

## CHRISTIANS

Michael Pickford

We remain diligent in our efforts to convince religious men to reject man-made names and labels. While many insist on calling themselves names like “Methodist,” “Baptist,” “Lutheran,” “Catholic,” and “Presbyterian,” etc., The Bible is clear that disciples of Christ call themselves Christians only.

God prophesied that His people would be called by a new name (Isaiah 62:2). We are told that “*the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch*” (Acts 11:26). Agrippa recognized that Paul was trying to persuade him to become a “Christian” (Acts 26:28), and Peter maintained that there is no shame in one suffering as a “Christian” (1

Peter 4:16). God did not create the hyphenated Christian (Baptist-Christian, Methodist-Christian, et. al.)

In the church at Corinth, there began to arise an element of division. Some were saying, “I am of Paul,” or, “I am of Apollos,” or, “I am of Cephas.” Wearing these man-made names constituted an effort to divide Christ, and Paul rebuked them for it (1 Corinthians 1:10-17).

Let us be joyful and content with the name God has given us without adding the man-made baggage of human devised names. It was only Christ Who died for us, and it should be only His name that we wear (1 Cor. 1:13). 

Welcome to our services and thank you for visiting. If you have any questions about our beliefs or practices, please don't hesitate to ask.

God has not only commanded us to worship Him, but has also told us how, in His word. **The elements of our services, as prescribed by God's word, are as follows:**

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD'S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



- [www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Radio program on wgns. 15 minute sermon every Sunday morning from 10:45 - 11:00.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Men's Training Class, 4:30 pm. Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men's Business Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday evenings following services.

## COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00  
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00  
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00  
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**



## SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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*“They...searched the scriptures daily...” –Acts 17:11*

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## THE TRUE CHRISTIAN'S POSSESSIONS

Michael Pickford

Many claim to be Christians, but the Bible is clear that one who truly is a Christian must possess certain things. Without these, one can adamantly claim to be a Christian, but he really isn't. A true Christian will possess...

**Obedience.** Despite what many say, one cannot be a true Christian without obedience. Faith only does not justify (James 2:24). A Christian is one who is a disciple of Christ (Acts 11:26). To be a disciple of Christ, one must love Christ. In order to truly love Christ, one must do as He has commanded. That's obedience! *“He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves me...”* (John 14:21). The Bible is also clear that one cannot obtain eternal salvation without obedience to Christ. Jesus *“learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him”* (Hebrews 5:8-9). One may claim to love Jesus, and he may claim to be a Christian, but if he has not Obeyed the Gospel of Christ, he is destined for *“everlasting destruction”* (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9).

**Obstinacy.** “firmly or stubbornly adhering to one's purpose, opinion,

etc.; not yielding to argument, persuasion, or entreaty.” - Dictionary.com. Being Obstinate is not usually a good thing, not even for a Christian. But there is a sense in which the Christian should be unyielding in his purpose in the face of persuasion and argument. Satan tries vigorously to tempt us into leaving the Lord. He uses the lure of worldly pleasures, false doctrine, laziness, or indifference. The true Christian will *“Resist the devil”* (James 4:7). The Greek word for “Resist” means to oppose or withstand. The Christian will obtain strength through Christ to defeat Satan's schemes (Ephesians 6:10-11).

**Opulence.** Opulence is wealth, riches. The true Christian who obeys the Lord and stands firmly against the devil possesses great wealth while here and unimaginable wealth in eternity. In Christ, God has blessed us with *“Every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places”* (Ephesians 1:3). Christ left the riches of heaven to become poor, so that we, through Him, might become rich (2 Corinthians 8:9). Confidence in prayer, peace, comfort, joy, the love of our brethren, and a living hope for eternal life are just a few of the precious riches the true Christian enjoys in Christ. 

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## TRADITIONS

Michael Pickford

When we think of traditions, we usually think of something bad. For example, the Pharisees made useless the commands of God by their traditions (Mark 7:13). A tradition is something handed down from one generation to the next. These Jews had developed what they called oral traditions. To them, these traditions were as binding as the word of God. They asked Jesus, “*Why do your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders?*” (Matthew 15:2). In binding these traditions of men these Jews transgressed the commandment of God (Matthew 15:3, 6). Before his conversion, Paul was a Pharisee (Philippians 3:5) and extremely zealous for these oral traditions (Galatians 1:14).

On the other hand, God’s word itself is referred to as “traditions.” They are traditions handed down by Him through the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:10-13) and He is serious about folks holding to them. Paul wrote, “*Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught...*” (2 Thessalonians 2:15). Paul praised the Corinthians for keeping God’s traditions just as Paul delivered them (1 Corinthians 11:2). We must keep all of God’s traditions just as He delivered them without addition or subtraction. Those who change or go beyond them bring on themselves a curse (Galatians 1:6-9) and are cut off from fellowship with God (2 John 9). “*Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him. Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar*” (Proverbs 30:5-6). Paul tells us how to deal with those who fail to keep God’s traditions (2 Thessalonians 3:6).

Many religious groups today are guilty of doing to the Gospel the same thing the Jews did to the old law: Making it useless by their traditions. As a result, the Jews were splintered into different “denominations,” - Pharisees, Essenes, Sadducees, etc. Today, as a result of mingling traditions and commandments of men with the pure Gospel, there are different “denominations.” Just as the Jews recorded their traditions the Mishna, religions today record theirs in books like the Methodist Discipline, the Baptist Manual, and The Catholic Catechism, et. al. Just like the Pharisees, these people will be condemned for making vain the commandments of God by their traditions. God’s word contains all we need to serve Him faithfully (2 Timothy 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:3). Traditions of men are unneeded, uninspired and unscriptural! 🔍



**OUR GOSPEL MEETING WITH  
DAVID MCPHERSON IS  
SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER  
19-24 (SUNDAY - FRIDAY).**

## SERMON NOTES

*Search the scriptures daily to see if these things are so.*

**STUDY  
DAILY!  
Acts  
17:11**

### Great Refusals

Introduction:

I. \_\_\_\_\_

II. \_\_\_\_\_

III. \_\_\_\_\_

#### **DUTY LIST...**

##### **SUNDAY MORNING**

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Sam Miller  
Reading: Proverbs 14:12-16
- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Opening Prayer.....Kenny Todd
- Lord’s Table:  
Lead.....Lynn Buttrey  
Serve.....Tony Jenkins  
Serve.....Frank Anderson
- Closing Prayer.....Ben Reagh

##### **SUNDAY EVENING**

- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Lord’s Table.....Lynn Buttrey

##### **WEDNESDAY EVENING**

- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Invitation.....Michael Pickford

**Home Bible Studies  
Available Upon Request!**

#### **GOD’S PLAN OF SALVATION**

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

**Obey Today!**