

**THE
CHURCH
OF
CHRIST
IN THE
NEW TESTAMENT**

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Apostle Paul's

1 Peter 2:4-6

- 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.
- 6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

1) God is unchangeable, and His works are perfect.

a. *Malachi 3:6:*

6 For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

b. *Hebrews 13:8*

8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

c. *James 1:17:*

17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

d. *Deuteronomy 32:4:*

4 He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.

e. *Galatians 1:8-9:*

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.

f. See also: *Isaiah 55:8-9, Psalms 147:5, and Ecclesiastes 3:14*

2) Christ brings the Kingdom of God (Heaven), and builds his Church.

Christ the King and Head of the church (*Matthew 2:1-2*)

1. Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

2. Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. See also: *St John 18:33-37*

Colossians 1:17-19

17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fullness dwell:

See also: *Ephesians 1:20-23*, and *Ephesians 4:15*

Christ's' forerunner. *Matthew 3:1-2*

1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea,

2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Christ begins his ministry by being baptized. *Matthew 3:13-17*

Christ is our light, we must follow him.

John 8:12 What does this scripture mean to you?

Christ preaches the gospel. *Matthew 4:23*

23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

Christ build his church. *Matthew 16:18*

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.

The church is compared to a household that will grow into a holy temple.
Ephesians 2:19-22

The church is compared to the Bride or wife, and Body of Christ.
Ephesians 5:23-27,32; and Revelations 19:7-9

If the church is the bride of Christ, then it must be called in his name.
Romans 16:16

We are often criticized for believing that there is only one true church.
How should we respond to that criticism?

3) Principles of the gospel for salvation. *Hebrews 6:1-2*

a. Faith

John 14:1-13

Hebrews 11:6

John 3:16 This scripture is often used by many to say that faith is the only requirement for salvation. Does this scripture say that?

Acts 16:30-31

Romans 10:9,13

John 1:12

b. Repentance

Matthew 1:21

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS:
for he shall save his people from their sins.

Mark 1:14-16 Christ preaches repentance.

What is repentance and what does it entail?

Mark 6:12 and *Acts 2:38* Apostles preach repentance.

Acts 11:18 Repentance necessary for life, salvation.

Luke 24:46-47

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved 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
among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

c. Baptism

Matthew 7:13-14

13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

14. Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Is baptism essential for salvation? _____

John 3:5

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

John 10:1-9

Baptism is the door into the Kingdom of God, without it you cannot enter!

There are some who say that when you are born as a child you have already been born of the water, and now you need only to be born of the Spirit.

How do we respond to that? See *Acts 11:16*

Matthew 3:15 Baptism fulfills all righteousness.

Mark 16:15-16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be _____

Acts 2:38 Baptism by water for remission of sins. See also *Acts 22:16*

Mode of baptism.

What does the word baptism mean?

What example did Christ set for us? *Matthew 3:16* See also *Acts 8:38*

John 3:22-23 and *John 4:1-2* Jesus and disciples baptize.

What is baptism by water symbolic of? See *Romans 6:4-5*; *Colossians 2:12* and *Galatians 6:15*

The baptism of the Spirit given after the day of Pentecost and confirmed by laying on of the hands. *Acts 8:14-17*, *Acts 19:1-6*

Baptism of the spirit promised after the baptism of water. *Mark 1:7-8* and *Acts 2:38*

d. Laying on of hands.

Blessing of children. *Mark 10:14-16*

Healing of sick. *Mark 6:7,13* See also *James 5:14-16*

Ordination. *Acts 13:2-3* and *1 Timothy 4:14*

Confirmation. *Acts 8:14-17* and *Acts 19:6*

Other special blessings. *Acts 6:3-6*

Does the bible set a pattern for the reception of the Holy Ghost?
Is this the way most churches do it today?

e. More understanding on the doctrine of salvation.

We must endure to the end. *Matthew 24:12-14* and *Mark 13:13*

We are saved by grace. *Romans 3:23-26*
See also *Ephesians 2:1-10* and *Titus 3:5-7*

We must be obedient to the gospel. *Hebrew 5:8-9*
See also *Romans 6:15-23*

We are saved by the name of Christ *Acts 4:12*

Saved by the gospel or engrafted word. *James 1:21*
See also *1 Corinthians 15:1-2*

Saved by hope. *Romans 8:6-25* See also *1 Thessalonians 5:8*

It is taught in many Protestant churches that faith alone is sufficient for salvation, is this true? How should we answer this charge in scripture?

James 2:14-26 Faith without works is _____

Luke 6:46-49 Those that do his saying and those who don't.
Matthew 7:21-29

James 1:22-25 Be doers of the word and not hearers.

John 14:21-24 If ye love me keep my _____

f. Resurrection of the dead.

