The Simplicity in Christ

All Scriptures from The Old King James Version

2Co 11:1 Would to God ye could bear with me a little in *my* folly: and indeed bear with me. 2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. 3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. 4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

KJV (King James Version)

Can you see that, what God has setup for salvation, is simple? You only need to look at all scripture to discern it. If any one's teaching is by opinion and things not found in scripture and is complicated and hard to understand and ignores simple plain English in the translations then you should not trust their teaching on scriptures even if it has been taught for a long period of time even before you were born. God doesn't make it a complicated teaching, man does, because they want to teach it their way by their own opinion. Prove all things by scripture. Scripture was delivered by God. <u>Scripture is the standard we must</u> adhere to.

A Warning from God

2Th 2:7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. 8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: 9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

See how important it is to believe the truth (the Word of God, the Bible). We must love God's word.

Joh 17:9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. --- 17 *Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.* KJV

Gal 2:5 To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that <u>the truth of the</u> gospel might continue with you. KJV

Eph 1:13 In whom ye also *trusted,* after that <u>ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation:</u> in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, KJV

Col 1:5 For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof <u>ye heard before in the</u> word of the truth of the gospel; KJV

1Th 5:21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. 22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

KJV

2Pe 3:15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; 16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. 17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness. KJV

Just as the lawyers did in Jesus time even today there are those keeping people from obtaining the knowledge of God's way by keeping them from knowing all scriptures. They do this by distraction, other times keeping people in small groups with people that think similarly without all scriptural proof. They try to keep people away from considering all scripture which contradicts their doctrine, also keeping them busy not giving time for scripture study. They do many good works but only to distract them from learning their mis teaching. There are more ways than I can possibly write of ways they use to keep people from all the word of God. This is what Satan and his followers do. We must be alert and wise to the things Satan and man does to prevent understanding of God's Word. So, study on your own to gain the knowledge of scriptures they will not teach. God's way is totally learnable.

2Co 11:13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. 14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

2Ti 3:13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

Luk 11:52 Woe unto you, lawyers! <u>for ye have taken away the key of knowledge: ye entered</u> not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered. KJV

2Ti 2:15 Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. KJV

Gal 1:8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any *man* preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed. KJV

Peter says some things in scripture are complicated. The hard things are for those who have matured from milk "simple teaching" to meat or strong foods "harder teachings". The plain of salvation is from the simple scriptures.

Many plans of salvation have been devised by man but not found in scripture. <u>If the teaching is not found in scripture then we need to avoid it completely</u>. <u>We need to prove all things by all scripture knowing scripture does not contradict scripture in teaching</u>. If you don't study to understand the teachings you might find passages that seem to be contradictions. But with study you can see what was stated in scripture is not a contradiction. <u>God's word does contradict many teachings of man</u>. The Bible is right. Men are often wrong. Translators sometimes make errors but correct their translations from time to time. The original text is correct before translation. Using the total of scriptures show the correct ideas or teachings. God is not the author of confusion.

Some false plans for salvation not found in scripture are: All you need to do is have faith only (read James) and God will then accept you, Pray the sinners prayer (no examples of this in scripture), just put your hand on the radio and tell God you accept him into your heart, etc.... If it is not taught in scripture then it is from man's opinions. Men are not inspired, God's word is. Trust only God's opinion in scripture. Scripture interprets scripture. The all or the sum of everything taught.

Heb 8:1 Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; 2 A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man. 3 For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer. 4 For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law: KJV

Eze 28:11 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 12 Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, <u>Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest</u> up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. KJV

Psa 139:17 How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! KJV

2Ti 3:15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works. KJV

1Co 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. 2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. 3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? KJV

1Th 5:21 <u>Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.</u> 22 Abstain from all appearance of evil. KJV

Prove all things by scripture not men's opinions.

1Co 14:32 And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. 33 *For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace,* as in all churches of the saints. KJV

Do you believe all scripture is from God? Do you believe God delivered it to man despite evil workings of evil men or Satan's workers? Remember the scriptures claim "all scripture is inspired" and from God. It is able to make you wise to salvation.

