



WEST COLUMBIA
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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“every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master.” Luke 6:40b

Obviously Against Jesus

"He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me scatters" (Matthew 12:30). What does it mean to be "against Jesus"? In the setting recorded in Matthew 12 Jesus is dealing with rigid opposition. His enemies are attributing His miracles, specifically in this instance the casting out of demons, to Satan. The sin on the part of Jesus' detractors is readily identifiable. There are several ways in which one can think and live which are plainly against Jesus. A list such as the one presented in 1 Corinthians 9:9-10 contains a number of sins which the Christians in Corinth were formerly entangled in. Again, items on that list such as fornicators, homosexuals, drunkards, are easy to identify as ways to oppose Jesus.

However, anyone, any Christian can run the risk of standing in opposition to Jesus. No one is above temptation and sin. Anyone of us can decide at any time to deny the power of Jesus and engage in open sinful living. But that which is obvious and easy to identify as sin, usually does not entice us, at least not openly. We've all seen the consequences, perhaps even experienced the consequences of living a life which is readily identified as being "against Jesus".

Knowing this Satan will use other methods of entrapment. Deceitful stealth is a proven and preferred method of his. He will attack us with what is not so obvious. He'll provide paths of apathy and indifference for us to walk down. Matthew 22:1-14 records a parable in which many were invited to a wedding banquet but rejected the invitation. Matthew 22:5 reads as follows, "**But they paid no attention and went their way, one to his own farm, another to his business.**" If we aren't paying attention to Jesus we can't live up to His standards. If we aren't paying attention to Jesus we won't do the work of the church. If we avoid the "obvious sins" but at the same time aren't completely living and working for Jesus we may not *appear to be* or even *feel* as if we are in opposition to Him, but we are. Jesus requires obedience in every way, not just the "obvious avoidance of sin." Don't allow yourself to think you're pleasing the Lord just by avoiding certain sinful behaviors. Ensure you're living completely for Jesus. Pay attention to Jesus, live up to His standards, do His church's work; be with Him and not against Him.

- **T.J. Bolen**, Gospel Preacher, West Columbia church of Christ SC

NO IN BETWEEN IN 2014!

“So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot,
I will spew thee out of my mouth.” - Rev 3:16

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THE BULLETIN—VOLUME 40, NUMBER 45 November 9, 2014

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: T J Bolen— True Disciples

PM: T J Bolen— We do not lose heart, 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

“And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices,
as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,
and to hearken than the fat of rams.” - 1 Samuel 15:22

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PRACTICING
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY

A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!
www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org

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SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study
Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study
Office Phone (803) 794-5320

Nursery provided
Bible Classes for all ages

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Everyone Welcome!
Bring your Bible questions
Saturdays 3 pm

EVANGELIST

T.J. Bolen
(803) 807-2754
Email: TcejayBolen@gmail.com

BULLETIN EDITOR

Ed Kelleher
Office Phone (803) 796-8858
E-Mail: Ed@macro-inc.com

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Margaret Herring, Stephanie Rigney, Dorothy Gray and family, Pat Joyner, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, also Richard Ramkinson, Wilson Burton.*

- Keep **Grant Parks** in your prayers as he is having problem dealing with juvenile diabetes. Remember **Faye and Ken** and the family also.
- **Keith Carter's** sister has been very ill, but is doing better and is out of the hospital. **Keith** is greatly concerned. Remember them both in your prayers.
- **Trevia Parks** is better. **Anna Porter** was doing better but has an ear infection now. **Stephanie Rigney** wasn't well but was with us last Sunday. Pray Gwen Pittman can be with us again soon.
- Those traveling have made it back safely. **Remember to be thankful to God when our prayers are answered!**
- **Jones Gamble** requests prayers for **Lynn Cook**, wife of a co-worker.
- **Tommy White** has been having some difficulties. Remember also, **Stephanie Rigney, Gwen Pittman and Anna Porter** (send cards), **Dorothy Gray, Margaret Gamble** (Jones' sister), **Floyd Richbourg** and **Carolyn Stidham**.

