A publication of the...

Churches of Christ

Founder: Christ – Mt. 16:18  
Place: Jerusalem – Isa. 2:1-3, Acts 2:5  
Head: Christ – Eph. 1:22  
Organization:  
  Christ as head – Eph. 5:23  
  Elders oversee local church –  
  Heb. 13:17, Titus 1:5  
  Deacons as servants –  
  Acts 6:1-6, 1 Tim. 3:8-13  
  Members compose body –  
  Col. 1:2

Name (group):  
  Church of God – Eph. 3:15  
  Body of Christ – Eph. 1:22-23  
  Churches of Christ – Rm. 16:16  
  Bride of Christ – Rm. 7:4

Name (individuals):  
  Disciples – John 15:8  
  Saints – Rm. 1:7  
  Brethren – Lk. 8:21  
  Children of God – Gal. 4:26  
  Christian – Acts11:25-26

Creed: Jesus/Bible – Acts 8:37  
Rule of Faith & Practice:  
  Word of God – 2 Tim. 3:16-17

Worship: Jn. 4:24  
  Sing – Eph. 5:19  
  Pray – Acts 2:42; 1 Thes. 5:17  
  Teach – Acts 5:42  
  Communion – 1 Cor. 1:23-26  
  Contribute – 1 Cor. 16:1-2

Mission: Save Souls – 1 Tim. 4:16  
Warning: Be Faithful – 2 John 9

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Editor’s Note: I once heard a powerful sermon on Jesus and Salvation, consisting only of Scriptures topically selected and memorized. This article follows that format. With only about a third of citizens now attending church services and about half ever reading the Bible (52 percent, American Bible Society, 2013), many young people are growing up without knowing what God’s Word says about relationships, marriage, home, and family. This compilation of Scriptures shows God’s plan for successful relationships and personal fulfillment.

“Have you not read?” –Jesus (Matthew 19:4).

“From the beginning . . . God made them male and female” (Mark 10:6).

“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply” (Genesis 1:27-28).

“The Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man” (Genesis 2:21–23; cf. Leviticus 18:22; Romans 1:26–32; 1 Corinthians 6:9–11; 1 Timothy 1:10; Jude 1:7).

“For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother” (Mark 10:7).

“The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage’ (Luke 20:34).

“Two are better than one . . . if two lie down together, they will keep warm; but how can one be warm alone?” (Ecclesiastes 4:9–11).

“Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband” (1 Corinthians 7:2). “If they cannot exercise self-control, let them marry. For it is better to marry..."
than to burn with passion” (1 Corinthians 7:9).

“Each one shall bear his own load” (Galatians 6:5). “If anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever” (1 Timothy 5:8).

“And be joined to his wife” (Mark 10:7; quoting Genesis 2:24).

“Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth—for your love is better than wine” (Song of Solomon 1:2). “My beloved is mine, and I am his” (Song 2:16).

“How fair is your love, my sister, my spouse! How much better than wine is your love, and the scent of your perfumes than all spices!” (Song 4:10).

“Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. Do not deprive one another except with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control” (1 Corinthians 7:3–5).

“Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge” (Hebrews 13:4).

“Who can find a faithful man? The righteous man walks in his integrity; his children are blessed after him” (Proverbs 20:6–7).

“Let the world see that they respect their husbands” (Ephesians 5:33).

“Husbands, likewise” (1 Peter 3:7).

“It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him” (Genesis 2:18).

“House to House ~ Heart to Heart

“‘This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you’ (John 15:12).
prudent wife is from the Lord” (Proverbs 19:14). “Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies. The heart of her husband safely trusts her; so he will have no lack of gain. She does him good and not evil all the days of her life” (Proverbs 31:10–12).

“There are three things which are too wonderful for me, Yes, four which I do not understand: the way of an eagle in the air, the way of a serpent on a rock, the way of a ship in the midst of the sea, and the way of a man with a virgin” (Proverbs 30:18–19).

“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her . . . So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church . . . let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself” (Ephesians 5:25, 28–29, 33).

“Live joyfully with the wife whom you love” (Ecclesiastes 9:9).

“You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife” (Exodus 20:17).

“Her husband . . . praises her” (Proverbs 31:28). “Dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered” (1 Peter 3:7).

