip mankind for every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17) and will one day be used as the basis for judgement (John 12:48).

Dear friends, the Bible presents the saving Gospel (good news) of Jesus Christ ... the facts that Jesus died on the cross for our sins, was buried, and rose again the third day (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

The Gospel is something that Christ commanded to be preached to the whole world (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15,16; Luke 24:46-47; 1 Corinthians 9:16), NOT the book of Mormon or the Catechism. God wants man to obey the Gospel (Romans 10:16; Hebrews 5:9), and further, it is something that we must obey or be eternally lost (1 Peter 4:17; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9).

Since the Gospel of Christ is God's power to save the believer (Romans 1:16), should we seek another way or power? The answer is definitely NO. (Galatians 1:6-9).

## 2. GOD'S PEOPLE ARE CALLED CHRISTIANS!

The Bible calls God's people Christians, priest, children, disciples, saints, and brethren (Acts 11:26; Revelation 1:6; Galatians 3:26; Colossians 1:1-2). Christians are taught to do all in the name (by the authority) of Jesus (Colossians 3:17), rather than by the authority of the Pope, Joseph Smith, Jr, Martin Luther, John Calvin, Mary Baker Eddy, or any other man or woman.

Therefore, God's people are not called Adventists, Anglicans, Apostolic, Baptist, Buddhist, Catholics, Congregationalist, Deist, Episcopalians, Hindus, Holiness, Jehovah Witnesses, Jews, Lutherans, Masons, Mennonites, Methodist, Moonies, Mormons, Moslems, Muslims, Nazarenes, Orthodox, Pentecostals, Presbyterians, Protestants, Quakers, Unitarians, etc.

The above human man-made names keep the religious world divided. "Christian" is the name acceptable to God (Acts 4:10-12; Acts 26:28; 1 Peter 4:16). Believers must be willing to discard all human religious names and wear the name "Christian" only ... for the name you wear tells who you belong to (1 Corinthians 3:3-9; cf. 2 Timothy 2:19; Nahum 1:7)!

## 3. GOD'S SEVENFOLD UNITY.

The Bible speaks of seven "ones" in Ephesians 4:4-6, "*There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*"

These seven "ones" represent God's Divine Sevenfold Plan of Unity ... One Body; One Spirit; One Hope; One Lord; One Faith; One Baptism; and One God.

Now most believers will agree that the ONE GOD is the Father; the ONE LORD is Jesus the Christ; the ONE SPIRIT is the Holy Spirit; and the ONE HOPE is our hope of Eternal Life through Jesus.

Believers should also agree concerning the other three "ones" ... the ONE FAITH, the ONE BODY and the ONE BAPTISM!

(Continued Next Week)

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## Memory Verse of the Week:



### Luke 17:10 (NKJB)

"So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.' "

## Answers To Bible Trivia From Last Week:

- 25 years (**Genesis 12:4—21:5**).
- Hagar (**Genesis 16:1**).
- Isaac (**Genesis 17:19**).

**Those Who Need Our Prayers & Encouragement:**

Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, Daniel Holloway, Debbie Keplinger, Robbie, Sheila, Sherry Doles, Sandi Poole, Jamie Jones, Mary Ann Holley, LuAnne Parrish, Billy Grisham, Burt Ward, Wesley Trimble, George Hutto, Angela Warren (Lisa Busby's friend who has cancer), B.J. Graves, Chandler McCain (Cancer), Michelle Hopper (Dan Cottrell's sister) has been diagnosed with cancer, Stacy & Annette Meeks, Mike Timbes (Paul Johnson's neighbor who was diagnosed with lung cancer), Anita Harris' mother, Hillard Switcher, Dianne Johnson (Fred's wife), Kiefer Norman (Robbie Doles' relative), Evelyn Trimble, Martha Cottrell (Dan's Mom), Danny Briggs (cancer), and Fred Johnson.

**Those Who Serve:**

**Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:**

<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Blake Briggs
<b>Preaching:</b>	Brian Meade
<b>Sermon #1:</b>	<i>"Attitudes About The Bible Pt. 3"</i>

**Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:**

<b>Workbook:</b>	Jerry Kennemur
<b>Author:</b>	1st & 2nd Peter & Jude
<b>Starting Page &amp; Question:</b>	By Paul Blake
	<i>Page #59, Question #6</i>

**Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:**

<b>Announcements:</b>	Danny Sheffield
<b>Opening Prayer &amp; Scripture Reading:</b>	Paul Busby
<b>Scripture Reading:</b>	<i>1 Peter 1:3-7</i>
<b>Song Leader:</b>	Tim Harris Sr.
<b>Lord's Supper:</b>	Jerry Kennemur
<b>Assisting:</b>	—
<b>Preaching:</b>	Brian Meade
<b>Sermon #2:</b>	<i>"The Living Hope In Christ"</i>

<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Dan Cottrell
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**Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.**

July 2, 2023

<b>Auditorium Bible Class:</b>	Paul Busby
<b>Workbook:</b>	Great Bible Characters: Peter
<b>Author:</b>	By Don Hastings
<b>Starting Page &amp; Question:</b>	<i>Page #15, Question #1</i>
<b>Invitation:</b>	Fred Johnson
<b>Song Leader:</b>	Paul Busby
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Russell Briggs



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# “Attitudes About The Bible Pt. 3”

