



Lesson 8 – Why Do We Exist? **Concerning the Disciples**

A BRIEF RESUME OF THE MOVEMENT TO RESTORE THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

Are the churches of Christ (or Christian churches) any different from other churches? Why do these churches exist? What do they believe?

1) Why do we exist?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

2) When was the NT Church established?

- Founder (Mark 16:16)
- Foundation (Isa 28:16; Mt 16:18; Eph 2:19, 20; 1Peter 2:4-6; 1Co 3:11)
- When and Where Founded (Isaiah 2:1-4; Micah 4:1,2; Luke 24:46-49; Acts 1:4-8: 2:1-4, 41-47)

- Character
 - Galatians 1:13
 - 1 Peter 2:5

3) Organization of Church – consists of (see Philippians 1:1)

SAINTS

- Called by _____
 - Romans 1:7; I Corinthians 1:2; 2 Timothy 1:8,9
- How called
 - Hebrews 8:10; John 6:45; Romans 10:14, 15; I Corinthians 1:21; 2 Thessalonians 2:13
- Why Called
 - Acts 26:16-18; Luke 24:7; Titus 2:14; 2Thessalonians 2:14; Romans 10:1-13; 11:23-32

ELDERS

- Office
 - 1Timothy 3:5; 5:17; 1Peter 5:1-3; Acts 20:28
- Character
 - 1Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9
- Duty
 - 1Timothy 3:2; 5:17; 1Peter 5:2, 3; 1Thessalonians 5:12

Decons

- Office
 - Acts 6:1-6
- Character
 - 1 Timothy 3:8-13; 1 Peter 5:2, 3; 1 Thessalonians 5:12
- Duty
 - Acts 6:1-3

4. Attitude/Duty of Saints to Leaders

- To be _____—Heb 13:7-17
- Not rebuke—1Ti 5:1; 1Pe 5:5
- About accusations—1Ti 5:19
- _____—1Ti 5:17; 1Th 5:13
- Salute—Heb 13:24

5. Name of the Church

OF ORGANIZATION

- Church of God
 - Acts 20:28; I Corinthians 1:2; 1 Timothy 3:5
- Church of the Living God
 - I Timothy 3:15
- Body of Christ
 - Colossians 1:24; Ephesians 4:12; 5:23
- The Church of Christ
 - Romans 16:16; Ephesians 5:23

OF MEMBERS

- Disciples
 - John 15:8; Acts 11:26
- Saints
 - Romans 1:7; I Corinthians 1:2
- Brethren
 - Luke 8:21; I Corinthians 1:2; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:2
- Christians
 - Acts 11:26; 26:28; I Peter 4:16
- Children
 - Galatians 3:26

6. No creed but _____ - see Matthew 16:16; Romans 10:8-10

- Importance of confessing Christ—Mt 10:32, 33; 1Jn 4:15
- Examples of confessing Christ—Mt 16:16; Jn 1:49; Ac 8:37; 1Ti 6:12
- Unchangeableness of creed and confession—Heb 13:8

7. Only two ordinances given to the church:

1. _____

- Proper subject: a penitent believer—Mk 16:16; Ac 2:28-41; 8:12-37; 18:8
- How performed—Mt 3:16; Ac 2:38, 39; Jn 3:5; Ro 6:4; Col 2:12; Heb 10:22
- Design—Mk 16:16; Jn 3:5; Ac 2:38; 22:16; 1Pe 3:21

2. _____

- Instituted—Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19, 20; 1Co 11: 23-26
- Importance of—Jn 6:48-58; 1Co 10:16
- When to be observed—Ac 20:7
- Self-examination before taking—1Co 11:27-30
- Results of partaking unworthily—1Co 11:27, 29, 30

8. Our rule of faith and practice is _____

- To be used in conversion of the world—Mk 16:15, 16; Mt 28:19, 20
- Sufficiency for church government—2Ti 3:16, 17
- Seed of the kingdom—Mt 13:3
- Sword of the Spirit—Eph 6:17; Heb 4:12