

“Common Sense Questions A Church of Christ Preacher Cannot Answer?”



David Martin

- So says David Martin of the so-called “Rock Solid Baptist Church”
- Yet he is not solid enough to let me answer his questions before his people?

Of David Martin



- “He is a 1984 graduate of Pensacola Bible Institute of Florida, and was ordained to the gospel ministry in 1986. He has been in his current pastorate for eight years. His article on the Church of Christ cult is the result of in-depth personal conversation with a Church of Christ elder that led to a 3-day public debate with a Church of Christ evangelist in 1997. The debate was attended by 250 people nightly from within a 300-mile radius of Memphis, Tennessee. This is one of the most controversial articles on the church of Christ you will find anywhere. No church of Christ preacher can satisfactorily answer any of the questions posed by Pastor Martin.”

(http://www.biblebelievers.com/david_martin/martin_church-christ.html)

3 Things To Consider

- REVIEW: since Martin thinks this to be a “controversial” subject, he cannot object to our candid review of his article
- SUBJECTIVE: “No church of Christ preacher can satisfactorily answer any of the questions” is subject to one’s opinion
 - Stephen answered the Sanhedrin but not as they deemed “satisfactorily” (Acts 7:54-60)
- YOU DECIDE: You decide whether the answers agree with God and His word!



Martin Wrote:

- *If you are a member of this "church" or have been influenced by its teachings, we challenge you to ask your preacher the questions that follow, then get your King James Bible out, open it up, and ask the Holy Spirit to **show you the TRUTH** (John 16:13). If you have never been saved in the Bible sense, for heaven's sake, do not mistake being "washed in the baptistry [sic. sjw] of the church" for being **washed in the blood of Christ**.*



My Challenge

- If you are a member of the “Rock Solid” Baptist Church, why not ask David why he doesn’t respond to challenges to open discussion?
- If you are a member of the “Rock Solid” Baptist Church, do not confuse Bible Baptism with “Baptist Baptism”
 - the former is for salvation (1 Peter 3:21)
 - the latter is not for salvation (ask any Baptist preacher)



Martin Wrote:



- *If you ask one of these "preachers" any of the questions in this tract, you won't get a straight answer due to their "screwball" theology. You'll have them in "hot water," "swimming in circles," trying to explain their heretical positions. They'll be "hopping **REALLY?** all over the pond" because they can't **REALLY?** stay too long in one spot without sinking in the mire of their false doctrines.*

Screwball Theology?

- Is “He who believes and is baptized will be saved” screwball theology? Mark 16:16
- Is “Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord” screwball theology? Acts 22:16
- Is “For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ” screwball theology? Galatians 3:27



Who Is HOPPING?

- We Will See if David Martin
 - is the one in hot water
 - has a place to stand
 - is the one with “screwball theology”



Martin's Contention

- *The religious sect known as the "Church of Christ" has many peculiar and aberrant doctrines that are contrary to the word of God. It is a most deceptive and dangerous **cult**. Their teaching of baptismal regeneration is an age-old heresy that has damned millions to hell, and is still doing so today. The idea that they are the one, true and restored church of Jesus Christ puts them in the same league with the Mormon and Roman Catholic churches.*


Martin & Tertullus Against Truth

□ MARTIN

- church of Christ holds aberrant doctrines contrary to God's word
- most deceptive and dangerous cult
- damned millions to hell
- same league with Mormons and Catholics

□ TURTULLUS

- this man's a plague
- creator of dissension throughout the world
- ringleader of the sect called Nazarenes
- profaned temple (Acts 24:5, 6)

- 
-
- Paul maintained his faith despite the derogatory remarks, “But this I confess to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect, so I worship the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the Law and in the Prophets” (Acts 24:14)



LIKEWISE

- I confess to you, that according to the Way which they call a **CULT**, so I worship God, believing all things which are written in the **BIBLE!**

Baptismal Regeneration?

- Who teaches it in the church of Christ?
- If teaching that “baptism is necessary for salvation” equates with teaching “baptismal regeneration,” then:
 - does teaching that “repentance is necessary for salvation” equate with teaching “penitential regeneration?” If not, why not?