## Lesson Text: 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

### I. The Bible Is Not All Inspired, Therefore Not Important.

- Why This Is Said? To Make You Doubt And Mistrust The Bible.
- “THE MEN WHO WROTE SCRIPTURE WERE NOT INSPIRED BY GOD.” (Article)  
By GREG STIEKES | FEBRUARY 2, 2021, NEW TESTAMENT, THEOLOGY BJU Seminary.
- The Partial Inspiration View.
  - “Partial inspiration claims that only certain portions of Scripture are inspired, such as prophetic passages, or that certain portions of the Bible are more, or less, inspired than others. All forms of partial inspiration leave the reader to be the final judge of what is and is not inspired, meaning there is no ultimate, discernable, overarching truth presented by God in the Bible.” Matthew 4:4 “But he (Jesus) answered and said, It is written (Deuteronomy 8:3), Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”
- *“Just The Red Letters Of Jesus’ Words Are Important.”*
- Different Than Just Having A Favorite Verse....
- Men Spoke Without God’s Approval.
  - Lies In The Bible- **Genesis 3:4; 1 Kings 13:18-19; 1 Timothy 4:1-3.**
  - Job’s Friends (The Book of Job).
  - The Jews- **John 8:48.**
  - The Man Born Blind- **John 9:31.**
- Why We Must Rightly Divide The Bible- **2 Timothy 2:15-19.**

### II. The Bible Is Simply A Love Letter.

- Why Is This Said? To Minimize God’s Accountable & Judgment For Sin.
- Billy Graham Popularized The Expression That The Bible Is A Love letter.
- Yes, The Message Of The Gospel Is That God Loves Us! **John 3:16; Romans 5:6-8.**
- But What Some Want To Do Is Emphasize God’s Grace, Mercy, & Love— And Exclude Any Talk Of God’s Wrath and Punishment For Sin.
  - This Approach To Evangelism Sends The Wrong Message— You Don’t Have To Repent.
  - Max Lucado- “Let God Love You.”
  - God’s Acceptance Is Conditional- **Deuteronomy 30:15-20; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Romans 6:1.**
  - The “Just Come As You Are....” Type of Evangelism Excludes Repentance. **Luke 24:46-47.**
  - God’s Acceptance Is Conditional- **2 Corinthians 6:17-18.**

### III. The Bible Is Outdated & Irrelevant.

- Why Is This Said? To Get You To Believe You Don’t Need The Bible.
- A Lot Of Things From The Past Are Outdated And Irrelevant To My Life:
  - VCR’s, Rotary Phones, Land Lines, Phone booths, Pay Phones, Pagers, Fax Machines....
- But The Bible Is Relevant Because:
  - It Deals With Parenting- **Proverbs 22:6; 29:15; Colossians 3:20-21.**
  - How To Have A Good Marriage- **Ephesians 5:25 & 33.**
  - How To Succeed At Work- **Proverbs 6:6-11.**
  - Death, Resurrection, & The Judgment- **Job 14:14; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18.**
  - Sin Will Always Be Man’s Worst Problem- **Isaiah 59:1-2; Romans 6:23; Revelation 21:8.**
  - Salvation Is For All People, In All Countries, And In All Time Periods.
    - **Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16.**

# **“The Living Hope In Christ”**

Lesson Text: **1 Peter 1:3-10.**

## **I. What Is A Living Hope?**

- What Is Hope? *“Favorable and confident expectation.”* (Vine’s Expository Dictionary)  
*“It has to do with the unseen and the future”* **Romans 8:24-25.**
- **1 Peter 1:4-10.** Rooted In Faith In The Future Events Of The Bible....
  - The Resurrection. **1 Peter 1:3; 1:19-21; Romans 1:4.**
  - The Incorruptible Inheritance. **1 Peter 1:4; Hebrews 10:34; Colossians 1:5.**
  - The Revelation Of Jesus Christ. **1 Peter 1:7; Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 25:31-33.**
  - The Salvation Fully Realized. **1 Peter 1:9-10; Titus 1:1-2.**

## **II. Who Has This Hope?**

- It Is Only Found “In Christ.”
- Those Outside Of Christ Pictured:
  - Without Christ, Without Hope... **Ephesians 2:11-13.**
  - Those Separated From Christ- **Matthew 25:31-33; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14; John 8:24.**
  - The Subjects Of God’s Wrath- **Colossians 3:5-6.**
- We Must Put Christ On To Have This Living Hope.
  - By Obeying The Gospel- Faith, Repentance, Confession, & Baptism into Christ **Galatians 3:26-27.**
  - If We Don’t, We Don’t Have This Hope- **2 Thessalonians 1:8.**
- Those Who Keep Their Faith- **Romans 5:1-2; Colossians 1:23.**
  - Not Like Those Who Leave Christ- **Hebrews 10:25-27; 2 Timothy 4:10; 2 John 9.**
- To Have This Hope Is An Intentional, Determined Choice.
  - **1 Peter 1:13; vs. 21; Psalm 78:7-8.**
  - **Psalm 33:18; 71:5; Psalm 130:7; Jeremiah 17:7.**

## **III. Why Do I Need This Hope Today?**

- Hope For Daily Living. **Hebrews 6:18-19; 1 John 3:1-3.**
- Hope For Difficulties That Come Our Way. **1 Peter 1:6-7.**
- Hope For Confidence In The Day Of Judgment. **1 John 2:28.**