

# Good News From Chardon

February 9, 2020  
Issue 6



128 Maple Ave. 440-286-5505

## The Test of a Church

Did you know there are over 30,000 various “Christian” “churches” in the world today? Did you know that—in the New Testament (NT)—there is only ONE church (Matt. 16:18; Rom. 12:4,5; 1 Cor. 12:12,13,20; et al.)? That leads to this eternally important question: HOW DO I KNOW WHICH CHURCH IS THE CHURCH?

In the New Testament—especially in the book of Acts and the epistles of Paul (Romans – 2 Timothy) — we can read of the various characteristics of THE church that belongs to Christ:

### **Its Teachings. Its Practices. Its Pattern of Worship. Its Organization. Its Government.**

- To put a church to the test, simply compare/contrast the characteristics of any given church to the characteristics of Christ’s church (which can be found nowhere but the New Testament). Here is the kicker: if a church differs, in any capacity (e.g., teaching, practice, worship, organization, gov’t, etc.), with CHRIST’S church (according to the descriptions found in the New Testament)—then that church is NOT Christ’s church, which He built and purchased with His blood (Matt. 16:18; Acts 20:28). A great key is found in Acts 2:42: “And they continued steadfastly IN THE APOSTLES’ TEACHING...”
- Likewise: “Now I beseech you, brethren, through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all SPEAK THE SAME THING and that there be NO DIVISIONS among you...” (1 Cor. 1:10).
- “Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received FROM US” (2 Thess. 3:6).
- “If anyone does not obey what WE say in this letter, take note of that person, and have nothing to do with him, that he may be ashamed” (2 Thess. 3:14).
- “If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are A COMMAND OF THE LORD” (1 Cor. 14:37).

The only way any church can be THE church which THE Creator purchased with THE blood of THE Son of THE God is if it “continue[s] steadfastly in the apostles’ teaching.” A “denomination” (i.e., “division”) is born when men stop “continu[ing] steadfastly in the apostles’ teaching” (Acts 2:42). Thus, any church that is not “continu[ing] steadfastly in the apostles’ teaching” is NOT Christ’s church, but is just another “self-made religion” (Col. 2:23)—and no self-made religion has ever gotten a single soul to heaven (cf. Matt. 23:15).

The only way a church can be THE church which THE Creator purchased with THE blood of THE Son of THE God is if it “continue[s] steadfastly in the apostles’ teaching.” ...any church that is not [doing that] is just another “self-made religion” (Col. 2:23)...

Study the New Testament and read about Christ’s only church: if YOUR church varies, in any capacity from THAT church, I urge you to get out, and find one that operates strictly and solely according to the pattern found in the New Testament, with nothing added or subtracted—i.e., one that is “in Christ” (Gal. 2:6) and “of Christ” (Rom. 16:16).

*“Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, DOES NOT HAVE GOD.*

*Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son” (2 John 9).*

Seth Myers preaches for the  
Highway Church of Christ in Sullivan, IL

### **Schedule of Services:**

**Greeting:** Mark  
**Song Leader:** Mark  
**Opening Hymn:**  
52—I Need Thee Every Hour  
**Opening Prayer**  
Ray  
**Hymn:**  
352—I’ll Be List’ning  
**Scripture Reading:**  
Larry  
Colossians 2:16-23  
**Hymn:**  
179—When I Survey the  
Cross  
**Lord’s Supper:**  
Myron & Ryan  
**Hymn:**  
343—It Won’t Be Very Long  
**Sermon:** Mark  
**Invitation Hymn:**  
321—At the Cross  
**Closing Hymn:**  
361—This World is Not My  
Home  
**Closing Prayer:**  
Dale

# PRAYER LIST

- \*Pat is feeling better and looking forward to nice weather so she can be with us again.
- \*Richard and Rosemary.
- \*Gary & Cindy and their family.
- \*Juanita's sister Betty.
- \*Mary and her family.
- \*Nina's brother, James.
- \*Robert and Sara
- \*Pat and Ron.
- \*Juanita and her family.
- \*Larry and Ruth
- \*Dale, his mother and his cousin Jayna and her family. His friend Zarna and her family.
- \*Ray, Rebecca, and Steven.

# CALENDAR

- Feb. 9—Bible Study 10 am Dale
- Feb. 9—Worship 11 a & 6 p Speaker: Mark
- Feb. 9—Potluck
- Feb. 15—a. David & Dorene
- Feb. 16—Bible Study 10 am Dale
- Feb. 16—Worship 11 a & 6 p Speaker: Mark
- Feb. 22—a. Ray & Barbara
- Feb. 23—Bible Study 10 am Mark
- Feb. 23—Worship 11 a & 6 p Speaker: Mark

# Not Legalism but Christ

Scripture Reference: Colossians 2:16-23

ACCORDING	AGAINST	ANGELS	APPEARANCE
BASIC	CHRIST	COMMANDMENTS	CONCERN
DOCTRINES	FESTIVAL	HANDLE	HOLDING
HUMILITY	INCREASE	INDEED	INDULGENCE
INTRUDING	JOINTS	LIGAMENTS	LIVING
NEGLECT	NOURISHED	PERISH	PRINCIPLES
REGARDING	REGULATIONS	RELIGION	SABBATHS
SUBJECT	SUBSTANCE	THEREFORE	TOGETHER
WORSHIP	YOURSELVES		

L S D G E T S R S G N O O N E S T R  
D T E N C H H E T N E A T Y L C E O  
O N H I U O T H N I F Y O E E L S G  
C E S D U R A T E D R E G L I E N S  
T M I R W E B E M R A N G G V I N C  
R A R A S S B G D O A E I L D O T O  
I G U G E A A O N C N O E U I E C N  
N I O E L E S T A C N S R T C I E C  
E L N R P R P R M A R T A N S D J E  
S T A C I C I K M U N L A A I N B R  
E F T H C N H G O I U R B D E L U N  
L E S R N I S Y C G A I P E R I S H  
D S N I I G R H E E Y T I L I M U H  
N T I S R T O R P T H E R E F O R E  
A I A T P I W P I N D U L G E N C E  
H V G E C N A T S B U S I N D E E D  
N A A G N I D L O H S T N I O J F A  
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Hidden Message: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Answer to Puzzle: Let no one  
 cheat you of your reward, taking  
 delight in false humility

If you are irritated by every rub, how will you be polished?

**SUNDAY: Bible Class — 10:00 am; Worship — 11:00 am; Evening — 6:00 pm**  
**Website: Chardonchurchofchrist.org**  
**E-mail: church\_of\_Christ@roadrunner.com**  
**Pod Cast: Chardon.podbean.com**