2Ti 3:15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works. KJV

Scripture claims it is inspired. The truth is it is all true or none of it is true. I believe all the scriptures are inspired of God. It is all true. If you can't prove what you practice by scriptures, then your practice is not pleasing to God. Remember if God be for us who can be against us.

Luk 6:46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? KJV

We must do all God said to do. If we don't study all scripture, we can't know what he said.

Rom 8:27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. 28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. 29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. 31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? KJV

Remember the predestination is simply before time God determined how he would save man.

It simply he predetermined what he would require for his purposes.

If we are called by God, it must be for God's purpose not ours. How do we know his purpose except by scripture? How are we called? Read the scripture below:

2Th 2:14 Whereunto *he called you by our gospel,* to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. KJV

We are called by the gospel. We are not called miraculously as some would claim. If you think I am wrong in this, show it by scripture without contradictions not man's opinions. The Holy Ghost calls us by the word of God. Go by scripture not what you or men want to believe!

The Holy Ghost is not given until we obey God in all commandments for salvation.

Act 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and *ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.* KJV

We must be totally and completely dedicated to God. We have many fathers and mothers sisters and brothers if we do as he has asked us. This will save us if we are dedicated to obeying God.

Mar 8:34 And when he had called the people *unto him* with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. 35 *For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. 36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? 37 Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? KJV*

Luk 8:20 And it was told him *by certain* which said, Thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to see thee. 21 And he answered and said unto them, *My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it.* KJV

Obedience is totally necessary to be pleasing to God.

Heb 5:5 So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. 6 As he saith also in another *place*, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. ----- 8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; KJV

If you are not dedicated to obeying him this will happen to you:

Mat 7:16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? 17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. 21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. KJV

If you can't call him Lord, how can you be in God's salvation.

Luk 6:46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? 47 Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: 48 He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. 49 But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great. KJV

God's Warning:

2Th 1:7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

Heb 5:8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; KJV

These scriptures are necessary for God's teaching on salvation

Grace is necessary for salvation God gave it.

Grace saves us: This God's help for our salvation. Man does not do this God does.

Act 15:11 But we believe that <u>through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved,</u> even as they. KJV

Eph 2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) KJV

We did not deserve Grace but God's love made it possible for us to be saved.

Rom 5:15 But not as the offence, so *also* is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. KJV

Even though it is a free gift we still must obey God.

Heb 5:8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9
And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey
him; KJV

Can you not see that without obedience to God you cannot be saved? This includes all scripture.

1Jn 5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. KJV

We cannot have the true love of God without keeping his commandments!

Luk 10:27 So he answered and said, "'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND,' and 'YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." KJV

Grace provides the opportunity to have remission of sins:

Rom 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 24 <u>Being justified freely by his grace</u> through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness <u>for the remission of sins</u> that are past, through the forbearance of God; KJV Joh 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. 15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. 16 <u>And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.</u> 17 For the law was given by Moses, <u>but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.</u> KJV

We receive of the Lord Jesus to receive the grace of God. We must testify the gospel of Christ.

Act 14:3 Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands. KJV

Note: The signs and wonders proved what they were teaching was from God.

Act 20:24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God. --- 32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. KJV

Observe as you read the plain of salvation. See if all these things are his commands for them of biblical times and us today. Then you might see why obedience to all God's commands the sum of all teaching is so important to receive God's salvation for man.

Speaking of Christ as our high priest after the order of Melchisedec.

Heb 5:5 So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. 6 As he saith also in another place, <u>Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.</u> --- 8 <u>Though he were a Son</u>, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect, <u>he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;</u>

2Th 1:7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that <u>obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ</u>: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

For his salvation we must obey him. Obeying all his commands is obedience. We must obey all the commands to the best of our ability. This includes the Apostils commands also. Jesus said these things to his Apostils before he arose into heaven which shows their teaching came directly from God:

Joh 14:25 These things have I spoken unto you, being *yet* present with you. 26 But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, *he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*Mat 18:18 Verily I say unto you, *Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven*: and *whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven*.

Our commission:

Rom 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. 14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! 16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? 17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

The calling is from God's word.

1Co 1:18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

Salvation:

Belief in Faith is necessary for salvation:

Don't ignore any of these commands for salvation!

