

NO SUCH THING IN GOD’S BOOK

by John Isaac Edwards

Search the Bible cover to cover, lid to lid, and you will find no such thing as:

1) DIVORCE FOR EVERY CAUSE. In Matthew 19, the Pharisees’ asked Jesus, *“Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?”* (v. 3). The Lord referred them to *“the beginning”* and said, *“What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder”* (vv. 4-6). No such thing as divorce for every cause at the beginning! When the Pharisees asked about Moses’ *“writing of divorcement”* (v. 7), Jesus answered, *“Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so”* (v. 8). During Moses’ time, divorce was *“suffered”* or allowed, *“because he hath found some uncleanness in her”* (Dt. 24:1). Again, no such thing as divorce for every cause! And then Jesus stated, *“And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery”* (Mt. 19:9). There never has been such a thing as divorce for every cause in any dispensation in God’s book!

2) A DENOMINATION. The only church known to the Bible is the church *“purposed”* by God from the beginning of the world (Eph. 3:9-11), which the prophets predicted (Is. 2:2-3; Dan. 2:44), Christ promised to *“build”* (Mt. 16:18), *“purchased with His own blood”* (Acts 20:28), and of which He is *“head”* and *“saviour”* (Eph. 5:23). Not a single, solitary denomination that exists today can be traced back to the Bible. I passed by a sign in front of a building that read, *“Bible Baptist Church.”* There is no such thing in the Bible as the Baptist Church. And, furthermore, the Baptist Church is not mentioned in history prior to the 17th century! No other man in all of God’s book was ever called by the term *“Baptist”* than John. And, John was not even a member of the New Testament church, for he died before it was established (Mt. 14:10; 16:14, 18). Thus it is written, *“...he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he”* (Mt. 11:11). One today would think that all of the apostles established churches of their own as denominations are called Mark’s, Luke’s, Paul’s, Peter’s and so on. Yet, none of the apostles founded a single church. The apostles were set in

the church by God (1 Cor. 12:28), and the church is *“built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone”* (Eph. 2:20). No local church, in the New Testament, was ever called by the name of an apostle. In fact, the wearing of human names is condemned in the Bible (1 Cor. 1:12-15). Since *“there is one body”* (Eph. 4:4), Christ is *“the saviour of the body”* (Eph. 5:23) and the saved are *“added to the church”* (Acts 2:47), all the saved are in the church of the Lord; not a single one in any denomination.

3) MODES OF BAPTISM. Many speak of ‘modes of baptism’ like modes of transportation. There is no such thing in God’s book. The Bible just mentions *“baptism”* (1 Pet. 3:21). The one action of *“the one baptism”* (Eph. 4:5) is immersion. The Bible uses the words *“buried”* (Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12) and *“planted”* (Rom. 6:5). Bible baptism requires coming unto a certain water, going down into the water, being baptized, and coming up out of the water (Acts 8:36-39). Yet folks today speak of sprinkling and pouring as modes of baptism. There is no record of water sprinkled or

poured upon anyone for any purpose anywhere in the New Testament! You might as well speak of lying down and sitting up as modes of walking!

4) EVERYTHING WE DO IS WORSHIP. Some have been made to believe that everything one does from getting up of a morning to going to bed at night is worship. And, one must be worshipping while he is sleeping, if everything we do is worship, for sleeping is something we do. One said that he worshipped when he bounced a basketball. Another indicated that one worships by mowing the yard or washing a car. No such thing is taught in the Bible. It never has been true that everything one does is worship. Abraham said, “...*I and the lad will go yonder and worship...*” (Gen. 22:5). If everything one does is worship, then Abraham was worshipping when he rose up, saddled his ass, took, clave wood, rose up and went (Gen. 22:3-5), before he even got yonder! Acts 8 says of the eunuch, that he “...*had come to Jerusalem for to worship*” (Acts 8:27). If everything is worship, he must have been worshipping in his chariot, before he even got to Jerusalem to worship!

5) THE LORD’S SUPPER IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF WORSHIP. I read recently where worship is the most important thing we do. I did not know the Bible said that, did you? The Bible teaches that Christ is “...*the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him*” (Heb. 5:9). Does that not make everything Christ says important? Some have said, when serving at the Lord’s table, “Now we come to the most important part of worship.” Where is that in the Bible? Such thinking has caused

some to only come for the Lord’s supper, and engage in other activities to the neglect of other acts of worship. Early Christians “...*continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers*” (Acts 2:42). They also sang praises to God from the heart (Heb. 2:12; Eph. 5:19). If one act is more important than others, these did not know it.

