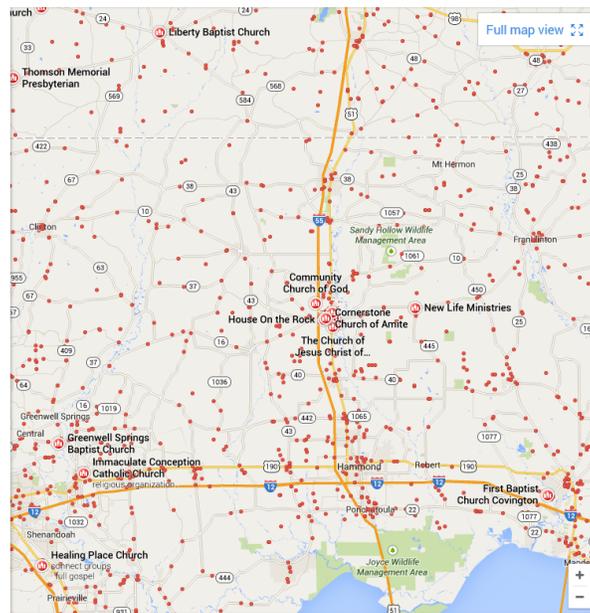


Denominational Doctrine Vs. The Bible

The Traditions of Man

By: Matthew D. Dyer

Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away from them. For such men are slaves, not of our Lord Christ but of their own appetites; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting" - Romans 16:17-18



Birds eye view of churches in about 100 square miles

I was reading the other day that according to Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, there exist roughly 43,000 Christian denominations worldwide in 2012. That is up from 500 in 1800 and 39,000 in 2008 and this number is expected to grow to 55,000 by 2025. Currently it's estimated that a new Christian denomination is formed every 10.5 hours or 2.3 denominations a day. WOW! Are denominations Biblical? The quick and easy answer is NO!

It says in the book of Romans chapter 16 for us to keep on the look out for those that will cause dissensions, or you could say denominations.

"I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment." 1 Corinthians 1:10

A witnessing tool I use often to people when they start talking about how bad the country and the government is I will throw out there "What about the Churches?" and at this point in time they kind of look at me weird and I go on to tell them that in our land today we have more churches then ever before in the history of the world, yet... we have more of God's laws being broken then ever before. We as a people are quick to blame everyone but the one that is truly at fault and that is OURSELVES for letting it get this way! We as a people have let it get this way, we have allowed false prophets to come in sheep's clothing and deceive us as it talks about in Matthew 7:15.

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves." Matthew 7:15

We have turned away from God and did evil in the sight of the Lord once again in our people's history. We have fallen so far away from God that most of the so called church going people don't know their Bible well enough to tell you what they believe other then "I'm a Christian and Jesus loves you and everyone, and all you have to do is believe on Jesus and he will accept you as His, unless your labeled a racist, bigot, or anti-Semite by the media of course".

They will never quote James 2:19 where is says ***"You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder."***

The denomination movement really started in the early 1800s for the most part. A lot of it came out of the same groups that were calling for people to come "get saved" and say the sinner's prayer up at the altar. Before that there were denominations among Christians, as many as about 500 VS the 43,000 or more we have now.

I am going to give a small list of some of these "denominations" doctrine and how they do not line up with Scripture. You can use some of these facts to show our brethren rapped up in these baal temples, and turn them back to the true God of the Scriptures, and get them to read their Bible!

The Roman Catholic Church

Obligation to obey a revelation.

"When either the Roman Pontiff or the body of bishops together with him defines a judgment, they pronounce it in accord with revelation itself. All are obliged to maintain and be ruled by this revelation, which, as written or preserved by tradition, is transmitted in its entirety..." (Vatican II, Dogmatic Constitution: 25).

What does the Bible say?

"But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed." (Galatians 1:8).

"In vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men." (Matthew 15:9).

Calling the Priest Fathers.

"Let priests sincerely look upon the bishop as their father, and reverently obey him." Priests themselves are "as fathers in Christ" (Vatican II, Dogmatic Constitution: 28).

What does the Bible say?

"Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven." (Matthew 23:9).

Baptism in the Catholic Church

The Catholic Church teaches against baptism for remission of sins, and teaches baptism in the form of sprinkling. Even though the Greek word "Baptizo" which is translated baptize means to immerse in water. The Roman Catholic Church admits baptism by immersion was practiced till 1311 AD in the church. Here are some quotes from their own writings claiming this fact. Straight from the horses mouth.

"Baptism took place by immersion in ancient times." (New Interpretation of the Mass, p. 120).

"Baptism used to be given by placing the person to be baptized completely in the water: it was done in this way in the Catholic Church

for 1200 years." (Adult Catechism, pp. 56-57).