Believe in faith the scripture "the Word of God" and believe in Christ.

Heb 11:6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him:* for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.* KJV

Rom 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. KJV

Faith comes by believing the word of God. It is not caused by feelings alone! But faithful practicing of God's word which does give a peaceful grateful feeling. Feelings alone are not true faith. But faithfulness in following what God has said in scriptures.

Php 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. 5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. 6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. 9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

Col 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. 17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Luk 8:11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. 12 Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, *lest* they should believe and be saved. KJV

Joh 8:24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for <u>if you do not believe</u> that I am He, you will die in your sins."KJV

Mar 1:15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. *Repent, and believe in the gospel."* KJV

You can't just believe parts of the gospel. You must believe all of it.

Joh 12:44 Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. 45 And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. 46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. 47 And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. 48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the

word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. 49 For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. KJV

Rom 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. 14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! 16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? 17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. KJV

You need teaching in all the scripture to believe the word of God and gain faith. Without faith it is impossible to please him. You are not zapped into having faith. You must diligently seek him.

Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. KJV

Satan will try to take the word of God out of your heart.

Luk 8:12 Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest <u>they should believe and be saved.</u> KJV

The Gospel the word of God does the calling by the Holy Spirit in the word of God.

The Holy Spirit did make it possible for the word of God to be delivered to man.

Rom 1:1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, <u>called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of</u>
<u>God, KJV</u>

2Th 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: 14 Whereunto <u>he called you by our gospel</u>, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. KJV

Act 15:7 And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe. 8 And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us; 9 And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. 10 Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? 11 But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they. KJV

We must repent of our sins. This is necessary for Salvation:

Repentance is a turning away from our sin and never wanting to return to sin ever.

Act 17:30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: KJV

Mat 4:17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, *Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.* Note: The Kingdom is the Church and Jesus is on his throne in Heaven.

Act 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, <u>Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of</u>
Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. KJV

Mar 1:14 Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 And saying, <u>The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is</u> at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel. KJV

True repentance requires believing the gospel.

Confession is part of salvation:

Rom 10:8 But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; 9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. KJV

Our Confession must continue throughout our life:

Mat 10:32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. 33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. KJV

Obedience in Baptism is necessary for salvation:

Jesus commanded for it to be done. Do you want to face God and explain why you did not obey and why you taught it was not necessary for salvation? Obey God in all things!

Mat 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, Io, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen. KJV

Baptism taught for salvation is not Holy Ghost Baptism because man was commanded to do it and man cannot command the Holy Spirit!

Men cannot baptize by the Holy Ghost only God can. Therefore, it must be water Baptism. Baptize because men are told to do it by God. Also, there are many examples showing it was water Baptism. Example below:

Act 8:26 And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert. 27 And he arose

and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, 28 Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet. 29 Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. 30 And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou <u>readest?</u> 31 <u>And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired</u> Philip that he would come up and sit with him. 32 The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth: 33 In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth. 34 And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man? 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. 36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? 37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. 38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. 39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing. KJV

Note: The Baptism was by immersion because they went down into the water. Baptism is a burial in Romans 6. No one is buried by sprinkling dirt on a body. The body must be completely covered. So baptism must not be just sprinkling of water on the body.

Rom 6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness* of *His* resurrection,

God made it possible through the Holy Spirit for the Apostles to preach all that Jesus taught them.

Joh 14:26 <u>But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.</u> KJV

Mat 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19 <u>And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. KJV</u>

The rock was Christ not peter because Christ was the rock that the builders rejected.

Luk 20:17 And he beheld them, and said, What is this then that is written, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner?

Note: Peter received the keys at Pentecost when he delivered the first Gospel sermon of the New Testament. 3,000 souls were added to the Kingdom of God the Church.

