

Who Started The Church Of Christ?

Virgil L. Hale

Some have charged the church of Christ had its beginning with the Campbells who came to the United States in the early 1800s. Documentary research of Dr. Robinson, principle of Overdale College in Birmingham, England, shows the following:

“In the Furness District of Lancashire, in North West England, there existed in 1669, during the reign of Charles II, a group of eight churches of Christ. Most of them are not now in existence. An old minute-book has been found on the year 1669 and it shows that they called themselves by the name of church of Christ, practiced baptism by immersion, celebrated the Lord’s Supper each Lord’s Day, and had elders and deacons. There was also a church of Christ in Dungannon, Ireland, in 1804 and in Allington, Dengigshire. In 1735, John Davis, a young preacher in the Fife District of Scotland was preaching New Testament Christianity, twenty-five years before Thomas Campbell (Alexander Campbell’s father) was born.”

The church of Christ was promised by Jesus Christ (Mat. 16:18), began on Pentecost (Acts 2) and has existed since that day (Dan. 2:44)!

In view of the above, how can anyone honestly accuse us of following a man, Alexander Campbell? There are some, who because of prejudice, refer to us members of the Lord’s church as “Campbellites.” Those who do so know better, but they are really just promoting what they have heard their ancestors say. There is not a doctrine or practice, engaged in by the Lord’s church that originated with Alexander Campbell or any other man.

Anywhere in this world that people follow the teaching of Christ, found in the New Testament, they are a congregation of the New Testament church. After all, He left us a book of instructions plain enough to be followed. If we follow it as we would any other blueprint, we will be what He wants us to be. We claim to be nothing more nor less than the New Testament church, and we challenge anyone to prove differently.

When I hear people use the term “Campbellite” I tell them that I have never met anyone who wears that name. In fact, I let it be known that I would like to meet such a person and find out what they believe and practice. However, I make it clear that if such people exist, they are wrong religiously, because they are following a man rather than following the Lord.

It should be clear to all sensible thinking people, that if we all follow the Bible, we will all be teaching and practicing the same thing. In fact, we will all be simply “Christians”— nothing more, nothing less, and nothing else. Is this not what our Lord prayed for in John chapter 17? Surely it is!!

THE BENEFITS OF GOING TO HELL

Mike Cornwell

Have you ever thought of the benefits of going to Hell? Some people have said, “If you look close enough you will find good in everything.” Will Rogers said, “I never met a man I didn’t like.” If there is some good in everything then there must be some benefits to going to Hell. (This should ease your mind a little, if you are headed there!) This will not benefit those awaiting Hell since there is Sermons no peace of mind, “... where the worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched” (Mark 9:44). I tried thinking of some benefits of going to Hell and I came up with the following.

1. No more gospel preaching in Hell. If there is no gospel preaching then there will not be any faithful preachers in Hell. In Hell there will be no more long, boring sermons, and no shorter ones either. Preaching has a way of making some who are in sin uneasy, that is if the preacher is preaching the truth of the word. Many have said, “The preacher is preaching directly at me!” Many who are in sin have an attitude problem. They say at times, “Keep your nose out of my business. If I want to talk to you, I will do the calling!” This simply means for a funeral or possibly a wedding. They will not have to suffer embarrassment any longer in Hell, there will not be any warning of spiritual damnation. Gospel preachers are to, “... reprove...rebuke...exhort...” (2 Tim 4:2). They must preach the truth of the gospel, not man’s doctrine, but the doctrine of Christ. How else is man to know the truth that will set him free (John 8:32). This world is full of false teachers who proclaim man’s doctrine. They will have their congregation in Hell; but they will not be preaching Jesus Christ crucified!

2. In Hell, there will be no more Christian workers. You know, the ones who bother you with phone calls, letters, cards and home visits. They have been bothering people since the church’s beginning (Acts 8:4). During the first century the disciples went from house to house (Acts 20:20). Even after promises of attendance they did not stop (Acts 24:25). If you go to Hell you will no longer have to worry about uninvited Christians interfering with your daily routine. True Christians, those who are part of the Lord’s body, will be in Heaven. You will have lots of company in hell with souls just like yours!

3. In Hell, there will be no interference with your lifestyle. There will be no one to tell you how to live faithfully in order to receive a crown of life! (Rev 2:10). No one will tell you about sin; no embarrassment any longer with the words “sin” and “sinner.” No one will prevent you from being with the “in” crowd: there will be an abundance of them in Hell. You see, the Gospel is hid from those in Hell (2 Cor 4:3).

4. There will be no more “Gospel Calls” to righteousness by those “holier than thou” preachers and “do gooder” Saints. After all, you were as good as those “hypocrites,” maybe even better! Look around when you get there, they will be there too! Everyone will be doing the same thing, suffering for eternity!

5. In Hell, there will be no more invitations given. You will not have to listen to an “invitation to accept the Gospel.” that was the most embarrassing part of going to “church” anyway. No more pressure from family members, the preacher, and friends who were “faithful” Christians. All you will be able to do is “hope” all is well with them since you will be separated for eternity. I wonder if you will miss the beautiful voices raised in songs of praise. You might have enjoyed that part of “church” and just maybe miss that aspect. It will be a relief that you will no longer be bored with all the nonsense of “church.”

