

# ANSWERING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CHURCH

Scripture Reading: 2Ti 4:1-5

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## Introduction:

1. Some have sincere questions regarding the church.
2. It is important for us to know how to answer these questions.
3. What are some of the questions?
4. In this lesson we will examine some questions and how to answer them.

## I. THE ONLY ONES GOING TO HEAVEN

- A. BEING A MEMBER IS NOT A GUARANTEE -Mt 7:21-23
  1. It is not the ones who call Jesus Lord that is saved
  2. It is the one who obeys Him
- B. ONE MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH
  1. The Lord adds to the church -Ac 2:47
  2. All spiritual blessings are in Christ -Ep 1:3
  3. Salvation is in Christ -2Ti 2:10

## II. THE CHURCH IS A SECT OR CULT

- A. THIS WAS SAID OF THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH
  1. It was said of Paul -Ac 24:5
  2. It was said of the church -Ac 28:22
- B. THE CHURCH IS NOT A CULT
  1. A cult seeks to control the thinking of its members
  2. The church encourages bible study among the members
  3. The church search the Scriptures -Ac 17:11

## III. THE ONLY ONES WHO HAVE THE TRUTH

- A. THE TRUTH IS CONTAINED IN THE WORD
  1. We know truth through Jesus -Jn 8:31, 32
  2. His word is truth -Jn 17:17
- B. THE BIBLE IS AVAILABLE TO ALL; NOT JUST CHURCH OF CHRIST

## IV. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS A NEW CHURCH

- A. ALEXANDER SOUGHT TO RESTORE THE CHURCH
  1. He departed from denominations to return to the NT only
  2. His goal was to use the NT as his only guide, not creeds
- B. HE NEVER CLAIMED TO START A NEW CHURCH
  1. He refuted the idea of establishing a new church
  2. He rejected human names
- C. ALEXANDER NEVER TAUGHT ANY OF THE CURRENT DOCTRINE
  1. Steps of salvation are exclusively from the bible
  2. Christian living from the bible
  3. Church structure is found only in the bible
- D. ALEXANDER WAS A "SEED PLANTER"
  1. He planted the seed of the kingdom; the word of God -Lk 8:11
  2. When the word is planted, Christians are produced
  3. The same principle is seen today.

## Conclusion:

1. When we follow the steps of salvation found in the word, we become a Christian.
2. When we follow the bible exclusively, we are the church of the NT, not a cult, not a sect, but the people of God!