

## Definition of Religious Words

---

What do the religious words mean in our world today compared to how the Bible defines them?

### **Christian:**

In our time, a Christian is a person who attends church, believes in God, Jesus, the Spirit of God, and tries to follow the teachings of the Bible and Jesus

- The complication here is that
  - Religions do not understand the Bible.
  - Many denominations are not biblical as they do not conform to Bible doctrine.
  - Almost all sermons and teachings from the Bible today are not biblical
  - The Jesus, Spirit, and God of modern religion are often not the Jesus, Spirit, or God of the Bible.
- Nowhere in the Bible is the term Christian used in a positive way,
  - “Christian” appears twice, “Christians” once
  - The term Christian was a label given to the Jews who believed that Jesus was the Messiah who was prophesied in the Jewish Scriptures (our Old Testament)
  - Christian was a pejorative, derogatory slang the Roman culture gave to the believing Jews: it was not a term of honor or endearment.
- In the 30 years of the Apostles ministry, neither Peter, Paul, James, John, or Jude ever used the term Christian to describe
  - themselves,
  - their followers or
  - the Jewish or the Pauline churches.
- The term “Christian” never described the Pauline Body of Christ.
- The religion “Christianity” of the last 1700 years is nowhere found in the Bible.
- Christian is a term appropriated by the Roman Church to denote people of the Roman religion.
- Christian today means various things associated with religious belief and practice, but, the word Christian
  - Does not mean the first century Body of Christ
  - Does not mean those individuals who today belong to the Body of Christ
  - Does not mean a relationship with God
  - Does not mean a person with the Spirit of God
  - Does not mean that an individual has biblical salvation as the vast majority of “Christians” do not.

**Bible:**

The collection of writings inspired by God for the benefit of mankind.

- Throughout the last 2000 years, the Bible has been confused and mistaught so that today, there is more of a tradition of what people think the Bible says and means rather than the actual truth of the Bible.
- The Bible has been so misused, for so long, that people do not have a Bible, as what they have learned of the Bible, what they think the Bible says is not biblical truth.
- Christian religion today is nothing more than a collection of Bible verses taken out of context.

**Church:**

A Church is a group of people; a religious gathering of like-minded people.

The Jewish Church in Acts 2 was a gathering of Jews who believed Jesus was the Messiah. The Romans called these Jews Christians.

Christ called the Apostle Paul to minister to the Gentiles. The result was the Body of Christ: Christ's Church. These were, and are, believers, each having the Spirit of God, and in themselves are the temple of God. A gathering of these believers is the true, biblical definition of Church.

- The first century church was not a building.
- Each believer was and is the temple of God.
- The first century church did not come together to corporately worship God.
- The Church, in the time and sense of the Apostle Paul and the Body of Christ, was and is always people: not a building, a denomination, or a religious affiliation.

In our time, Church is a building where people gather to attend religious services and collectively worship God.

- The model of the collective / corporate worship of God in today's church is not a biblical concept. It is a pagan model from the era of Constantine, circa 300 AD, and the subsequent practice of the Roman Church of the last 1700 years.
- Roman religion and Protestant religion are related in many ways.
- Protestant religion is more like Catholicism than the Pauline, 1<sup>st</sup> century Body of Christ.
- Those who attend modern-day religious church services may or may not have the Spirit of God.
- The Bible is mistaught and misunderstood.
- The rituals churches practice may have nothing to do with biblical truth.
- The church may not even know the one true God, the Spirit of God, or Jesus, and may follow a false deity, false gospel, and false teachings.

## Jesus:

Today, Jesus is a name from the Bible appropriated by religion today

- “Jesus” is often redefined in modern religion and marketed as a god to worship and a role model to follow.
- This is a false Jesus and not the Jesus of the Bible.
- This concept of Jesus is a distraction from and a replacement of the one true God.
- The modern-day Jesus is a character of many good attributes including
  - “pure love”
  - who would never judge anyone and
  - accepts everyone no matter what they do.
- This false Jesus is a satanic ploy to distract people from God by giving them “something else” to worship.

## Tongues

- God performed a miracle in the early Jewish Church - after Christ’s ascension - to validate this new gathering. Acts 2
- The foreign Jews who traveled to Jerusalem for the Feast of Pentecost, heard the Jewish disciples speak in their language, proclaiming the good news of the Kingdom and the risen Christ.
- The disciples spoke in a language that was not their own for the benefit of others.
- The sign of tongues was for the moment and not for all time and everyone.
- Speaking in tongues is not a valid gift of the Spirit today.
- Certain false religious groups believe they can make babbling sounds and somehow this is a sign that they have the Spirit of God, are on a higher spiritual plain, are closer to God.
- The concept of tongues is a misinterpretation of the Bible. These people, instead of having the Spirit, actually do not have the Spirit, otherwise they would know better.
- These groups preach a false gospel and worship a false Jesus and a false Spirit.
- These “intense worship” religions must be avoided as they are a creation of man, not God.

## Baptism

- A Jewish ritual - a place-holder for the future baptism of the Holy Spirit, much as the Old Testament sacrificial system was a model - or place holder -of the future Christ and His ultimate effectual once-for-all-time sacrifice for mankind .
- Has nothing to do with the Body of Christ i.e. Christ’s Church.
- Any form of modern-day water baptism does nothing for anyone.

- Water baptism can hurt people by giving them the belief they have done something to earn Heaven and please God when all they do is get wet.

### **Tithe**

- In the Old Testament, a tribute given to the Levitical priests as required by Jewish law.
- Today, money given to a religious institution to pay the bills, supposedly because it is a biblical mandate from God.
- A part of Christian dogma derived from Bible verses taken out of context: misunderstood and misinterpreted.
- Has nothing to do with the Body of Christ in the first century or today.

PPGpilot