CHARGE: Same League With Mormons/Catholics?

“The idea that they are the one, true and restored church of Jesus Christ puts them in the same league with the Mormon and Roman Catholic churches”

“Well, the idea that faith is essential for salvation puts Martin in the same league with Mormons and Catholics?”





Martin Warns

*Don't **YOU** wind up being baptized in the "Lake of Fire" by accepting a "waterworks" based plan of salvation and rejecting salvation by grace through faith in the finished work of Christ.*

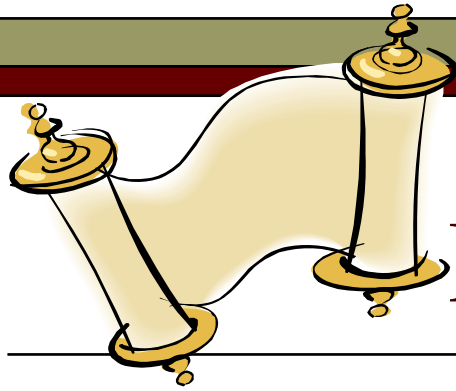


Waterworks-based Plan?

- If teaching “baptism is essential for salvation” means we teach a “waterworks-based plan,” then:
 - does teaching “baptism is essential for church membership” mean that they believe in a “waterworks-based church?” If not, why not?
 - does the Baptist Church have a “waterworks-based membership?” If not, why not?
 - does the Baptist Church entrust their membership to water and not the blood of Christ and His finished work when they require baptism for membership?

Rejecting Salvation by Grace Through Faith in the Finished Work of Christ?

- If teaching “baptism saves” rejects “grace through faith,” then:
 - teaching *repentance saves* rejects “grace through faith!”
 - If “baptism” rejects, how does “repentance” not reject it?



Mark Versus Martin

- “He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned” (Mark 16:16)
- “He who believes and is baptized rejects salvation by grace through faith and is in danger of being baptized in fire; but he who has faith alone will be saved” (Martin 16:16)

Rejecting Salvation by Grace Through Faith in the Finished Work of Christ?

- If teaching “baptism saves” rejects “grace through faith,” then:
 - did Peter reject “salvation by grace through faith?”
 - “There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism. . .through the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (1 Pet. 3:21)

Rejecting Salvation by Grace Through Faith in the Finished Work of Christ?

- If teaching “baptism saves” rejects “grace through faith,” then:
 - was Jesus rejecting “salvation by grace through faith” when He stipulated, “He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned”?
 - was Jesus rejecting His own finished work?



Martin's *Unanswerable* Questions

1. According to the history of the "Church of Christ," God used certain men to "restore" the New Testament Church in the early 1800's. **Where was the true New Testament church before then? Jesus said that the gates of hell would not prevail against His church (Matthew 16:18). What happened to the church and where was the truth it was responsible for preaching before God restored it?**



Restoring The Church

- ❑ The restoration movement in America in the early 1800's was only for America
- ❑ Churches of Christ existed before the restoration movement in America
- ❑ Individuals as well as local churches have the ability to leave Christ (Sardis, Laodicea, etc.)

Restoring The Church

- Christ's rule has never been destroyed
 - It has been consistently in force since his ascension
- The church was once for all established in the first century (Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:47)
 - It doesn't have multiple birthdays
- The restoration movement was about restoring the pattern of the original church; not reforming an existing apostate body
 - folks were leaving denominationalism and speaking only where the Bible spoke

Next Lesson

- We will answer more supposedly “commonsense questions that no church of Christ preacher can satisfactorily answer”
 - “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear” (1 Pet. 3:15)

Will You Be Saved Today?

- “And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, ‘Be saved from this perverse generation.’ Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them” (Acts 2:40, 41)
 - gladly receive the word—baptized

Will You Be Saved Today?

- “And when all the people heard Him, even the tax collectors justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John. But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him” (Lk. 7:29, 30)
 - reject the will of God – reject baptism

SO SIMPLE!