"The church at one time practiced immersion. This was up to the thirteenth century. The Council of Ravenna, in 1311, changed the form from immersion to pouring." (Our Faith and the Facts, p. 399).

It is an interesting fact that a Jewish Pope Innocent II that began the process of changing immersion to sprinkling. By the year 1311 it was all but changed to sprinkling.

Head of the Church.

"In virtue of his office, that is, as Vicar of Christ and pastor of the whole Church, the Roman Pontiff has full, supreme, and universal power over the Church." "Together with its head, the Roman Pontiff, and never without this head, the Episcopal order is the subject of supreme and full power over the universal Church" (Vatican II, Dogmatic Constitution: 22)

What does the Bible say?

"He [Jesus Christ] is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence." (Colossians 1:18).

"And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body..." (Ephesians 1:22-23).

Veneration of Graven Images.

"Those decrees issued in earlier times regarding the veneration of images of Christ, the Blessed Virgin, and the saints, (should) be religiously observed." (Vatican II, Dogmatic Constitution: 67).

What does the Bible say?

"You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth." Exodus 20:4

"Little children, keep yourselves from idols" (I John 5:21).

"Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry." (I Corinthians 10:14).

The Baptist Church

Baptism in the Baptist Church

"Baptism may not be essential to salvation, but it is essential to obedience." "...it possesses no power in itself to remit sin..." (Hiscox, The New Directory of Baptist Churches, pp. 125-26).

"Baptism does not save the unbeliever" (C. H. Spurgeon in Baptist Doctrines, p. 118).

Baptism "is not necessary for salvation" (H. H. Hobbs, Fundamentals of our Faith, p. 17)

How to Become A Christian According to Baptist

[copied from www.sbc.net]

"If it is your sincere desire to receive Jesus into your heart as your personal Lord and Savior, then talk to God from your heart"

"Here's a Suggested Prayer: "Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and I do not deserve eternal life. But, I believe You died and rose from the grave to make me a new creation and to prepare me to dwell in your presence forever. Jesus, come into my life, take control of my life, forgive my sins and save me. I am now placing my trust in You alone for my salvation and I accept your free gift of eternal life."

What does the Bible say?

"And Peter said to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:38

"And now why do you delay? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name." Acts 22:16

"There is also an antitype which now saves us, namely baptism..." (I Peter 3:21).

"...Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16).

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved." (Mark 16:16).

The Methodists Church

Doctrine in the Methodist Church

"By what methods can our doctrinal reflection and construction be most fruitful and fulfilling? The answer comes in terms of our free inquiry within the boundaries defined by four main sources and guide-lines for Christian theology: Scripture, tradition, experience, reasoning" (Discipline 1980, par. 69).

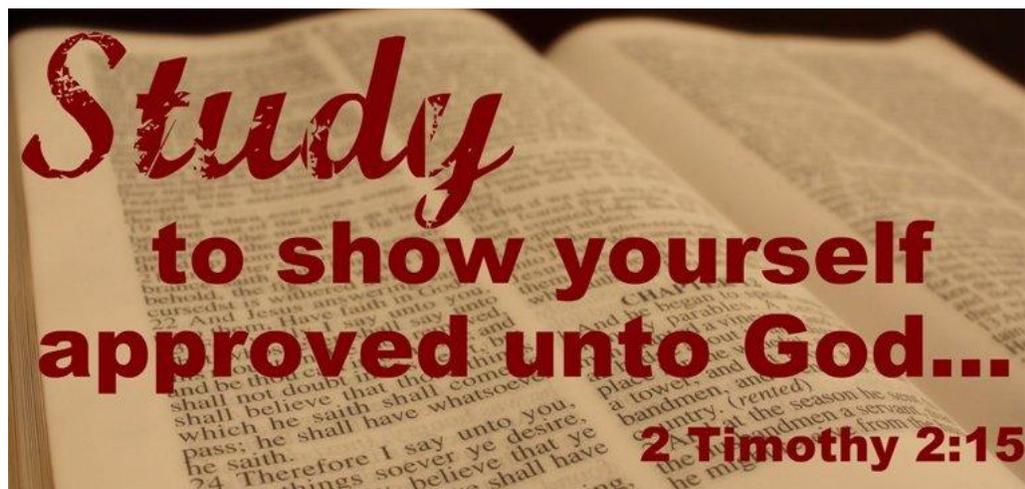
What does the Bible say?

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profit-able for doctrine...that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:1)

Source of Law. "The Discipline is the book of law of The United Methodist Church. It is the product of the many General Conferences of historic religious bodies which now form The United Methodist Church" (Discipline, 1980, p. v)

What does the Bible say?

"There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy" (James 4:12a)



The Presbyterians Churches

Necessity of Baptism.

"Baptism is neither essential to salvation nor an evidence thereof, but the ordinance is not to be neglected" (Miller, 1956, p. 68).

