

"FACTS CONCERNING THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH/CHURCH OF CHRIST

(A NON-DENOMINATIONAL, NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH)

By Dr. Hoyt W. Allen, Jr.

BELIEVERS UNDERSTAND that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. His birth was divine. His life reveals God's will for us, and is our example. He died for our sins, and rose again to become our living Savior and Lord. He ascended to heaven from which we assuredly expect His return at any time, as He promised (John 14:1-3).

THE BIBLE is God's Word and is our absolute Authority. The New Testament is especially important for us, as it contains Christ's teachings, the beginning of His Church, the spiritual reference book for a happy Christian life. It assures us of the ultimate victory of Christ and His Church.

THE CHURCH is His body. It was divinely established. It is commissioned by Christ to go and inform the entire world of the "Good News". Christ is head of the Church and division within His Body is sinful, and hinders evangelism.

MEMBERS are added to the Church (His Body, Family, Kingdom) by Christ only (Acts 2:47), if they meet His terms of admission, which is God's way to become a Christian:

1. By Hearing the Good News & Believing it by Faith Acts 16:30-31
2. By Repenting (turning from and forsaking sin): Acts 2:38; 17:30
3. By Confessing Christ as Lord and Savior: Acts 8:37
4. By Baptism (burial in water): Acts 2:38,41; 8:35-39

BAPTISM is for believers only. It is an immersion in water for the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit. We arise from the water to walk in newness of life as a "born again" believer and child of God. Acts 2:38; John 3:5.

COMMUNION is an act of worship. It is a meeting of believers to keep the blood covenant until Christ's return. It is a memorial of Christ's death for our sins, and is observed every Lord's Day (Sunday). Acts 20:7; I Cor. 11:23-32.

CHRISTIANS are meant to "grow spiritually" in character and in strength (II Peter 3:18). This is accomplished by:

1. A daily life of steadfastness.
2. Faithfulness to the Lord's Church.
3. Daily Worship through prayer and Bible reading which develops a Christlike spirit that helps others to believe in and accept the Lord.
4. Separation from the world.

YOU ARE INVITED to attend any and all of our Church Services, at which we attempt to faithfully teach God's Word. If you are not a Christian, you are encouraged to become such by obeying God's plan of salvation. This obedience, based upon God's Grace, will "save you" and make you a member of His Body (the Church). Christ invites you to accept Him today?

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