

Rom. 14:19  
So then let us  
follow after  
things which  
make for  
peace, and  
things  
whereby we  
may edify one  
another.

# THE LENEXA EDIFIER

Anna Surface 2010

John 8:32 And  
ye shall  
know the  
truth and the  
truth shall  
make you  
free.

July  
7  
2019

## “IN THE NAME OF THE LORD”

by Jim Stauffer

*“Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.” (Colossians 3:17)*

In the Greek of this text to do something in the name of the Lord Jesus is the same as doing it in the name of anyone in today's world. When we do something in the name of someone it is “by their authority” either explicitly or implicitly.

When I was a boy I would often be sent to the grocery store to purchase a few items. I was sent by my mother and charged it to my Father's account. I conducted this transaction in his name. If I purchased items other than specified, such as a candy bar for myself, I would give an account to him. Why? Because he had not authorized that purchase.

Why do we struggle to understand that when it comes to our religious conduct? Consider all the things practiced in religion today that are not authorized by God and Christ.

Such things as instrumental music in worship. Unauthorized. We are told to sing. The melody made in the heart is the one God is looking for (**Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; 1 Cor. 14:15**).

Baptism is often taught as an option rather than something necessary for remission of sins and entrance into the kingdom of God, the church. Even when it is taught it is often distorted into some method of convenience such as sprinkling or pouring instead of the Biblical baptism of immersion. (**See Mark 16:16; Acts 2:41,47; Rom. 6:3,4; Col. 2:12**)

There is a common thought in religion that the observance of the Lord's Supper is left up to man as to how and when he chooses. Jesus instituted this supper and Paul told us, For as long as you eat this bread and drink this cup you do show the Lord's death until He come. (**1 Cor. 11:26**) We then learn how often we are to observe this spiritual feast in **Acts 20:7** when, *“On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul began talking to them, intending to*

*leave the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.” (Acts 20:7)*

Of course it does not stop here. Men continue to practice things “in the name of the Lord” without His consent. The social gospel as resulted in the church becoming entangled in many social causes that are not according to the instruction of God and Christ, thus not “in His name”.

He gave us a simple standard. Do and say all things in His name. Why would we do otherwise. I soon learned not to at the grocery. Why would I have less respect for God than my earthly father?

### Why Do We Need Church Creeds? (3)

**Jefferson David Tant | Roswell, Georgia, USA**

So, what's wrong with the creeds? They contradict one another and they contradict the Bible. Consider just a few examples.

**(Hiscox Baptist Manual)** --Church Membership, p. 22

*“It is most likely that in the Apostolic age when there was but ‘one Lord, one faith, and one baptism,’ and no differing denominations existed, the baptism of a convert by that very act constituted him a member of the church...In that sense, ‘baptism was the door into the church.’ Now, it is different; and while the churches are desirous of receiving members, they are wary and cautious that they do not receive unworthy persons. The churches therefore have candidates come before them, make their statement, give their ‘experience,’ and then their reception is decided by a vote of the members. And while they cannot become members without baptism, yet it is the vote of the body which admits them to its fellowship on receiving baptism.”*

The Bible says we are “baptized into Christ,” not “voted” into Christ. *“For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.” (Galatians 3:27)*

Note—it looks like it is more difficult to become a Baptist than to become a Christian. Question – Who said it was different?

On another point, consider the following quote from Hiscox--Church Ordinances, Note 8, pages 20, 21 – *“Baptism is not essential to salvation, for our churches utterly repudiate the dogma of ‘baptismal regeneration’; but it is essential to obedience, since Christ commanded it...”*

Note—logically, that means that obedience is not essential to salvation, either.

The Bible says baptism IS essential. *“He that believes and is baptized shall be saved, but he that does not believe shall be condemned” (Mark 16:16).*

*“And now why do you delay? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name” (Acts 22:16).*

*“And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you--not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience--through the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 3:21).*

**(Methodist and Episcopal creeds)** “Wherefore, that we are justified by faith only is a most wholesome doctrine and very full of comfort.” (“Faith only” is common in many denominations—Baptist, Lutheran, Church of God, Presbyterian, etc.)

