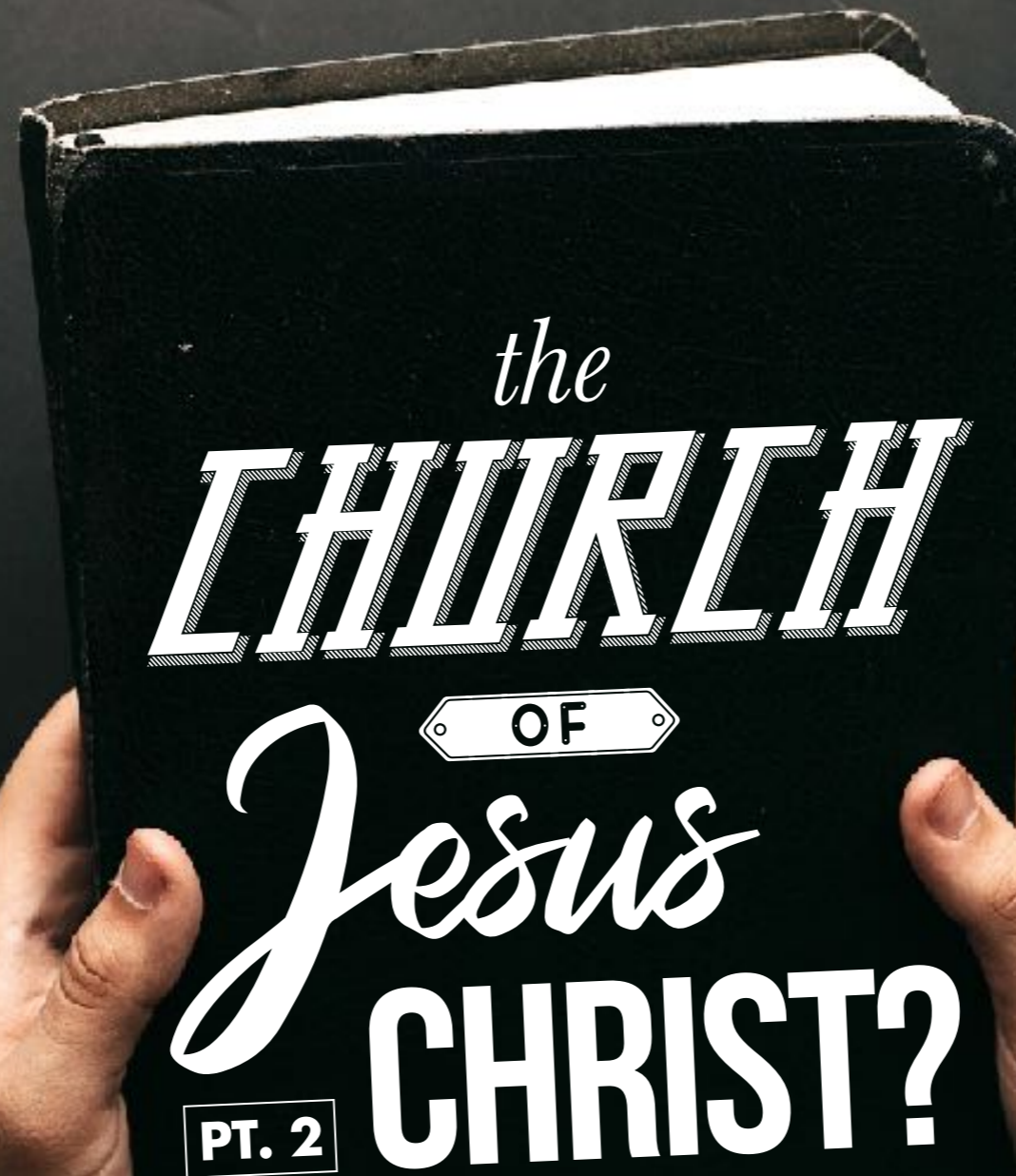


WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH ABOUT...



*the*  
**CHURCH**  
**OF**  
*Jesus*  
**CHRIST?**  
**PT. 2**

# WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH ABOUT THE CHURCH/KINGDOM OF CHRIST?

**THAT IT WAS THE ETERNAL  
PURPOSE OF GOD.**

**THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE.**

**THAT IT WILL NEVER END.**

**THAT IT IS IDENTIFIABLE.**

## ACTS 2:42

"And **they continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching** and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers."

