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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:

Life After the Flood  
(**Gen 8:1-2**)

PM Sermon:

Christians must flee from false  
doctrine.

Sunday AM Bible Class:

The book of Daniel – D. Jackson

Wednesday Bible Class:

Acts – Vance Smith

**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](http://www.tgrn.org) to listen or visit  
[www.oologahradio.org](http://www.oologahradio.org) for more info.

# The Oologah Informer

## May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

### Introducing the Church of Christ

(Part 2)

By Jack Williams

#### The Church of Christ is . . . People Who Belong To Christ

Remember back to the passage referred to above in Matthew when Christ spoke to His disciples about the church. He said, "I will build my church" (Matthew 16:18). Paul tells us the church was "purchased with His own blood" (Acts 20:28). The question quickly comes to mind then, "How is it that one becomes Christ's?" For us to realize how one comes to belong to Christ, we again go to His Word. While the religious world gives many differing ideas as to how this happens, God has but one. In 1 Corinthians Paul addresses the problem of division. In verse ten we read that there were various claims as to who these people were "of" or belonging to. Some said "I am of Paul," others "I of Apollos." Still others claimed to be "of Cephas." There was one group though who said they were "of Christ" (1 Corinthians 1:12). The last is clearly the only correct claim. To settle the disputing and bring about the proper unity, Paul set forth a "test" of sorts to determine who one is "of." He said:

"Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?" (1 Corinthians 1:13).

The first question needs no answer, for we all realize that Christ is not divided! But how then to determine the true claim? Two points were made:

First, was the one you claim to be "of" crucified for you?

Secondly, were you baptized in the name of that person?

As to the first question, only Christ can make such a claim. He alone has been given for the sins of mankind (John 3:16; Romans 5:6-9). The second question makes plain something that many want to deny or disregard, but if God said it we have no right to do anything but accept it. That is, for one to be "of" another, or belong to him, he must be baptized in that person's name, or authority. Now while some dispute such, we again appeal to the Bible as the standard. Christ has made it plain in regard to baptism that:

It is a command of His (Matthew 28:18-20).

It is necessary for one to be saved (Mark 16:16).

It is necessary for one to have their sins remitted (Acts 2:38).

Those who "gladly received His word were baptized" and then "added to the church" (Acts 2:41, 47).

It is by this act that we are "in Christ" (Romans 6:3 and Galatians 3:27).

The point is that those who are "of Christ" must be baptized as He commanded. That means that based on our submission to His will to believe (John 8:24), repent (Luke 13:3), and confess Him before others (Matthew 10:32-33), we will continue our submission and be baptized in the manner and for the purpose Christ commands. The Bible tells us that it is then that we receive the great blessing of salvation. It is then that we can say we belong to Christ -- we are "of Christ." It is only then that one can rightly wear the wonderful name of "Christian."

Those in the church of Christ are those who belong to Christ, and they are willing to do whatever He has commanded to be partakers of such a great privilege.