But the Bible says: *“You see that a man is justified by works, and not by faith alone” (James 2:24).* In other words, it is an obedient faith that God considers.

**(The Catholic Church)** It is well known that Catholic priests are to be respectfully addressed as “Father.”

But the Bible says: Christ does not agree with this, as he addressed the matter of the Pharisees ascribing to themselves titles of honor.

*“And they love the place of honor at banquets, and the chief seats in the synagogues, and respectful greetings in the market places, and being called by men, Rabbi. But do not be called Rabbi; for One is your Teacher, and you are all brothers. And do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven” (Matthew 23:6-9).*

Obviously, this does not refer to our fathers in the flesh, but to giving some religious title.

**(The Catholic Church)** I have a booklet titled “The Bible Is NOT Our Sole Guide” published by the Catholic organization the Knights of Columbus. The whole text is dedicated to explaining why common people are incapable of reading the Bible with understanding, which is why only the ordained clergy can interpret it. The heading on page 43 states: “Inadequacy of the Bible as the sole rule of faith.”

To further emphasize their point, the KofC book states that:

*“The Scribes who were professionally trained through long periods of study and instruction were the only ones who had competence in the interpretation of the Books*

*of Moses. The Jews, contemporaries of Jesus, would have been horrified at the principle that anyone is qualified to read and interpret for himself...”* (page 10). But the Bible says, as when Paul wrote to the Ephesian church; *“So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is” (Ephesians 5:17).* Paul encourages common Christians to understand, and how is this to be done? Consider what Paul said about the people in Berea: *“Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily, to see whether these things were so” (Acts 17:11).*

These common people listened to Paul’s preaching, and then went home to check what he was preaching by the Scriptures to be sure he was preaching truth. The common people were able to discern and understand. And Paul commended them. He didn’t say, “You cannot understand the Scriptures without some official help.” They didn’t need some ordained clergyman to do it for them. And we are reminded of a Scripture cited earlier, *“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work” (2 Timothy 3:16-17).*

If the Scriptures can make us “adequate, equipped for every good work,” then who says the Bible is “inadequate”? Furthermore, in my copy of The Baltimore Catechism No. 3 on page vii, there is this statement: “All volumes of Catholic teaching, in this time of transition, are outdated by the time they are published.” Then what are we supposed to believe? Thankfully, that is not true about the Bible, as it *“abides forever” (1 Peter 1:25).* Truth does not change!

If it is true that the catechisms “are outdated by the time they are published,” then how can anyone ever know the truth? The apostle Paul wrote about those who are *“always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth” (2 Timothy 3:7).*

Another passage that touches on this is **Ephesians 3:3-4**: *“...that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief. And by referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ.”*

Note that Paul was not writing to the professors in some theological seminary, but to ordinary Christians. And what did he tell them? He told them that when they read what he wrote, they could have the same understanding that Paul, the Biblical scholar, had. That clearly contradicts the Catholic teaching.

**(The Catholic Church)** One other note about the Catholic creed is that priests, bishops, etc., are forbidden to marry.

But the Bible has other teaching on this matter, as we know Peter was married, and Paul gives the



qualifications for those who serve as pastors, bishops or shepherds. Then Paul instructs Timothy that there will come a time when there is a departure from the faith, which will include forbidding to marry and commanding to abstain from meats.

*“Faithful is the saying, If a man seeks the office of a bishop, he desires a good work. The bishop therefore must be without reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, orderly, given to hospitality, apt to teach” (1 Timothy 3:1-2).*

*“And when Jesus had come to Peter's home, He saw his mother-in-law lying sick in bed with a fever” (Matthew 8:14).* If Peter has a mother-in-law, wouldn't it be logical to assume he was married?

*“But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, men who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods, which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth” (1 Timothy 4:1-3).*

Furthermore, there is no evidence in the Bible that Peter was ever the pope.

