

GENERATION NOW

How to bring souls to Christ

January 21, 2018

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The 5 things you will hear when bringing souls to Jesus:

1. The Bible is man-made and was written in a completely different era.
2. Why wouldn't a good, religious person go to heaven if he/she wasn't saved?
3. How come the Church of Christ doesn't have music?
4. Why does the Church of Christ serve communion every Sunday?
5. What is wrong with other church's and dominations(ie Baptist, Catholic etc)?

1.The Bible is man-made and was written in a completely different era.?

The historical evidence for Jesus of Nazareth is both long-established and widespread. Within a few decades of his lifetime, he is mentioned by Jewish and Roman historians, as well as by dozens of Christian writings. In 1 Peter 3:15, Peter tells us always to be prepared "to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you." That phrase doesn't mean "be defensive." It means to make a case, to give reasons for your faith (including your belief in the Bible) that will press back on the person questioning you. In other words, Peter is telling us to be ready to make a case to the world not just for why it's alright for us to believe the Bible, but for why they should believe it, too! The truth of the Bible rests on the identity and authority of Jesus. Why we trust the Bible—because Jesus, the resurrected one, defined it, believed it, and authorized it. Yes, there are arguments to be made regarding the accuracy of translations and manuscripts, the content of the canon, even the trustworthiness of the authors themselves. But those kinds of arguments will only get you so far. The real question—the question to which the Bible itself points to us again and again—is, did Jesus rise from the dead? (**Joshua 1:8, Romans 10:17, 2nd Timothy 3:16-17 and Job 23:12**)

2.Why wouldn't a good, religious person go to heaven if he/she wasn't saved?

Churches of Christ teach that the process of salvation involves the following steps: One must be properly **taught**, and **hear** (**Romans 10:14**); One must **believe** or **have faith** (**Hebrews 11:6**); One must **repent**, which means turning from one's former lifestyle and choosing God's ways (**Acts 17:30**); Again, the Apostle Paul writes to Timothy in (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**). We must look to the Word of God to learn the way of our salvation, if we are to have hope of reaching Heaven. We must be baptized in order to be saved. Jesus said: "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" (**Mark 16:16**). Please note that baptism follows belief. One who does not believe the Gospel cannot be truly baptized. Therefore, babies cannot be baptized for they are too young to (1) have sin, (2) hear the Gospel, (3) repent of sins, and (4) confess that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Baptism also follows repentance. On Pentecost Day, Peter told those who asked what to do to be saved to "Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you..." (**Acts 2:38**). One cannot be truly baptized who has not truly repented. Baptism is a burial in water (**Romans 6:3-4; Colossians 2:12**). Therefore, sprinkling and pouring are not proper baptism. Baptism is in order to be saved (**Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21**). One is not saved before he is baptized! Baptism is "unto the remission [forgiveness] of sins" (**Acts 2:38**). Just as Jesus shed His blood for the remission of sins (**Matthew 26:28**), so we are baptized in order to receive the remission of sins. In baptism, the sinner's sins are washed away by the blood of Jesus (**Acts 22:16**).

3.How come the Church of Christ doesn't have music?

We know from the first several centuries of church history that singing was unaccompanied in all Christian worship. The Latin phrase "a cappella" comes to us from ancient times with the meaning of singing without instrumental music. Literally translated, "a cappella" means "at chapel." Our only assurance of practicing acceptable Christian worship is to disregard man-made creeds and turn to God's Word as our only authoritative guide to worship. Unless we pattern our worship after the first century church, we can have no assurance that God approves of our assemblies. Music is mentioned 8 times in the New Testament. [Matthew 26.30: "And after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives." Acts 16.25: "About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them." Romans 15.9: We find a quotation from the Psalms in which there is the expression: "Sing to Thy name." 1 Corinthians 14.15: "I shall sing with the spirit and I shall sing with the mind also." Ephesians 5.19: "Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord." Colossians 3.16: "Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your heads to God." Hebrews 2.12: "In the midst of the congregation I will sing Thy praise." James 5.13: "Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praises."]

4.Why does the Church of Christ serve communion every Sunday?

It is expected that every member of the church will assemble for worship on each Lord's day. A central part of the worship is the eating of the Lord's supper (Acts 20:7). Unless providentially hindered, each member considers this weekly appointment as binding. Paul instructed the saints in Corinth that as long as they ate the elements of the sacred supper, they would proclaim the Savior's death "till he come" (1 Corinthians 11:26). The apostle clearly anticipated that Christians would be honoring the Lord, by partaking of the communion, until the very end of time.

5.What is wrong with other church's and domination (ie Baptist, Catholic etc)?

TIME	PLACE	FOUNDER	CHURCH
33 A.D.	Jerusalem	Jesus Christ	Church of Christ
606 A.D.	Rome	Boniface III	Roman Catholic
1520 A.D.	Germany	Martin Luther	Lutheran
1534 A.D.	England	Henry VIII	Episcopalian
1536 A.D.	Switzerland	John Calvin	Presbyterian
1550 A.D.	England	Robert Browne	Congregational
1607 A.D.	Holland	John Smythe	Baptist
1739 A.D.	England	John Wesley	Methodist
1830 A.D.	America	Joseph Smith	Latter Day Saints(Mormon)
1830 A.D.	America	William Miller	Adventists
1866 A.D.	America	Mary Baker Eddy	Christian Scientist
1872 A.D.	America	Charles T. Russell	Jehovah Witnesses