A benefit of Hell is no longer having to avoid making a decision to obey the gospel: the subject simply will not be spoken. There is however one catch to this “good news” of Hell. You will have to make a definite, sure decision if you want these benefits of going to Hell. All you will have to do to receive these benefits is do nothing about your soul’s condition! When you cross over into an eternity in Hell there will be no turning back. If you have the slightest doubt that you want these benefits, you need to make changes in your life ... obey the gospel before it is too late!

NEWS AND NOTES

“I was sick, and ye visited me...” (Matthew 25:36)
Remember in Prayer:

Please check the bulletin boards for updates on Prayer Request Lists. Please update us if needed.

At the present we do not know of anyone who is directly and/or indirectly affected by Covid-19. If you know of someone please keep us updated.

In Other News:

Bible classes began again with some changes on Sunday, October 4th. Class time began at 9:00 today. Please check for all the changes in classroom assignments. There will be some temporary room changes. Arrive early and find your place for Bible Study.

Those Privileged To Serve October 4, 2020

SUNDAY MORNING

Song Leader:
Opening Prayer:
Closing Prayer:
Bible Reading:
Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

LORD'S TABLE

Presiding:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Randy Oden

SUNDAY EVENING

Song Leader:
Opening Prayer:
Closing Prayer:
Preacher:

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

October 7, 2020

Song Leader:
Opening Prayer:
Closing Prayer:

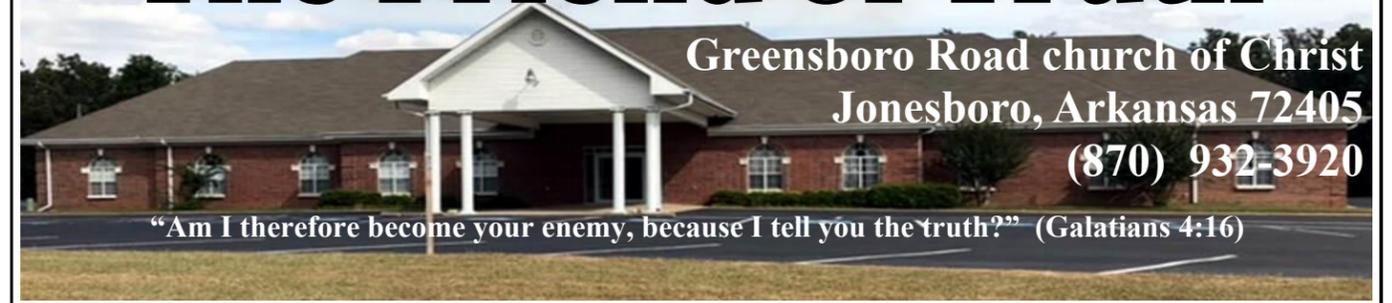
DEVOTIONAL SPEAKER

October 7, 2020

NUMBERS FOR THE WEEK Week Of September 27, 2020

Sunday Bible Study
Sunday AM Worship
Sunday PM Worship
Wednesday Bible Study
Contribution \$

The Friend of Truth



Greensboro Road church of Christ

Jonesboro, Arkansas 72405

(870) 932-3920

“Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?” (Galatians 4:16)

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KeeNotes

A Word Of Advice To Parents

Lloyd Gale

I believe that most parents want the best for their children. So what should they look for when choosing a church? Do not look for a church with a multiplicity of social activities. If you do, your children will grow up with the wrong impression of what the church is. God has provided your children with two youth directors, they are mother and father or the person or persons who serve in that capacity. Parents have the responsibility of knowing what their children are being taught and by whom. Parents must not depend upon schools or teachers to teach their children the way to heaven. It is the parents' responsibility. Seriously consider the question; “Where will my children be for eternity?” If you honestly evaluate this question, it will change your life and then theirs.

Look for a church where the preacher and teachers know, love, and live God's Word. It may not be the largest congregation in the area, but it should be a congregation who loves the Lord and one another. Become involved in the work of the church and let your life revolve around the church (Matt. 6:33). Make the decision that when the church assembles, your family will be present. Your children's evaluation of the church will largely depend upon your love and faithfulness to the Lord's church. Live your faith daily at home and elsewhere. Proverbs 22:6 still teaches, “Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” We train with both words and by personal example.

We can all learn from the things written aforesaid (Rom. 15:4). Harken to the words of Joshua! “And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom we will serve; whether the gods which your father's served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” (Joshua 24:15).

We must choose whether we will follow the false gods of this present world, which includes all man-originated religious faiths and practices; or, if we will serve the Lord. Jesus said “no man can serve two masters” (Matt. 6:24). If we seek material and social success, then we have chosen our god. One has a lot of company on the broad road. But the road that leads to heaven is the less traveled road (Matt. 7:13-14). Remember this.

SHEPHERDS

Dan Nichols
Randy Oden
Jody Pickens

DEACONS

Scottie Blanchard
Jerry Dodson
Mike Felts
Jason Garland
Marshall Lands
Mark Wooten

EVANGELIST

Terry Joe Kee

MISSIONARIES

Michael Hughes
Samrit Kammanee
Arnold Kelley
Guyana, South America
Warren, PA

SERVICES

SUNDAY

Classes 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the Word of God
Romans 10:17
Believe the Word of God
John 8:24

Repent of your sins
Luke 13:3

Confess your faith in Jesus
as the Son of God
Romans 10:9,10

Be Baptized for the
remission of your sins
Acts 2:38

Live faithfully
Revelation 2:10

“Where there is no vision,
the people perish...”
Proverbs 29:18

God Give Us 2020 Vision
in 2020