

# Bible Answers to Common Questions

## I. Introduction

A. Numerous contrasts exist between commonalities in the religious world and the Lord's design of His church. Because of this, questions pertaining to church practices often arise that are answered differently by Scripture than they are by the majority of people who claim to be Christians.

## II. Denominationalism

A. For instance, the prevalence of denominationalism in the religious world has led some to assume that all who claim to be Christians are part of a denomination. Some even view the church of Christ as a denomination. God teaches something far different. **Ephesians 4:4; 1 Corinthians 1:13; Romans 16:16**

## III. The Church's Beginning

A. Because denominations have a beginning long after the 1<sup>st</sup> century, a question might arise like, "when was the church of Christ founded, and by whom?" **Acts 2:47; Matthew 16:18**

## IV. The Church's Headquarters

A. Similarly, the question, "where is your church's headquarters?" might be asked. While other religious groups may give varied answers to this question, the true church of our Lord has no earthly headquarters. **Colossians 3:1; Ephesians 1:22-23**

## V. The Church's Creed

A. Another question we may be asked has to do with what "creed" we follow. While many religious groups have creeds authored by fallible men, Scripture teaches that it is Christ's doctrine, as revealed in the New Testament, that we must adhere to. **Acts 2:42; Matthew 28:18-20; 2 John 9; Matthew 15:9**

## VI. Women's Roles

A. Submitting to Christ's doctrine involves submitting to His teachings concerning the distinctions between men and women's roles. **1 Corinthians 14:34** (cf. **1 Tim. 2:11ff**)

## VII. The Term "Reverend"

A. Christ's doctrine also indicates for us what God might think of the term "reverend" that is often used in the religious world to refer to preachers. **Matthew 23:8-10**

## VIII. Who is a Pastor?

A. Scripture directly addresses the term "pastor." While many in the religious world use the term to refer to the work of preaching, Scripture gives a different answer to the question, "who is a pastor?" **Ephesians 4:11; 1 Peter 5:1-4**

## IX. Who is a Minister?

A. Scripture also answers the question, "who is a minister?" While the world may limit this to one who preaches, Scripture teaches something different. **Matthew 8:15; Mark 10:43; 2 Corinthians 8:4**

## X. Who is a Saint?

A. The same principle applies to the term "saint." This word refers to the holiness God expects of us. Such holiness is not just something that should be true of a select few, but should be true of *all* Christians. **1 Corinthians 1:2; 1 Peter 1:15-16**

## XI. Who is a Priest?

A. Not only does God want all of us to be ministers and saints, but He also wants all of us to be priests in the sense Scripture use this term. **1 Peter 2:5**