“Children are a heritage from the Lord” (Psalm 127:3).

“The fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one’s youth. Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them” (Psalm 127:3–5).

“Fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath; but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4).

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise” (Ephesians 6:1–2). “Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord” (Colossians 3:20). “Her children rise up and call her blessed” (Proverbs 31:28).

“Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?” (Matthew 19:3).

“Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate” (Mark 10:9).

“It has been said, Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce. But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery” (Matthew 5:31–32).

“The woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man” (Romans 7:2–3).

“A wife is bound by law as long as her husband lives; but if her husband dies, she is at liberty to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord” (1 Corinthians 7:39).

“He said to them, Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her” (Mark 10:11). “The Lord God of Israel says that He hates divorce” (Malachi 2:14–16).

“They said to Him, why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away? He said to them, Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery” (Matthew 19:7–9).

“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter” (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

“Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man’s all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil” (Ecclesiastes 12:13–14). “He who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him” (1 John 3:24).

“Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it” (Psalm 127:1).

“This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you” (John 15:12).

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Love, Love, Love

When I was a child, love to me was what the sea is to a fish: something you swim in while you are going about the important affairs of life.

—P. L. Travers in New York Time: Magazine

God’s Plan for Saving Man

Ephesians 2:8
Romans 5:9
Romans 1:16
Acts 16:31
Luke 13:3
Romans 10:10
1 Peter 3:21
James 2:24
Romans 8:24
Revelation 2:10

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Jesus Loves Me
Senior Version

Jesus loves me, this I know,
Though my hair is white as snow.
Though my sight is growing dim,
Still He bids me trust in Him.

[Chorus] Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me,
For the Bible tells me so.

Though my steps are oh, so slow,
With my hand in His I’ll go
On through life, let come what may,
He’ll be there to lead the way.

When the nights are dark and long,
In my heart He puts a song.
Telling me in words so clear,
“Have no fear, for I am near.”

When my work on earth is done,
And life’s victories have been won.

He will take me home above,
Then I’ll understand His love.

I love Jesus, does He know?
Have I ever told Him so?
Jesus loves to hear me say,
That I love Him every day.

—Unknown

“Now also when I am old and grayheaded,
O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed
thy strength unto this generation, and thy
power to every one that is to come.”

PSALM 71:18

If I Had My Child to Rear Over Again

I’d finger paint more and point the
finger less.
I’d do less correcting and more
connecting.
I’d take my eyes off my watch and watch
with my eyes.
I would care to know less and know to
care more.
I’d take more hikes and fly more kites.
I’d stop playing serious and seriously play.
I would run through more fields and
gaze at more stars.
I’d do more hugging and less tugging.
I would be firm less often and affirm
much more.

I’d build self-esteem first and the
house later.
I’d teach less about the love of power
and more about the power of love.

“Train up a child in the way he should go:
and when he is old, he will not depart from
it.”

PROVERBS 22:6

“He that spareth his rod hateth his son;
but he that loveth him chasteneth him
diligently.”

PROVERBS 13:24

For more material on the home and
family, fathers and mothers, husbands
and wives, grandparents, and family
finances, go to housetohouse.com.
Bible QUIZ

Directions: Find answers in the Book of Philemon.

1. To what three individuals is the book addressed? ________________

2. Of what two characteristics of Philemon had Paul heard? ________________

3. Was Paul a young man when he penned this epistle? ________________

4. Paul wrote on behalf of what runaway servant whom Paul viewed as a “son”? ________________

5. “For _________ he therefore departed for a __________ that they shouldest receive him for ever.”

6. How much did Philemon owe Paul? ________________

7. What other Christian does Paul mention as being with him when he sent the letter to Philemon? ________________

8. What had given Paul great joy and comfort in his imprisonment? (1:7) ________________

9. How had becoming a Christian changed Onesimus? (1:11) ________________

10. How did Paul want Philemon to receive Onesimus? (1:16) ________________

11. Instead of commanding Philemon to take Onesimus back, what does Paul do instead? (1:9) ________________

12. Paul’s concluding prayer for Philemon was that the ________ of the Lord would be with his spirit (1:25).

13. T / F: Paul had confidence Philemon would do what he requested.

14. T / F: Paul would not keep Onesimus as a helper without Philemon’s permission.

15. T / F: Paul had converted (begotten) Onesimus while in prison (in bonds).


17. T / F: Paul had the authority to command Philemon to take Onesimus back.

18. T / F: Philemon let the church meet his home (1:2)
Two thousand years ago a little, old man sat in a cold prison cell writing on a piece of parchment. The government which imprisoned him was one of the most powerful the world has known. It ruled from India to Spain and from the Sahara desert to distant Britain. The prison house in which he was confined was made of stone and built to last forever.