#### **(Church Manual of The First Church of Christ Scientist)**

This denomination, founded by Mary Baker Eddy in 1879, has a creed separate from the Bible, as do all denominations. On page 61 of my edition, under “Communion,” we have the following words: “No more Communion. Section I. The Mother Church of Christ, Scientist, shall observe no more Communion seasons.” But the Bible gives different instructions. In the Gospels, an account is given of the Lord eating the last supper with his disciples before his crucifixion. Then Paul, in giving instruction to the church at Corinth, wrote the following:

*“For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, ‘This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.’ In the same way He took the cup also, after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me’ (1 Cor. 1:23-25).*

We could go on for hundreds of pages, but I believe the point has been made. The doctrines and creeds of men contradict one another, but more importantly, they contradict the Bible. Time will fail if we go on to write about denominations that are ordaining homosexuals and women to the ministry, although the Bible forbids both (**see Romans 1:24-27, 1 Timothy 2:12**).

Dear Reader, there are churches throughout the world that wear no name but Bible names, who have no creed other than the Word of God, who only practice what they find in the Scriptures. They still exist from the 1st

Century, in fulfilling the prophecy made in Daniel concerning the four earthly kingdoms that Daniel saw in his vision, and the kingdom that was going to be established by Jesus Christ.

*“And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever” (Daniel 2:44).*

It is impossible to reconcile the Bible's statement in **Ephesians 4:4-6** with the condition that we find in the denominations of men.

*“There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.”*

The passage does not say “many bodies/churches” nor “many faiths” (protestant, Catholic, Mormon, etc), nor does it say “four baptisms” (sprinkling, pouring, immersion, sprinkling rose petals).

#### **Taken from Meditate on These Things**

### **Members of the Church Confess Christ**

When Jesus took the disciples to the coasts of Caesarea Philippi in **Matthew 16** He asked them who people said He was. We read they said, Some say John the Baptist; some, Elijah; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets. *He saith unto them, But who say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. (Mat. 16:15,16)* This was the one fact that Jesus repeatedly drilled into the disciples' heads, that He was the Son of God. This was the one fact that had to be DEMONSTRATED beyond all doubt before the Apostles. It could not be simply whispered in their ear by the Holy Spirit. They had to be convinced by who He was while with them, living with them, suffering with them, walking with them and finally by suffering, dying and raising from the dead before them. Only then would they understand the depth of His next words: *upon this rock I will build my church!* He called Peter a stone, petros (masculine), but would build the church on petra (feminine). This signifies a mammoth monolith of rock, like Gibraltar or Dover in England. Since it is not Peter it must be the confession of who Jesus was that he had just made, that Jesus was the Son of the Living God.

This was what the Ethiopian eunuch said in **Acts 8:37**, *I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.* This was the Good Confession to which Paul referred in **1 Timothy 6:12f**. And it is the confession that everyone, believer and skeptic alike, will make on the day of Final Judgment, **Philippians 2:9-11**. Members of the Biblical Church confess the name of Christ in word and in Deed.

**Cleveland R. Reddinger Jr.**

**Psa. 1:1** Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the wicked, Nor standeth in the way of sinners, Nor sitteth in the seat of scoffers: 2 But his delight is in the law of Jehovah; And on his law doth he meditate day and night. 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the streams of water, That bringeth forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also doth not wither; And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. 4 The wicked are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. 6 For Jehovah knoweth the way of the righteous; But the way of the wicked shall perish.

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Sunday A.M. 10:20 Assembled Worship

Sunday P.M. 5:00 Assembled Worship

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## **OUR ADDRESS IS:**

7845 Cottonwood Dr.

Lenexa, Kansas 66216

913-764-9170

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TEACHER - BILL MILLER

**WEDNESDAY - 1&2 TIMOTHY**  
- JIM STAUFFER - TEACHER

### **SUNDAY MORNING**

**SERMON: DEFINING THE  
GOSPEL**



## **What Must I Do To Be Saved?**

**Hear** the gospel - Romans 10:17

**Believe** in Jesus Christ - Hebrews 11:6

**Repent** of sins - Acts 17:30

**Confess** Christ as Lord - Romans 10:9,10

**Be Baptized** for remission of sins - Acts 2:38

**Be Faithful** unto death - Revelation 2:10