"But I trusted in thee, O LORD: I said, Thou art my God.
My times are in thy hand;" - Psalm 31:14

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **BIBLE BOWL 2015**—BOOKS 1st and 2nd Corinthians (NKJV)—Sign up sheets in the foyer for youth and adult teams. We need people to write out practice questions
- **Bible study, Saturdays, 3pm, informal, bring friends and your Bible questions.**

“Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless,
plead for the widow.” - Isaiah 1:17

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AM Sermon Outline: **True Disciples**

Main Text: **John 8:31-32**

The idea of something being common place can be both good and bad. A way this would be true in the negative sense is if something has become so common to us that we've grown too comfortable and no longer see/appreciate its worth. Are you too comfortable with the word of God? Or asked another way: are you too comfortable with the Word of God? How can John 8:31-32 cure us of being too comfortable with the word and the Word?

1. The word brings about truth.
2. Truth frees people from sin.
3. Remain in the word to be a true disciple who is free from sin.

“Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” - John 8:31,32

THE CHURCH OF THE BIBLE?

When the question is asked, "What is the church?", many would respond by saying, "Which church are you talking about?" We realize there does exist hundreds of different religious groups in this world. Many of which claim to have some attachment to the church of the Bible. When we speak of the church, we have reference to the church that one can read about in the Bible.

BUILDER IS CHRIST: Christ is the builder of the church that you read about in the Bible. In **Matthew 16:18**, Christ declared, “**Upon this rock, I will build my church.**” The church belongs to Christ. He is the foundation upon which it is built (1 Corinthians 3:11). Dear reader, did Christ build the church of which you are a member? Is the church that you are a member of built by man or Christ? You need to be a member of the church built by Christ, His church.

BEGINNING OF THE CHURCH WAS IN JERUSALEM: The church that you read about in the Bible began in the city of Jerusalem, on the day of Pentecost following the ascension of our Lord. This was in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies (Isaiah 2:1-4; Daniel 2:44; Joel 2). These prophecies were fulfilled in Acts 2. Dear reader, did the church of which you are a member, have its beginning in Jerusalem as recorded in Acts 2? If **not**, then you are not a member of the church that you read about in the Bible.

BIBLE BASED: The church that you read about in the Bible is Bible based. The Word of God is the pattern that is to be followed in all things (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Thessalonians 5:21). Everything that the church does must be based upon what God has said in His Word. When it comes to the **(1) Way of salvation** (John 14:6; John 8:24; Luke 13:3; Matthew 10:32-33; Mark 16:16); **(2) Worship** (John 4:24; Acts 2:42; Ephesians 5:19; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Timothy 4:2-4), **(3) Work of the church** (Matthew 28:18-20; Galatians 6:2, 10; James 1:27; 2 Timothy 4:2-4), **(4) Way of life for the members of the church** (Titus 2:11-12; Galatians 5:19-23; 1 John 2:15-17; Colossians 3:1-3; Matthew 6:33), the Bible has the only answer and it must be followed completely. Dear reader, does the church of which you are a member have the Bible as its **only** guide and standard of authority? If **not**, then you are not a member of the church that you read about in the Bible.

BOUND FOR HEAVEN: The church that you read about in the Bible is the body of Christ (Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 4:4), bride of Christ (Romans 7:1-4; Revelation 19:7-8), family of God (Galatians 3:26-28), kingdom (Colossians 1:13) and the saved (Acts 2:47). Dear reader, don't you want to be a member of the church that you can read about in the Bible, because it is Heaven-Bound (Ephesians 5:23-26; Matthew 7:21-23).

by **Jerry W. Joseph**, evangelist, Trenton church of Christ, Tennessee

“Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.” - 1 Corinthians 1:10