

QA: How Can We Know Who Is A Christian? by John T Polk II

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: How can we know who is actually a Christian?

ANSWER: Since God created the categoty, it is only by letting His Bible describe it.

Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. (Acts 11:25-26)

(1) Jesus had said

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. (Matthew28:19-20)

Only "disciples" can be called "Christians," and no "disciples" were saved before they were baptized, according to Jesus Christ. Are you a "Christian?"

(2) Saul of Tarsus was one of those who was called a "Christian." Saul had not been saved on the road to Damascus, for Jesus had told him to

"Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." (Acts 9:6)

After 3 days, Ananias told Saul to "Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16), then "he arose and was baptized." (Acts 9:18) Saul was a "Christian." Are you a "Christian?"

(3) Saul became the Apostle Paul who wrote,

Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? (**Romans 6:3-4**)

Since baptism entered the death of Christ Jesus, Paul did not believe he had been saved by prayer before he was baptized or that baptism began his "newness of life." He believed as he was told, that in baptism, his sins were washed away (Acts 22:16). Paul was a "Christian," are you?

(4) What "kind" of Christians were they? Jesus Christ said to

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen." (Matthew 28:19-20)

"Disciples" have been baptized with God's authority and follow only the authority of Jesus Christ, not man's. Who has "authorized" your "salvation:" God or man? "Disciples" of Jesus Christ are "Christians" with "one baptism" and "one faith" (**Ephesians 4:4-6**). Are you a "Christian?"

—— jtpll, March 20, 2022