

You're Not a Christian Simply

You believe something about Jesus • John 12:42-43 - "many even of the

James 2:19 - "Even the demons believe"

• He was historical, a profound teacher, His teachings contributed to the good of

humanity, etc. Many different views.

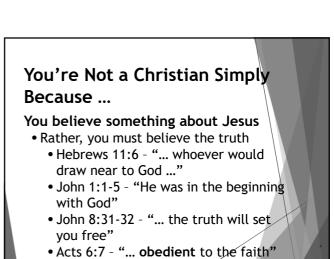
• Ephesians 4:5-6 - "one Lord, one faith,

authorities believed in him"

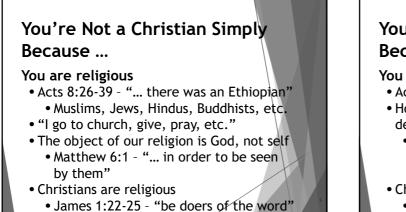
• But the Bible says,

one baptism ..."

Because ...



• Matthew 7:21-23 - "... does the will ..."



You're Not a Christian Simply Because ...

You live a good, honest life

- Acts 10:1-2 "... a man named Cornelius"
- Honest Muslim, Hindu, or other denomination?
 - False standards for salvation • cf. Acts 11:13-14 - "... a message by
 - which you will be saved"
- Christians follow the apostles' teachings
 Philippians 4:8-9 "practice these things"

You're Not a Christian Simply Because ...

You are sincere

- "Just be sincere" is Satan's lie to you
- Sincerity does not wash away your sins
 - Saul/Paul cf. Acts 8:3; cf. Acts 26:9-11
 - cf. Acts 22:6-16 "wash away your sins"
- But you cannot be a Christian without being sincere
 - I Peter 2:1-3 "... grow up to salvation"

You're Not a Christian Simply Because ...

You have been "baptized"

- Acts 19:1-7 "Into John's baptism"
- Many baptisms are practiced
 - Modern methods: immersion, pouring, sprinkling
- The New Testament mentions several: • Immersion, Holy Spirit, fire, baptism
 - of John (repentance), into Moses • cf. Ephesians 4:5-6 - "... one baptism

You're Not a Christian Simply Because ...

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- The New Testament method
 - Acts 8:36-39 "... down into the water"
- Romans 6:3-4 "buried ... with him" • What is the purpose of New Testament
- baptism?
 - Mark 16:15-16 "... will be saved"
 - I Peter 3:20-21 "... now saves you"
 - Acts 22:16 "... wash away your sins"
 Galatians 3:27 "... have put on Christ"
 - Galatians 3:2/ "... have put on Christ"

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You have been "baptized"

- What is the result of New Testament baptism?
 - Acts 2:40-41, 46-47 "... the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved"
 - I Corinthians 12:13-14 "... we were all baptized into one body"

A Christian Belongs To The Church of Christ

- Ephesians 1:22-23 "which is his body"
- Ephesians 4:4 "... called to the one hope"
- <u>Not</u>: "Join the church of your choice"
- Not: "The church does not matter"
 - Acts 20:28 "obtained with his own blood"
 - Ephesians 3:10-11 "the eternal purpose"
 - Ephesians 5:23, 25 "gave himself up ..."
- <u>Not</u>: Churches of men
 - Matthew 16:18 "... I will build my church"
 - Acts 11:26 "... first called Christians"

Are We Being Faithful Christians?

Christians have been saved from past sins

• Ephesians 1:7 - "the forgiveness of our trespasses"

Christians have obeyed Christ's plan of salvation

• Acts 2:38-41 - "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins"

Are We Being Faithful Christians?

Committed to faithful living

- Romans 6:4 "walk in newness of life"
- Luke 6:47-48 "... hears ... does them"
- Devout, honest, sincere, a servant
- James 1:26-27 "Religion that is pure ..."
- Philippians 1:27 "... worthy of the gospel"
- Philippians 2:12-13 "work out ... salvation"

Obediently walking in God's works

- II Corinthians 5:7 "... walk by faith ..."
- Ephesians 2:10 "we should walk in them"
- Hebrews 5:9 "... to all who obey him"

Are We Being Faithful Christians?

Faithful Christians are sacrificial

- Luke 9:23 "let him deny himself ..."
- Luke 14:33 "any one of you who does not renounce all that he has ..."
- Matthew 6:33 "... seek first the kingdom of God ..."
- Priority is to Christ and His truth, sacrificing everything else to put Jesus first
 Revelation 2:9-10 - "Be faithful unto"

This Is A Christian

"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (I Corinthians 15:58).

Obeying The Gospel

Hear the Word of God

death"

• James 1:21 - "... receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls."

Believe the Gospel message about Jesus

• I John 3:23-24 - "... that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ ..."

Obeying The Gospel

Repent of your sins

 Acts 3:19 - "Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out"

Confess that Jesus is the Son of God • Romans 10:9-10 - "... with the mouth

one confesses and is saved"

Obeying The Gospel

Be immersed in water

• Acts 2:38 - "Repent and be baptized every one of you ..."

Remain faithful

• I Corinthians 15:1-2 - "if you hold fast to the word I preached to you - unless you believed in vain"