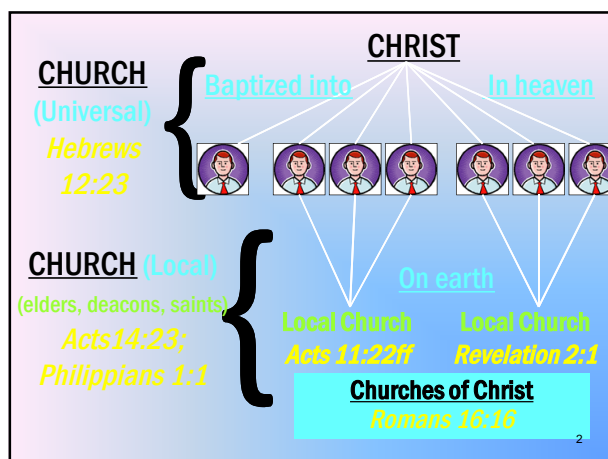


## Why Am I A Member Of The Church Of Christ?

(Part 6)

Matthew 16:13-18

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## Why Am I A Member Of The Church Of Christ?

- ▶ Built upon the right foundation.
- ▶ Began in Jerusalem about 33 AD.
- ▶ Recognizes Christ as its only head and source of authority.
- ▶ Organized according to the divine pattern.
- ▶ Accepts only the gospel of Christ as its creed.
- ▶ Scriptural in name.
- ▶ No human requirements that must be met.

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## Why Am I A Member Of The Church Of Christ?

- ▶ **No Human Requirements For Membership.**
  - Faith. John 8:24
  - Repentance. Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30-31
  - Confession. Matthew 10:32-33; Acts 8:36-38
  - Baptism.
    - What?– John 3:23; Acts 8; Matthew 3; Romans 6:3-4; Colossians 2:12
    - Who? – Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38; Acts 8:12
    - Why? – **“For remission of sins”** Acts 2:38; Mark 16:15-16

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## Faith ... What Is Faith? Hebrews 11:1

### Evidence

(*elengchos*) a proof of the things we cannot see or evidence that what we cannot see really exists Heb 11:1 (Greek-English Lexicon Based on Semantic Domain.)

## Faith That God Exists Is Based On Evidence – Hebrews 11:1, 6

- ▶ The evidence of the material world. Hebrews 11:3; Romans 1:20
  - Psalms 19:1, *“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handiwork.”*

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### Faith That Jesus Is The Son Of God Is Based On Evidence

John 2:1–11 Changed water to wine.  
 John 4:46–54 Healing of nobleman's son 20 miles away.  
 John 5 Healing of the afflicted man who had been infirm thirty–eight years.  
 John 6 Feeding of the five thousand.  
 John 6 Walking on the water.  
 John 9 Healing of the blind man.  
 John 11 Raising of Lazarus. cf. John 12:9–11

### Faith That Jesus Is The Son Of God Is Based On Evidence

*John 12:37, "But though he had done so many signs before them, yet they believed not on him"*

*John 20:30–31, "Many other signs therefore did Jesus in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book: but these are written, that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye may have life in his name."*

### Repentance

*Acts 17:30–31, "All men everywhere ..."*  
*Romans 3:23, "for all have sinned ..."*  
*Romans 4:15, "... where there is no law, neither is there transgression."*

Therefore, **all** are under law!

### Repentance ... What Is Repentance?

- ▶ *metanoia* – "a change of mind for the better, heartily to AMEND with abhorrence of one's past sins." (Thayer, 405)
- ▶ "This change of mind involves BOTH a turning from sin and a turning to God." (W.E. Vine, Volume 3, page 281)
- ▶ "John did not call on people to be sorry, but to change their mental attitudes AND CONDUCT." (A.T. Robertson, *Word Pictures*, Volume 1, page 24)

### Examples of Repentance

- ▶ *Jews on Pentecost. Acts 2*
- ▶ *Ninevites. Matthew 12:41; cf. Jonah 3:10*
- ▶ *Rebellious son. Matthew 21:28–29*
- ▶ *Prodigal son. Luke 15:11–21*
- ▶ *Thessalonians turned from idols. 1 Thessalonians 1:9*
- ▶ *Ephesians burned their books. Acts 19:19*
- ▶ *Jailor "washed their stripes." Acts 16:33*
- ▶ *Corinthians turned from former practices. 1 Corinthians 6:9–11*

These **all** brought forth fruit worthy of repentance! cf. Luke 3:8–14; Acts 26:19–20

### Confession ... What is confession? Made By ...

- ▶ God three times. Matthew 3:17; Matthew 17:5; John 12:28
- ▶ Made by the men of all ages.
  - Nathaniel (John 1:49); Peter (Matthew 16:16); Nicodemus (John 3:2); Thomas (John 20:28); Centurion (Matthew 27:54).
- ▶ Made of angels and demons. Luke 2:11; Mark 5:7
- ▶ Required by Jesus. Matthew 10:32–33
- ▶ Exemplified in Ethiopian eunuch. Acts 8:36–37.

## Why Am I A Member Of The Church Of Christ?

### ▶ **Baptism.**

- What?– John 3:23; Acts 8; Matthew 3; Romans 6:3–4; Colossians 2:12
- Who? – Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:15–16; Acts 2:38; Acts 8:12
- Why? – ***“For remission of sins”*** Acts 2:38; Mark 16:15–16

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