

# ***Is the Church of Christ a Denomination?***



# ***Understanding God's Word***

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- **God's Plan for Unity**
  - **John 17:11**, *“Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are.”*
  - **John 14:6**, *“I am the way the truth, and the life and no one comes to father except by me.”*
  - **Matthew 16:18**, *“...thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”*

# **Denominations, Not God's Will**

- Putting away pride & men's doctrines
  - **1 Corinthians 1:10-13**, *“Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. Now I say this, that each of you says, “I am of Paul,” or “I am of Apollos,” or “I am of Cephas,” or “I am of Christ.” Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?”*

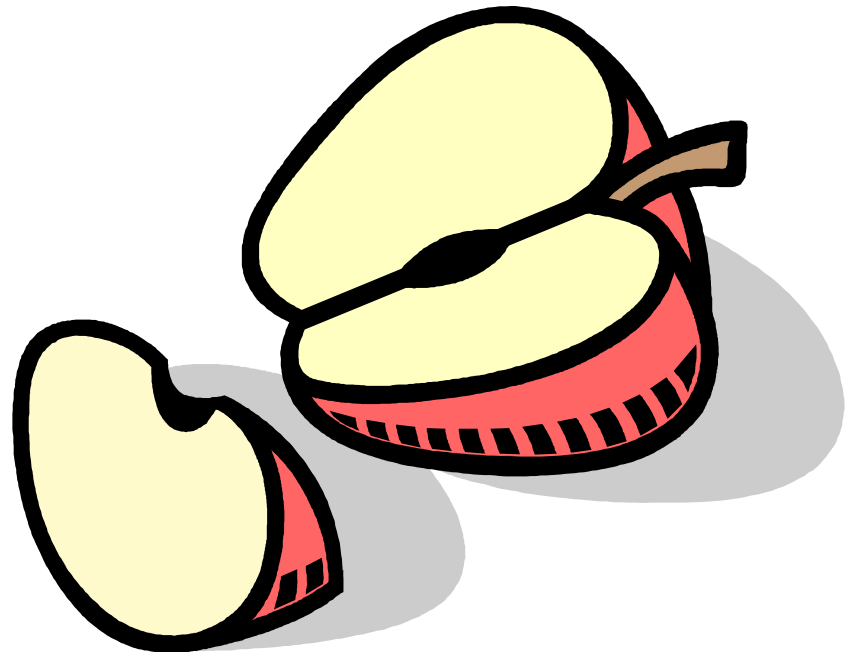
# ***General Religious Views***

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**God's Plan**



**Man's View**



# ***General Religious View***

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- **The Church of Christ is a denomination**
  - “Join the church of your choice!”
  - Jew, Islam, Catholicism, Christianity, etc.
- **Denominationalism is the division of God’s will into sects, & denominations**
  - Man’s will, Not God’s will to be divided
- **Denomination: Set apart from the whole**
  - Money: \$1, \$5, \$20, etc.
  - Fractions: Numerator/Denominator- 1/4, 1/2

# ***More than a Name***

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- Name **“Church of Christ”**, does not make it a church, part of the **“church of CHRIST”**
  - Mormon church
  - Boston/Crossroad Church
  - United Church of Christ
  - Christian Church
  - Church of Christ
- **Matthew 16:18**, ***“...I will build my church...”***
- **Acts 2:42**, ***“...Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.”***

**Denominations,  
Man Made,  
Satan Driven**

# ***Understanding Christ's Church***

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**Church  
of  
Christ**

# **God's United Plan**

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**Ephesians 4:4-6**, “*There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”*”

- **One Body**”, the church

- **Ephesians 1:22-23**, “*He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.*”

# **God's United Plan**

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- **“One Spirit”**, the Holy Spirit
  - **2 Peter 1:20-21**, “...no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”
- **“One Hope”**, the hope of salvation
  - **1 Thessalonians 5:8-9**, “...let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation...by our Lord Jesus Christ...”

# **God's United Plan**

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- **“One Lord”**, Jesus Christ
  - **1 Corinthians 8:6**, *“...there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.”*
- **“One Faith”**, Faith in God and His Son
  - **John 8:24**, *“...if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.”*
  - **Hebrews 11:6**, *“...without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”*

# ***God's United Plan***

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- **“One Baptism”**, For one purpose only
  - **Acts 2:38**, “...for remission of sins...”
  - **Mark 16:16**, “*He that believes and is baptized shall be saved, he that believeth not shall be damned...*”
  - **Acts 22:16**, “*Arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins.*” (Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-7)
  - **Galatians 3:27**, “*As many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ.*”

# ***God's United Plan***

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- **“One God & Father of All”**, Only One
  - **Malachi 2:10**, *“Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us?”*
  - **1 Corinthians 8:6**, *“there is but one God, the Father...”*
  - **James 2:17**, *“...believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.”*
  - **1 Timothy 2:5**, *“For there is one God...”*

# ***Ready Reference***

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- **Denomination If...** Teaches Many bodies, churches, “the church of your choice”
- **Church of Christ If...** One body, One church
  - **Matthew 16:18,** “...***build my church...***”
  - **1 Corinthians 12:20,** “...***many members... but one body.***”
- **Denomination If...** Founded by men
- **Church of Christ If...** Founded by Christ
  - **Matthew 16:18,** “...***build my church...***”
  - **Ephesians 5:25,** “...***Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it...***”

# ***Ready Reference Guide***

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- **Denomination If... Human Head**
- **Church of Christ If... Christ the head**
  - **Ephesian 1:22-23**, “...*hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body...*”
- **Denomination If... Human creeds**
- **Church of Christ If... Bible the only creed**
  - **2 Timothy 3:16-17**, “*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished...*”

# ***Ready Reference Guide***

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- **Denomination If...** Wears a human name
- **Church of Christ If...** Wears Christ name only
  - **Acts 11:26**, “*called Christians first in Antioch.*”
  - **Romans 16:16**, “*The churches of Christ salute you.*”
- **Denomination If...** Follows men’s words
- **Church of Christ If...** Follows God’s word only
  - **1 Corinthians 1:10**, “*I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.*”

# ***Ready Reference Guide***

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- **Denomination If...**Preach a different Gospel
- **Church of Christ If...**Preach only the Gospel
  - ***Galatians 1:9***, “*As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.*”
- **Denomination If...**God’s word culturally based
- **Church of Christ If...**God’s word never changes
  - ***Matthew 24:35***, “*Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.*”

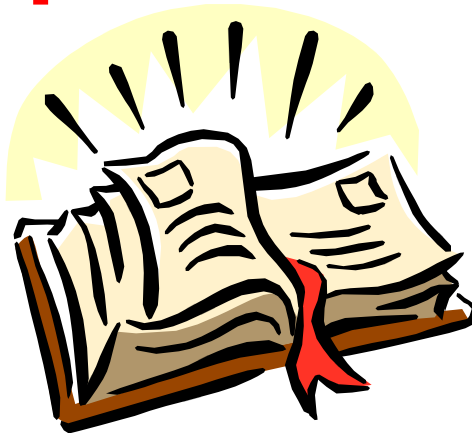
# **Conclusion**

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- **Denomination If...** Different bodies, spirits, hopes, lords, faiths, baptisms, gods & fathers
- **Church of Christ If...** Following Divine Plan  
**Ephesians 4:4-6**, *“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”*

# Is the Church of Christ a Denomination?

**Yes, if it looks, acts, and sounds  
like only a part of God's Word!**



**James 2:10, “For whosoever shall keep the  
whole law, and yet stumble in one point,  
he is guilty of all. “**