What does the Bible say?

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved" (Mark 16:16).

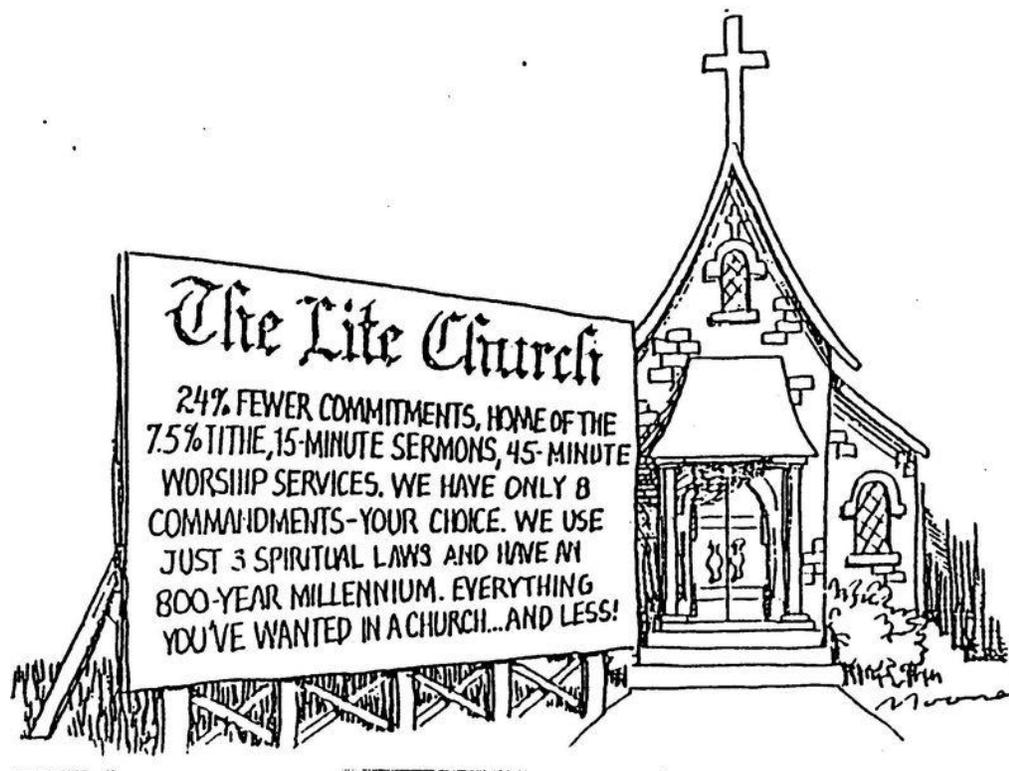
"...baptism doth also now save us..." (I Peter 3:21).

Original Sin.

"...every person born in this world...deserveth God's wrath and damnation." (Articles of Religion).

What does the Bible say?

"Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:14).



The Pentecostals Churches

Speaking in tongues.

"Reception of the Spirit is signified by the phenomenon of speaking in tongues" which is "a supernatural utterance by the Holy Spirit in languages never learned by the speaker--not understood by the mind of the speaker--seldom understood by the hearer" (Nichol, 1966, pp. 9-11).

"There is not one verse in the Bible that states or even implies...that tongues would cease at the end of the apostolic age" (Litzman, p. 36).

What does the Bible say?

"Everyone heard them speak in his own language" (Acts 2:6, 7-11).

"If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret. But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in the church" (I Cor. 14:26).

"Whether there are tongues, they will cease..." (I Cor. 13:8).

With all these differences listed here between these baal temple religions, there is a lot of doctrine that they share that is exactly the same. They all teach the Jews are God's chosen people, they all teach that God's Law has been done away with and was "nailed to the cross", they teach against the Kingdom of God on Earth and the resurrection of the dead, they teach the falsehood of Christians being raptured away to Heaven, among MANY OTHERS FALSE DOCTRINE! The truth is that these denominations are only names, and that they are all in fact the same and that is baal religion! There isn't a dime's worth of difference!

These baal temples teach a doctrine that one becomes a Christian by faith or belief only. Which can't be found anywhere in the Bible! In God's Word many things are hidden or concealed according to Proverbs 25:2. This thing of salvation is so important that it is very, very, clear! 2 Timothy 2:4 says that He desires all men to be saved AND come to the Knowledge of the Truth.

#1. We must believe in Jesus Christ in order to be saved. The Master said: "...for unless you believe that I am He, you shall die in your sins" John 8:24

#2. We must repent. He also said: "...but unless you repent, you will like wise perish" Luke 13:3

#3. We must confess Christ as Lord: "...that is you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe with your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved" Romans 10:9

#4 We must "...repent and be baptized *fimmersed in water* in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, you shall receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:38

"And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'" Matthew 10:7