# WHAT IS THE **NAME** OF JESUS' ONE CHURCH?

The NT church is called by multiple "names":

**"church[es] of Christ"** (Rom. 16:16) **"Mount Zion"**

**"temple of God"** (1 Cor. 3:16) (Heb. 12:22)

**"church[es] of the saints"** (1 Cor. 14:33)

**"church[es]...in Christ"** (Gal. 1:22)

**"church of God in Christ Jesus"** (1 Th. 2:14)

**"church of the living God"** (1 Tim. 3:15)

**"kingdom of God"**—≈60x (Mk. 9:1; Jn. 3:5; *et al.*)

**"kingdom of heaven"**—≈30x (Matt. 18:3; *et al.*)

**"the church"**—≈48x (Matt. 18:17; 1 Cor. 12:28; *et al.*)

**"church[es] of God"**—9x (Acts 20:28; 1 Cor. 1:2; *et al.*)

## WHAT IS THE **NAME** OF JESUS' ONE CHURCH?

“In the New Testament, these expressions are not intended to be *formal denominational titles*. Rather, they are **descriptions**. Churches of Christ have so intended their use of the name ‘church of Christ.’ They have insisted that *any of the above expressions are scriptural and may be used*. In contrast, the New Testament grants no sanction to refer to the church of the New Testament as Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopal, Lutheran, or Pentecostal church. These are **manmade** designations that spotlight mere humans or favorite doctrines, rather than giving honor to the Founder and Owner of the church.”<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Miller, Dave. *What the Bible Says about the Church of Christ*. Montgomery: Apologetics Press, 2007. pp. 31-32. Print.

# WHAT IS THE **NAME** OF JESUS' ONE CHURCH?

So, if any of these names is scriptural,  
**does that mean that any church that  
goes by any of these names is the  
*true, New Testament church?***

**NO.** Rather, the legitimacy of a given church is determined by **whether or not that church "continue[s] steadfastly in the apostles' teaching..."** (Acts 2:42).

# 1<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY-CHURCH—**IDENTIFIABLE** IN 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY (CF. ACTS 2:42)

	<b>NT CHURCH</b>	<b>CHURCH A</b>	<b>CHURCH B</b>	<b>CHURCH C</b>	<b>CHURCH D</b>
<b>PLAN OF SALVATION</b>	Hear, Believe, Repent, Confess, Be Immersed	God Pre-Elects/ Predetermines	Believe in Jesus, Receive Holy Spirit	Acknowledge Sin, Believe & Ask Jesus Into Heart	Hear, Believe, Repent, Confess, Be Immersed
<b>PATTERN OF WORSHIP</b>	A Cappella Singing, Study, Prayer, Giving, Lord's Supper every First Day of Week	Choir/Pianist, Prayer, Giving, Sermon, L.S. Once/Year	"Praise Band," Prayer, Talk, L.S. Once/Month	"Praise Band," Prayer, Talk, Giving, L.S. Once/Quarter	A Cappella Singing, Study, Prayer, Giving, Lord's Supper every First Day of Week
<b>ORGANIZ. &amp; GOV'T</b>	Jesus Only Head; Pre- Qualified Male Elders/ Deacons (if avail.)	Earthly Head; Single Male "Bishop" over Entire District	Earthly HQ/Heads; Single Male "Pastor"; Male "Elders"/Deacons	Earthly HQ/Heads; Single Female "Pastor"; Male/ Female Deacons	Jesus Only Head; Pre-Qualified Male Elders/Deacons (if avail.)
<b>CREED(S)</b>	The New Testament of Jesus Christ	Unalterable Trad. Constitution	Some OT; Some NT; Heart's Desire	Some OT; Some NT; Heart's Desire	The New Testament of Jesus Christ
<b>NAME</b>	None but Christ	____ist Church	____ist Church	____ist Church	None but Christ
<b>BAPTISM</b>	For Remission of Sins	To Join Church	Just Because	To Join Church	For Remission of Sins
<b>KINGDOM</b>	Is Here / Is = Church	Not Here	Not Here	Not Here	Is Here / Is = Church
<b>APOSTASY</b>	Very Possible	Impossible	Impossible	Impossible	Very Possible

# 1<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY-CHURCH—**IDENTIFIABLE** IN 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY (CF. ACTS 2:42)

In truth, **ANY** group or body of people that:

**"...continue[s] steadfastly in the apostles' teaching..."** (Acts 2:42).

**Does not "go beyond the things which are written..."** (1 Cor. 4:6).

**Does not "go on ahead [of]," but "abides in the teaching of Christ"** (2 John 9).

**IS "the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth"** (1 Tim. 3:15).