

What a Contrast!

John Isaac Edwards

Some think about the only difference between the church of Christ and the Christian Church is the music. This brief writing shows a difference of night and day.

Different in Name. If you will read your Bible, in all its pages you will never find the Christian Church. You will, however, read of “the churches of Christ” (Romans 16:16). The term “Christian” is found three times in the New Testament (Acts 11:26; 26:28; 1 Peter 4:16). It is never applied to the church, but refers to the Lord’s people as individuals. “Church of Christ” is a Scriptural designation, while “Christian Church” is nowhere found in Scripture.

Different in Music. The Christian Church uses mechanical instruments of music in worship. The church of Christ has vocal music, singing. In the New Testament, the Lord just said to sing (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16), and never said a word about a mechanical instrument of any kind in worship. If you think He did, where is the book, chapter and verse? The church of Christ is silent where the Bible is silent, whereas the Christian Church speaks where the Bible is silent.

Different in Organization. The church of Christ is Scripturally organized with elders, deacons, and saints (Philippians 1:1). The Christian Church is unscriptural in organiza-

tion with boards, circles, societies, and aids. In New Testament times, each church did its own work. There is no example of a church turning over any of its work to another organization. The Christian Church undermines the sufficiency of the church, sending funds to human institutions such as The Missionary Society to do the work God assigned to the church. The church of Christ is content to follow the Scriptural pattern.

Different in Finances. The church of Christ finances its work through the freewill offerings of its members upon the first day of the week (1 Corinthians 16:1-2). This is the only way the Lord authorized the church to raise money to do its work. The Christian Church employs all kinds of unscriptural money schemes such as dinners to fund its activities.

Different in the Role of Women. The church of Christ has women in their Scriptural place and work, “...women professing godliness...” (1 Timothy 2:10). The Christian Church puts women in leadership positions like women preachers and rulers.

There are many more differences between the church of Christ and the Christian Church, but what a contrast! How some members of the body of Christ think they can have fellowship with the Christian church is beyond me.

Having Trouble Sleeping?

John Isaac Edwards

According to a USA TODAY Snapshot, three in four adults say they've had problems sleeping at night. The most common reasons they've been sleepless: Unspecified stress (25%), Health-related reason (14%), Work stress (10%), Family Stress (6%), Caffeine/coffee (5%), Outside noise (4%), Diet (2%), Uncomfortable bed (1%), and Partner's sleep habits (1%). Before you trade in your bed, think about this: Combining reasons one, three and four, 41% of those who have trouble sleeping at night lie awake because of stress. They're worried about something. With God's help, we can overcome stress and anxiety!

Make Your Life Right with God. Some may toss and turn at night because of sin in their life. It would be hard to sleep knowing that your life is not right with God, and that if you were not to wake up you would be unprepared to meet God in judgment. If you're not a child of God, obey the gospel! Christ is "...the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him" (Hebrews 5:9). If you're a Christian who has yielded to temptation, "...repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God..." for forgiveness (Acts 8:22). Making your life right with God will lift a huge burden off your back, give you peace of

mind, and help you get a better night's rest!

Pray. Prayer helps us overcome stress! Paul said, "In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer...let your requests be made known unto God" (Philippians 4:6). Peter wrote, "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you" (1 Peter 5:7). Why worry when you can live care-free? As you lay your head down to sleep, ask the Lord your soul to keep. "O how praying rests the weary! Prayer will change the night to day; So when life seems dark and dreary, Don't forget to pray!"

Put First Things First. In Matthew 6, the Lord talked about those who worried about the material things of life (food, clothing, etc.). The Lord said, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33).

Don't Borrow Sorrow from Tomorrow. The Lord said, "Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof" (Matthew 6:34).

Try these for a better night's sleep.

The Terre Haute Speaker is published weekly by the church of Christ at Terre Haute, Indiana.

Assembling At:

Holiday Inn Express & Suites
2645 S Joe Fox St.
Terre Haute, IN 47803
(Exit 11, I-70 & SR 46)

www.churchofchristatterrehaute.com



Assembling Times:

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



**The Bible
Is Our
Only Guide!**