6) THE EARTH WILL BE PURIFIED AND RESTORED. A young preacher has taught that when Christ returns the saints will welcome Him “down into this world” and that “creation as we know it will experience a wildfire, a purifying purge as the old corrupt creation passes away, replaced by a new restored Eden”. The Bible teaches no such thing! Read 1 Thessalonians 4:17. Nothing is said about welcoming Christ’s return downward into this world! Read 2 Peter 3:10-13. There is no purification or restoration in the words “*pass away*”, “*melt*”, “*burned up*” and “*dissolved*”! Christ consecrated for us a new and living way through the veil (Heb. 10:20). Entering within the veil, the Lord serves as a FORERUNNER for us (Heb. 6:20). Did He go to the purified, restored earth? Hope is laid up in heaven (Col. 1:5), not put down here on earth!

7) WAYS OF SALVATION. It is common to hear people today talk about ways of being saved. You have probably heard it said that we are all going to the same place, just taking different ways to get there. The Lord only spoke of two ways, in Matthew 7:13-14: the “*broad*” that “*leadeth to destruction,*” and the “*narrow*” which “*leadeth unto life.*” Jesus said, “*Narrow is the way, which leadeth unto*

life, and few there be that find it” (v. 14). In John 14:6, Jesus said, “*I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*” If there are other ways, the apostles did not know it for they taught, “...*there is none other...*” (Acts 4:12). In Acts 16:17, it was said of men of God, “*These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.*” The way of salvation revealed in the word of God involves hearing and believing the gospel (Rom. 10:13-17), repenting of sins (Acts 17:30), confessing Christ (Rom. 10:9-10), being baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38) and being faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10).

8) ONCE SAVED, ALWAYS SAVED. It never has been true that those saved could not so apostatize as to be lost. It is said of those once saved, afterward destroyed — “*how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not*” (Jude 5). A reading of Psalm 106:10-23 shows believers became unbelievers and saved people were destroyed. The New Testament warns about falling (1 Cor. 10:12), contains instructions to prevent us from falling (2 Pet. 1:5-11), gives examples of those who did fall (Gal. 5:4; Rev. 2:5), and tells what to do when children of God fall (Acts 8:20-23; 1 Jn. 1:9). Why such teaching if once saved, always saved be true?

If you were to live to be as old as Methuselah, you will find no such thing in God’s book when it comes to many things that are believed, taught and practiced in religion today. Such things are beyond the recognition of God’s word!

NEW BUILDING

by John Isaac Edwards

Paul wrote, *"I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase"* (1 Cor. 3:6).

The Lord has blessed the church of Christ at Terre Haute which began with 7 members assembling in the meeting room of the Holiday Inn Express and Suites in November of 2011.

The church now has more than 20 families represented with 58 in attendance last Sunday.

The church is overseen by two elders (J.P. Edwards & Richard Hall) and served by three deacons (Darrel Washington, Pete Crasher, and Jason Huddlestun).

There have been several folks to leave the errors of institutionalism and liberalism to hold fast the pattern of sound words (2 Tim. 1:13).



We have been blessed with a number of outstanding young people attending regularly as they pursue higher education at local colleges and universities including: Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Indiana State University and Ivy Tech Community College. We are just minutes away from these campuses, and members provide transportation for

students on an individual basis as needed.

The church has just completed the addition of a new auditorium which includes a baptistry and changing rooms, a cry room where mothers can attend to their young children, an office for the preacher and handicap restrooms. The former auditorium has been renovated for class use.

Though the building is new, the doctrine and practice is as old as the Bible. We remain committed to speaking where the Bible speaks, being silent where the Bible is silent, and doing Bible things in Bible ways.

We invite you to come be with us!

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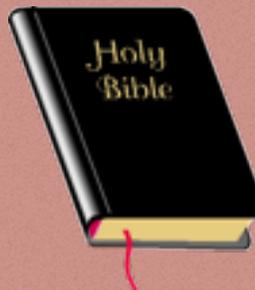
Assembling At:

4017 E Margaret DR
Terre Haute, IN 47803
[Exit 11 (I-70) W on HWY 46,
W on Margaret DR approx. 1 mile]

Assembling Times:

Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.

Come be with us!



We Speak Where the Bible Speaks.

We Are Silent Where the Bible Is Silent.

We Do Bible Things in Bible Ways.

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