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Service Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher:

Russ Earl

AM Sermon:

The Global Flood
(**Gen 7:10-12;17-20**)

PM Sermon:

Marriage, Divorce, & Remarriage
(Lesson 2 of 2)

Sunday AM Bible Class:

The book of Daniel – D. Jackson

Wednesday Bible Class:

John 14 – Russ Earl

In SEARCH of the Lord's Way

On Channel 6-2 Sundays @ 7:30 am

The Truth in Love on Channel 47

Sundays @ 8am

Oologah Internet Radio Programs

Vance' Program on Wednesdays
@ 6:15pm & Thursdays @ 6:15am

LIVE broadcast on Mondays @ 5pm

Visit www.tgrn.org to listen or visit
www.oologahradio.org for more info.

The Oologah Informer

April 24th, 2016

Introducing the Church of Christ

(Part 1)

By Jack Williams

"I hear so many things about the different churches . . . And what about this 'church of Christ' group, who are they?"

Such are just a sample of the comments often heard when the conversation turns to religion. The problem comes in that when we ask these questions we get so many different answers! If you were to ask five people about the church of Christ, you would probably get five different answers. But there is a solution. If I want to know about any religious group, I should look to the book they follow, their "creed book." Where then should we look to find out about the church of Christ? The Bible. While you and I may have opinions about religion, there is only One who has the answer -- God, and He has revealed that truth to us in His Word (cf. John 8:32; Colossians 3:17). What then does God tell us of the church of Christ?

The Church of Christ is . . . A Singular Body

While we are all familiar with the statement that we can "attend the church of our choice," such an idea is foreign to the Bible. When Jesus was speaking to His disciples He said, "I will build my church" (Matthew 16:18). Notice that He did not say "churches" in support of the idea of many churches, but "church" as in one. We read in Ephesians 1:22-23 that Christ is "head over all things to the church, which is His body." Just three chapters later the same inspired writer informs us that "there is one body" (Ephesians 4:4). This makes it that much more important for us to look to the Bible and see what God has to say about the church, for if there is but one, we surely want to attend the church of His choice!

The Church of Christ is . . . People

This may seem strange to say, but many people equate the church with the building the name is found upon. Many passages in the Bible clear up such misconceptions. For example, in the book of Acts we read the following concerning the actions of Saul of Tarsus before he came to follow Christ:

"As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison" (Acts 8:1-4).

Note in the above text who it was that Saul persecuted. We are told first of all that Saul "made havock of the church," yet in the very same sentence we are told he was haling [or forcing] "men and women" to prison. What does this tell us? The "church" that was persecuted was the people, not some building or mystical body. The church is composed of people like you and I. It is plain though that not everyone is in the church of Christ - - Saul obviously was not at the time he was persecuting it. What then sets those apart who are in the church from those who are not?