John 11:25

25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.

1 Corinthians 15:50-58

This scripture is often used by other churches to prove the rapture, what should our response be?

g. Eternal Judgment.

Christ to judge the nations, world. *Matthew 25:31-46*

The great judgment day, judged by our works. *Revelations 20:12*

Matthew 16:27

One of the statements we are often criticized for is that we are “judged by our works” and people tell us no we are saved by grace.

4) The priesthood chose and given Authority by Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-12

11 And he gave some, apostles; and some prophets; and some evangelists; and some pastors and teachers.

12. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

a. Christ, the last high priest, was called by God through prophecy.

Hebrews 5:1-10 See also *Psalms 110:1-4*

Hebrews 3:1

1 Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle an High Priest of our professions, Christ Jesus;

See also *Hebrews 7:11-28*

To what ministry was Christ called?

b. Apostles placed in the Church by Christ.

Christ chose and ordained 12 to be his Apostles.

What does the word Apostle mean?

John 15:16

16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chose you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

See also *Luke 6:13-16*, *Matthew 10:1-5*, *Mark 3:13-19* and *Appendix 1*

Another apostle called to take the place of Judas Iscariot. *Acts 1:20-26*

God set the apostles in the foundation of the church.

Ephesians 2:19-21

19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

See also *1 Corinthians 12:27-28*

The Apostles given the same authority.

Luke 22:24-30 See also *Matthew 20:24-28* and *Mark 9:33-35*

Matthew 16:18-19

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 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.

See also *Matthew 18:18*

The Apostles oversee the needs of the whole church and give direction as needed.

Acts 6:1-4

1 And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministrations.

The Original 12 Apostles called in AD 27

1. Simon Peter (Cephas, Bar-jona)
2. Andrew (Peter's brother)
3. James (Son of Zebedee)
4. John (The beloved, Revelation, Son of Zebedee)
5. Philip
6. Bartholomew
7. Thomas (Didymus)
8. Matthew (Levi)
9. Simon (Zelotes)
10. Jude (Judas, Lebbaeus, Thaddaeus)
11. James (the Less, Son of Alphaeus)
12. Judas Iscariot

The Other Apostles

1. James (The just, The Lord's Brother)
2. Paul (Saul)
3. Barnabas
4. Apollos
5. Andronicus
6. Junia
7. Epaphroditus
8. Timothy
9. Silas
10. Matthias

Galatians 1:18-19

Romans 16:7

1 Corinthians 4:6-9

1 Thessalonians 1:1

Philippians 2:25-30

Do the scriptures teach succession in the Apostleship?

An Apostle is an Elder.

1 Peter 5:1

c. Prophets were to be in the Church.

Ephesians 2:19-21 See also *Ephesians 4:11*

1 Corinthians 12:27-28

d. Christ sent another 70 disciples to evangelize.

Luke 10:1-17 See also Ephesians 4:11

What ministry did they hold?

e. There were Elders in the Church.

Acts 14:23 1 Timothy 3:1-7 See also Ephesians 4:11

f. Priests, teachers and (deacons) in the Church.

1 Timothy 3:8 Philippians 1:1

Acts 6:7 1 Corinthians 12:28 See also Ephesians 4:11

g. The Word of God was their constant guide.

Matthew 24:35 2 Timothy 3:14-17

h. The priesthood continues in his church.

Ephesians 4:12-16

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:

14. That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and for, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

i. The Love of God and your neighbor was their principle commandment.

Mark 12:29-31

5) The Power and Gifts of the Spirit were given and demonstrated.

a. Power and Gifts given to the ministry.

Luke 10:17-19 See also *John 14:11-14*

Mark 16:14-20 See also *Acts 2:1-18* *Acts 5:12-16*

b. God placed the Gifts of the Spirit in his Church.

1 Corinthians 12:28

28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

See also *1 Corinthians 12:1-11*

What Gifts of the Spirit did God place in the Church?

c. Spiritual Gifts to continue in the Church.

1 Corinthians 13:8-13 See also *1 Corinthians 14:1-40* *Acts 2:39*

6) The Fruits of the Spirit to transform the lives of the Members.

Galatians 5:22-25

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

2 Peter 1:3-11

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

5. And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 But he that lacketh theses things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

NOTES

2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.

3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word..

Acts 15:22-23

22 Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren:

23 And they wrote letters by them after this manner; The apostles and elders and brethren send greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia:

1 Corinthians 11:34

34 And if any man hunger, let him eat at home; that ye come not together unto condemnation. And the rest will I set in order when I come.

Is there still a need for leadership and direction in the church?

Apostles and priesthood offices to remain in the church until there is unity.

Ephesians 4:11-15

More Apostles called after Christ ascended.

Acts 13:103 See also Acts 14:14
