

Christians - Cont.

Presbyterian (for the leaders)
Seventh-Day Adventist (for a particular day)
Holiness (for a lifestyle)

Why Just Be A Christian?

So, why is it so important to be just a simple, New Testament Christian without any denominational names? "Christian" allows you to be joined to Christ (Romans 7:4; 2 Corinthians 11:2-3).

"Christian" allows you to give Christ the preeminence (Colossians 1:18). "Christian" allows you to do all in his name (Colossians 3:17). "Christian" allows you glorify God (1 Peter 4:16).

Who then is a simple, New Testament Christian. True Christians wear no name but Christ (Acts 4:11-12). True Christians have no creed (belief system) but Christ (2 John 9-11). True Christians display no loyalty but to Christ (Jn. 14:15). And, true Christians live no life but in Christ (Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:5). Friend, will you be called a Christian today? - *Chris Reeves*

Sentence Sermons

- As you travel through life, look backward to learn, look inward to change, look outward to serve, and look upward to hope.
- Only those who read the "road map" of the Bible and follow it, can find their way to heaven.
- A work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope will never be forgotten.
- He that has ears to hear let him hear.

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Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Wednesday: 7 pm

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

“Called” Christians

*And he went forth to Tarsus to seek for Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that even for a whole year they were gathered together with the church, and taught much people; and that the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.
- Acts 11:25-26 -*

Called

The word “called” in Acts 11:26 comes from the Greek word *kreematizo* and is used of a divine calling from God. It is found 9 times in the New Testament and it reveals three important lessons about God’s word.

Warning from God

The word *kreematizo* is used 5 of the 9 times to refer to a warning from God. For example, the wise-men were warned of God in a dream not to return to Herod (Matthew 2:12) and Joseph was warned of God in a dream to go into Galilee (Matthew 2:22; see also

Acts 10:22; Hebrews 8:5; 11:7).

The Bible is full of warnings from God and a warning from God is to be taken seriously.

Revelation from God

The word *kreematizo* is used 2 of the 9 times to refer to a revelation from God. For example, it was revealed to Simeon by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death until he had seen the Lord’s Christ (Luke 2:26; see also Hebrews 12:25).

The Bible is full of revelations from God and these revelations, especially those to all mankind today, must not be ignored.

Calling from God

Lastly, the word *kreematizo* is used 2 of the 9 times to refer to a calling from God. The disciples were called Christians in Antioch by God (Acts 11:26; see also Romans 7:3).

This calling that came from God was divine; it was not merely a man-

made calling or description that can be ignored as optional. God, not man, called them “Christians”.

Called Christians

“Christian” is a God-given name, not a man-made term of derision or a nick-name. “Christian” is the name that Paul wore and he condemned following men (Acts 26:28; 1 Corinthians 1:10-15).

Names Given by Men

Today, religious people call themselves (God didn’t do it) many names, but these names are not in scripture. First, there are names that honor men; names like Lutheran (after Martin Luther) and Mormon (after an alleged man named Mormon in the book of Mormon).

Second, there are names that honor works; names like:

Baptist (for the act of baptism)
Methodist (for the assembly)
Episcopalian (for the leaders)
Catholic (for all the people)