You see that the Apostils and Cornelius received the Baptism of the Holy spirit. This was told to the Apostils by Jesus.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost:

Act 1:5 For John truly baptized with water; but <u>ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.</u> KJV

Joh 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. KJV

Act 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. 6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. 7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? 8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? ----16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; ---- 22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: 23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: 24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it. 36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. 37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? 38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy **Ghost.** --- 41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. 42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. ---- 46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved. KJV

Notice in Acts 2 Peter and the Apostles had just received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit He and the other Apostles spoke in tongues they did not know which the men who were in Jerusalem from other nations understood. Then under the spirit taught the multitude that Jesus whom you crucified God has made both lord and Christ. They were cut to the heart and asked men and brethren what shall we do? In Acts 2:38 Peter responded, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. How can anyone deny Baptism and Repentance was not for salvation? The Holy Spirit directed Peter what to speak. Notice this you can't have Salvation without the remission of sins and you can't have the remission of sins without Salvation. How much clearer can it be? The only way you can mis believe this is by mis teaching.

You see men don't add people to the Church, The Lord does Act 2:47. Peter delivered the first gospel sermon at Pentecost, influence by the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. He said to

repent an be baptized in the name of Christ for the remission of sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

This Baptism of the Holy Spirit was at Pentecost and now for Cornelius:

Act 10:22 And they said, Cornelius the centurion, a just man, and one that feareth God, and of good report among all the nation of the Jews, was warned from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house, and to hear words of thee. --- 43 To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins. 44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. 45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. 46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, 47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? 48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days. KJV

Cornelius received the Holy Ghost same as Peter had received which was by the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. The baptism of the holy spirit was received before Baptism only in this scripture. Why? Because Peter and Jewish men with him would not have understood that, God had granted salvation to the Gentiles, if this had not happened.

Other references to remission or forgiveness of sins:

Baptism:

Under John the Baptist: Which pointed to what was to come:

Mar 1:3 "THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS: 'PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD; MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT.'" 4 John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. KJV

Luk 3:2 while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. 3 And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, 3 And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, KJV

Under Christ:

Act 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the <u>remission of sins</u>, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Believe:

Act 10:43 To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive *remission of sins.*"44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. KJV

Repentance:

Luk 24:45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. 46
Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer
and to rise from the dead the third day, 47 and that repentance and remission of sins
should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 And you are
witnesses of these things. 49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in
the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." KJV

Act 5:29 But Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men. 30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. 31 Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him." KJV

To turn from the Power of Satan:

Act 26: 18 to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.' 19 "Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, 20 but declared first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance. KJV

By Jesus and his blood:

Act 13: 37 but He whom God raised up saw no corruption. 38 Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins; 39 and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses. KJV

Mat 26:27 Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. 28 *For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.* KJV

Act 5:29 But Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men." 30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. 31 Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him." KJV Eph 1: 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace KJV

Col 1:13 <u>He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,</u> 14 <u>in whom we have redemption through His blood</u>, the forgiveness of sins. KJV

1Jn 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. KJV

By knowledge:

Luk 1:77 <u>To give knowledge of salvation to His people By the remission of their sins, 78</u>

Through the tender mercy of our God, With which the Dayspring from on high has visited us;

KJV

You can see that remission of sins is taught in all the steps of salvation. These are not different ways for remission of sins but shows they are all necessary for the remission of sins. The all or sum of the teaching. Is this not the gospel? Is it not plane simple English? Is it not a command to these people in sin for forgiveness? Don't you want remission of sins as soon as possible? Don't you want to receive the Holy Ghost? Is it not commanded for all men for all time? Why do people not want to believe it? Do you not believe all scriptures? Do people need to do all things as God said, even if you don't understand why? If you teach

against scripture that was not what they meant. Are not teaching against the inspired gospel? Do you think God will ignore disobedience and mis teaching? Read the next scripture:

Mat 7: 21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. KJV

Don't schedule Baptisms! Don't you want remission of sins quickly. Baptism in scripture was always done as soon as possible.

Act 16:30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? 31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. 32 And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. 33 And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed *their* stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. 34 And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house. KJV

Act 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, <u>Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of</u>
Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. KJV

1Pe 3:18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: 19 By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; 20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. 21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ: KJV

It is not power in the water or washing the filth from the body. *It is the answer of a good conscience by obeying the teachings of God.*

1Ti 1:19 <u>Holding faith, and a good conscience</u>; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: KJV

Heb 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, *purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*KJV

1Ti 3:7 Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. 8 Likewise *must* the deacons *be* grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; 9 *Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.* KJV

After salvation you are not to stop serving God. <u>It is not a free pass to God.</u> <u>It is just the beginning of service to God.</u> We must obey and serve him for our entire life unto death.

