

Just A Christian

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

1 Corinthians 1: 12, "Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ."

When believers meet for the first time a question comes up - which kind of Christian are you? It is a shame that there are different "Kinds" of believers in Christ. Since there is only one Lord Jesus there should be only one kind of Christian. 1 Corinthians 8: 6, "But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him." He has one type of follower - the obedient and faithful kind.

The Lord did not make all the different kinds of believers who say that they follow Jesus. Who did that you might wonder, since Jesus prayed for the unity of the church. John 17:11, "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as

we are." Here he prayed for the followers that were with him then. Next he would pray for the ones, you and me, who would come in later years. John 17: 20, "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21. That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: 23. I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."

This call for unity by Jesus himself is no small matter. It is not a case where we can do as we please. So many times in the past I have heard preachers say, "Go to the church of your choice." People do just that, but it is a shame that so many do not go to where the gospel is preached. I believe that you know, as I do, that there are people, preachers, and churches that think that you are not as good as they are if you don't go to their kind of church. Some do not even think that you are saved if you are not just like them. All of this division, pride, and the judging that goes with it is hurtful to the cause of Christ.

This is too important to just say, "Well you go your way and I'll go my

way." If we want to go to heaven and be with the Lord then we had better let go of pride, and the doctrines of man and go the way of Jesus. If we believe in the bible and the scripture that I have mentioned in this article then we had better take it seriously. Ephesians 4:5. One Lord, one faith, one baptism. There is one Lord and he is coming for one church. One body of believer who follow the way set forth in the scriptures. Just as he tells us in 1 Peter 2:21, "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps."

We are told to follow Jesus and his example. There is never a time when we are to follow the ways of man instead of the path of Jesus. I know that Paul said, "Be ye followers of me." 1 Corinthians 11:1, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ." What he meant here, and in other places, was for us to follow the Lord together. Jesus only built one church and there is only one set of commandments that he gave, one plan of salvation for us to obey. Read the bible for yourself and make sure that you are following the word of God. Don't let some man, or men, tell you that you don't have to obey what Jesus said to do. Luke 6:46. It is your life - I hope that Jesus is your Lord as you live it.

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