

Where Should I Attend?

Text

By Russ Earl

Thesis: I want us to consider some things that helps us determine where to attend.

Intro:

1. We should know that where we attend is important.
2. How do you go about determining where to attend.

I. Where the Name of Christ is honored.

A. Christ is to have the preeminence in all things (**Col 1:18**).

1. All should be concerned with glorifying God.
2. Why? Because He gave His life so that we might go to heaven.
3. The name by which a religious body goes is important, because every time it is used, honor is given the one for whom it is named.
 - a. Some church names honor a man, an ordinance, or the congregation's members.
4. Christ paid for the church with His own blood (**Acts 20:28**)
 - a. It is only logical that it should honor Him by what it's called.
 1. "churches of Christ" (Rom 16:16)
 2. "church of God" (1 Cor 1:2)
 3. "church of the firstborn" (Heb 12:23)
 - b. We should go to a church that honors Christ by what is on its sign.

B. The Bible places emphasis on the name "Christian".

1. Isaiah prophesied concerning this (**Isa 62:2**)
 - a. The disciples were first called Christians at Antioch (**Acts 11:26**)
 - b. Agrippa shows that the followers of Christ were referred to as Christians (**Acts 26:28**).

II. Where the doctrine of Christ & True Worship is observed.

A. The Correct Doctrine

1. Many churches teach some of the doctrine of Christ, but should we attend one that teaches some error & some truth? Christ tells us no, but we are to follow the teaching He gave to the Apostles (**Jn 16:13**)
2. Christ only approves of those churches who follow and teach His doctrine (**Acts 20:26-27**)

B. Worshipping in "Spirit & Truth"

1. We should not attend where entertainment is emphasized over Biblical worship (**Gal 1:10**)
2. We should worship where lessons & classes are filled with scripture (**2 Tim 4:2a**).

III. Where the plan of salvation is taught.

1. The reason Christ came to the earth was to save souls (**Lk 19:10**)
2. We must remember it is only the truth that can set men free (**Jn 8:32**)
3. Salvation only comes to those who obey the truth (**Heb 5:8-9**)

4. Should you attend a church that teaches something besides God's plan for man's salvation?

Conc:

1. When you consider where to attend, the scriptural aspect is the most important.
2. Where you attend is important, thus we should consider that factors that you use and encourage others to use this important factors as well.

Hear

Romans 10:17

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Believe

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever + in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Repent

Luke 13:3

I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.

Confess

Rom 10:9 — Rom 10:10

that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Be baptized

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 22:16

And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'

Remain Faithful

Revelation 2:10

Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.