

Christ Without Christianity

NOTE: If you have not read the article [“Start Here](#) please do so before continuing with this article.

Anointed to Perform a Task

The title given to the son of God was “Christ” which means “anointed” (“Messiah” is the Hebrew language equivalent of “Christ”). The son of God was anointed to perform a specific task:

“For this reason I have been born, and for this reason I have come into the world, that I should testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” (Joh 18:37)

“The word which you hear isn’t mine, but the Father’s who sent me.” (Joh 14:24)

Christ came to testify to the truth as he knew and experienced it in the Father’s presence. When he completed his task he returned to the Father to sit at His right hand.

Was Christianity Part of Christ’s Task?

Christianity is a system which claims to be ordained by God and initiated by His son. If this were true, one would expect to have seen the following:

- 1) Christ would have said that he was initiating a Christian system (synonyms for Christianity include “Christendom” and “church”)
- 2) Christ would have given details about this coming Christian system
- 3) Christ would have told his followers to lead, develop and grow this coming Christian system

The fact is that Jesus did none of these things.

Jesus’ Teachings Against a Christian System

Jesus’ teachings actually preclude the implementation of a Christian system.

Servants Not Leaders

The Christian system is a hierarchical system in which there are various levels of leadership. Jesus' taught his disciples that they were to be servants, not leaders.

But Jesus summoned them, and said, "You know that the rulers of the nations lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you, but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. Whoever desires to be first among you shall be your bondservant, even as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mat 20:25-28)

Jesus gave the twelve an object lesson that they would never forget.

Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he came from God, and was going to God, arose from supper, and laid aside his outer garments. He took a towel, and wrapped a towel around his waist. Then he poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

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So when he had washed their feet, put his outer garment back on, and sat down again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me, 'Teacher' and 'Lord.' You say so correctly, for so I am. If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you." (Joh 13:3-5, 12-15)

Contrary to what some will say, Jesus was not establishing a new "ritual" (foot washing). It was an object lesson.

In setting this example, Jesus was clearly teaching that there was to be **no** hierarchy, **no** "lording it over", **no** "authority". In other words, there was to be **nothing** like what the Christian system is all about.

Authority

Jesus said all authority had been given to him.

Jesus came to them and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go, and make disciples of all 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 commanded you. Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Amen. (Matthew 28:18-20)

Jesus never delegated authority to anyone else. In fact, what he did with his authority was to command the apostles to make disciples and teach them to observe what Jesus taught (not what the apostles taught).

Essential to the Christian system is the concept of the authority of the leaders. The subclass (called lay people) are to submit to the authority of the leaders. This directly violates Jesus' teachings.

Should a Follower of Christ Be Part of the Christian System?

Another way to ask this question is: Can one follow Christ without being a Christian?

The answer is: Absolutely! In fact, Jesus' teaching demands it.

Placing ourselves under the authority of a human directly goes against what Jesus taught. All authority is his alone!

If you are resistant to the idea of leaving Christianity in order to follow Christ, consider what Jesus said:

"How narrow is the gate, and restricted is the way that leads to life! Few are those who find it." (Matthew 7:14)

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give eternal life to them." (John 10:27-28)