One day the dungeon was opened, and that man—the apostle Paul—was led down the Appian Way a short distance from Rome where his head was severed from his body.

The government that killed him has long since passed into history. The name of that executioner is forgotten. The prison house has crumbled and only the dungeon is left. The body has long since returned to dust. But the words Paul wrote on that parchment have been alive through almost two thousand years. They have brought comfort, hope, and inspiration to untold millions of earth’s inhabitants.

Jesus promised, “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away” (Matthew 24:35). Two thousand years have passed; yet the Bible is just as powerful now as it was when fresh from the pen of inspiration.

“Learn of me.”
MATTHEW 11:29

I want to learn more about the Bible!

Name: ____________________________
Address: __________________________
City/State: __________________________
Phone: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________
Prayer requests or comments: ____________________________

I want:

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☐ A DVD Bible Study
☐ An in-home Bible study

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Salvation Is in the Church

The idea that one is first saved by some mystical or mystified, unintelligible or intangible process, and afterwards “joins some church” is a common religious delusion. Yet, there is no truth more plainly emphasized in the Bible than the fact that the process of being saved is the process of entering the church (Acts 2:47).

1. It is affirmed in Acts 4:12 that salvation is in Christ. Then, to have salvation, one must get into Christ. Paul, by analogy, in Ephesians 5:30, teaches that as husband and wife are one, so Christ and the church are one. “I speak concerning Christ and the church,” he said. Christ and the church being one, how can one be in Christ and out of the church?

2. Paul makes the fact that Christ is “the saviour of the body” (5:23) the ground of his exhortation to the Ephesians concerning the church as the bride of Christ (5:25). He washed it and sanctified it, cleansed and saved it, purchased it with His blood and redeemed it, reconciles us to God in it, and adds all the saved to it. Therefore, out of the church there is no cleansing, no blood, no redemption, no reconciliation to God, no salvation.

3. The relation between Christ and the church is the same as that which exists between God and Christ. Christ is the “fullness” of God (Colossians 1:19), and the church is the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 1:22). Therefore, no man can come to Christ and ignore the church for the same reason that no man can come to God and ignore Christ. We exhort the unsaved to come to Christ, “gladly receive the word” (Acts 2:41), be “baptized into Christ” (Galatians 3:27), and the Lord will add you to His church. —Foy E. Wallace, Jr.
Shakespeare and Jesus

On April 23, 1564, William Shakespeare was born in Stratford-on-Avon, England. We know few details of his life. He married Anne Hathaway when he was 18, and she was already pregnant with their first child. His son, Hamnet, died at age 11. He had two other daughters. He died at the age of 52. There are 38 plays and 152 sonnets attributed to him which survive. His contemporary, the poet Ben Johnson, said, “He was not of an age, but for all time.”

Jesus’ birth was a millennium and a half before Shakespeare’s. We have some glimpses into His personal life through the inspired gospel writers. We read an account of His lowly birth, His circumcision and first trip to the temple, His trip to the temple at age 12, and the last three years of His life. He did not marry. The only writing we know that He did was on the ground, and its content is unknown (John 8:6, 8). He died a young man in His 30s, and that was by execution. He was poor (2 Corinthians 8:9). So far as Scripture records, He never traveled—during His public ministry—more than a total of 500 miles. Yet, Johnson’s words more aptly describe Jesus than any other person to ever live.

Jesus is not of an age, but for all time. As God’s Son, He is deity and, as such, timeless (John 1:1). His teaching is timeless and relevant to all people of all places and times (Matthew 24:35). What He offers, all humanity needs (1 John 2:2).

Whatever great contributions men continue to make in this world, the best one can hope to do is finish second to Christ. He, more than all, influenced, changed, and improved this sinful world.

—Neal Pollard, Denver, Colorado