Continue to the end of Life for salvation:

Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. 3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. KJV

Joh 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, <u>If ye continue in my word,</u> then are ye my disciples indeed; KJV

Col 1:23 <u>If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister; KJV</u>

1Ti 4:16 <u>Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this</u> thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee. KJV

2Ti 3:14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them;* KJV

Mat 10:22 And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name's sake: but <u>he that endureth to the end shall be saved.</u> KJV

Rev 2:10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast *some* of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: <u>be thou</u> faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. KJV

The Seeds of Division in The First Century

Heb 3:12 <u>Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.</u>

It isn't hard to understand many were teaching error to turn some away from Christ Church to form their group. Example: the Jews, the Nicolaitans, Doctrine that Christ did not come in the flesh, the doctrine of Balaam etc,---

Rev 2:6 But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

------ 14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication. 15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.

1Jn 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. 2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

They did cause division. I see the same or worse division today. Denominations are divided teaching different things not sticking strictly to scripture. How is this not division? I was a member of a denomination. I did not want to believe they were not teaching all things taught in the Bible. But with my own study I realized they were not. They taught many correct things but left out several plain passages showing some of their teaching wrong, especially about salvation. If you get salvation wrong then despite all the good you do you will be condemned.

Read this scripture:

Mat 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 <u>Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?</u>

23 <u>And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.</u>

It was the beginning of apostasy. Satan and his workers will always try to take people away from Christ. See how false teachers are antichrist:

Act 15:24 Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, <u>Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment:</u>

There were many Anti-Christ in the first Centry.

1Jn 2:18 Little children, it is the last time: and as <u>ye have heard that antichrist shall come</u>, <u>even now are there many antichrists</u>; whereby we know that it is the last time. 19 <u>They went out from us</u>, but they <u>were not of us</u>; for if they had been of us, they would <u>no doubt have continued with us: but they went out</u>, that they might be made manifest that they <u>were not all of us</u>.

Turned from the Gospel to a false Gospel:

Gal 1:6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed. 10 For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ. 11 But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. 12 For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Mar 7:7 Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. 8 For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. 9 And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.

2Pe 3:16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.

Col 2:8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

Jews trying to get the Mosaic law merged into Christ Law:

Act 15:24 Since we have heard that some who went out from us have troubled you with words, unsettling your souls, saying, "You must be circumcised and keep the law"—to whom we gave no such commandment—25 it seemed good to us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, 26 men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. 27 We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who will also report the same things by word of mouth. 28 For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things: 29 that you abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell. 30 So when they were sent off, they came to Antioch; and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the letter. 31 When they had read it, they rejoiced over its encouragement. 32 Now Judas and Silas, themselves being prophets also, exhorted and strengthened the brethren with many words.

Gal 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. 2 Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing. 3 And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a debtor to keep the whole law. 4 You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace. 5 For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love. 7 You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? 8 This persuasion does not come from Him who calls you. 9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump. 10 I have confidence in you, in the Lord, that you will have no other mind; but he who troubles you shall bear his judgment, whoever he is. 11 And I, brethren, if I still preach circumcision, why do I still suffer persecution? Then the offense of the cross has ceased. 12 I could wish that those who trouble you would even cut themselves off! 13 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Col 2:13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, 14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. 15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it. 16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, 17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ. 18 Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, 19 and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God. 20 Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as though living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations— 21 "Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle," 22 which all concern things which perish with the using—according to the commandments and doctrines of men? 23 These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, false humility, and neglect of the body, but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh. Heb 8:1 Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; --- 6 But now

hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. 7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. 8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with <u>the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:</u> 9 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. 10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: 11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. 12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. 13 In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away. Gal 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. 2 Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing. 3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. 4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. KJV

Christ law came into effect after his death bringing us into his new covalent or New Testament.

Heb 9:15 And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. 16 For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. 17 For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.

