

# Restoring the Church

## Introduction

**1. In May 2018, I had the opportunity to visit Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia while holding a meeting in Richmond.**

**A. What did I see in this restored place of history?**

**1) I saw that these people had to know all about the location and style of the buildings and way of life that was being lived at that time in history.**

## Proper Restoration of the Church

**1. In restoring the church to its New Testament conditions, we must know some things also. We need to know:**

**A. That Jesus Christ was the head over all things to the church.**

Ephesians 1:22-23 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to **the church, which is His body**, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

**B. The people on the first Pentecost, after His death had to believe this, that Jesus Christ whom they had crucified, had been made both Lord and Christ.**

**1) What did this mean to them?**

Acts 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

**C. The early Christians were always told to confess Jesus.**

Romans 10:9-10 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

**1) Christ was preached!**

2 Corinthians 4:5 For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake.

**2) The early Christians always had respect for His word and because of that – they DID them!**

**2. If all men would do this today, it would mean the death of denominationalism.**

**Added to the Church**

**1. When individuals in those days of long ago heard and did what Jesus said, they were added to His church!**

Acts 2:41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

Acts 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

**2. We learn from Acts 10:34-35 that God is not a respecter of persons.**

Acts 10:34-35 Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.

Romans 2:11 For there is no partiality with God.

**3. He will most certainly add us when we trust and obey His inspired Word to us!**

**A. What will further take place when we trust and obey Him?**

**1) Our names written in heaven.**

Luke 10:20 Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because **your names are written in heaven.**"

**2) Our names written in the book of life.**

Philippians 4:3 And I urge you also, true companion, help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, **whose names are in the Book of Life.**

**3) When we overcome – our names are not blotted out.**

Revelation 3:5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I **will not blot out his name from the Book of Life;** but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

**4) If our names are in that book when Jesus comes back, then we know that we will be saved**

**Revelation 20:11-15**

**4. We can also know that we will be citizens of that eternal kingdom.**

Hebrews 12:23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are **registered in heaven,** to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect,

**A. Since that kingdom cannot be moved, that man will certainly be saved — because he has done what Jesus said to do!**

**Hebrews 12:1-29**

## **5. Jesus is “Savior of the Body” and He bought it with His own blood:**

Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and **He is the Savior of the body.**

Acts 20:28 Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God **which He purchased with His own blood.**

## **Conclusion**

### **1. If we are redeemed by the blood of Christ – we are a member of His church!**

Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

- ### **2. Upon baptism into Christ we are “added” to the church. We do not join it.**
- A. We then join a local congregation – we are instantly added to the church (universal) at the point of being baptized into Christ.**