Rom 15:4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

Gal 3:24-25 24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

False Prophets:

2Pe 2:1 <u>But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false</u> teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. 2 And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. 3 By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber.

Mat 24:9 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. 10 And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. 11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.

12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

Gal 1:9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

Followers of Men and Not Christ:

1Co 1:12 Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. 13 Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?

Deceiving Spirits: Those who teach forbidding to marry and to abstain from foods are doctrines of demons. Avoid them.

1Ti 4:1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, 2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, 3 forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. 4 For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving; 5 for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

Those teaching we need Priesthood like in the Mosaic law:

Gal 5:4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.

You can't go back to the old law to justify creating a new priesthood. If you do, you have fallen from God's grace. God has already made a priesthood without man's interference. Faithful Christians are the Priesthood in which Christ is the High Priest:

Heb 8:1 Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; 2 A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.

Heb 5:5 So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: "YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU." 6 As He also says in another place: "YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK"; 7 who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, 8 though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. 9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him, 10 called by God as High Priest "ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK,"

Faithfull Christians are our priesthood not setup by man:

1Pe 2:2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: 3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious. 4 To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, 5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Churches Going Astray:

Rev 2:1 "To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, 'These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands: 2 "I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars; 3 and you have persevered and have patience, and have labored for My name's sake and have not become weary. 4 Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love. 5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent. 6 But this you have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. 7 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God." '

The first love is God. If we forget God by our doing. Then we have forgotten why we are doing.

Rev 2:12 "And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write, 'These things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword: 13 "I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. And you hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days in which Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. 14 But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality. 15 Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate. 16 Repent, or else I will come to you quickly and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth.

Rev 2: 18 "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, 'These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass: 19 "I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and as for your works, the last are more than the first. 20 Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. 21 And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. 22 Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds. 23 I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works.

Rev 3:1 "And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, 'These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: "I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. 2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God. 3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you. 4 You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. 5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

Rev 3:14 "And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: 15 "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. 16 So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. 17 Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'—and do not

know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked—18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. :20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. 21 To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

Being lukewarm makes God sick of you. From this you can see how Satan and his followers were starting the beginnings of division.

Division was not meant to be in the Church.

You can see this by these scriptures: See all Churches and Christians were to be One.

Eph 4:2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is <u>one body</u>, and <u>one Spirit</u>, even as ye are called in <u>one hope of your calling</u>; 5 <u>One Lord, one faith</u>, <u>one baptism</u>, 6 <u>One God and Father of all</u>, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. 7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. 1Co 1:10 Now <u>I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.</u>

See the word was at the beginning of creation the word was an is with God and God was the word. He gave us his word to save us. The belief and obedience to his word saves us.

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2

The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

This is how we can become one with the father and the son:

Joh 10:30 *I and my Father are one.*

Joh 17:17 <u>Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.</u> 18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. 20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 <u>That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.</u> 22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: 23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

1Jn 5:6 This is he that came by water and blood, <u>even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood.</u> And it is <u>the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth. 7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. 8 And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the</u>

water, and the blood: and these three agree in one. 9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.

See how we are not to be divided. Unfortionally the religious world is divided. Why do I say that? Because they all teach different doctrines. Most do teach Belief in Jesus as the Christ. This good but everything else seems to be division. There are over 30,000 denominations all with different doctrines. Isn't this division? They are not speaking the same thing.

1Co 1:10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

I suggest we all need to return to the example from scripture of faithful Churches found in scriptures. Only then can we be one with the God head as in Joh 17:17-23.

Joh 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. 18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. 20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: 23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

Faithful Churches for Christ like in the first century are what we should seek. The un – denominational Church I worship with use the bible teachings in the Word of God. We must want to be just like the Faithful Churches in the New Testament.

Rom 16:16 Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.

This is why this name was chosen. Come join us. If we are not near you let us help you find a faithful church near you. You can use these Web pages also to find a church. (Bible.ca "go to find a church near you" or http://findthechurch.com/)

God bless you in your gospel study!

Questions or request for Bible studies: Contact Mt Olive Church of Christ Mt Olive AL. 205-631-9182 Or contact me, M. R. Rouse. 205-607-4139 avoidsin2@gmail.com

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