



QA: Why Doesn't Church of Christ Participate With Other Churches? by [John T Polk II](#)

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

QUESTION: Why doesn't the church of Christ participate with other churches in their practices?

ANSWER: Because those who haven't completed their conversion by being baptized into Christ for the remission of their sins ([Acts 2:38](#)), have easily been led to other errors in doctrines and practices. One of the clearest, probably is about Christmas.

1. **The Name "Christian"** Is "Christian" a label for anyone who believes anything about Jesus Christ?

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 11:26](#))

The resurrected Lord (and not the baby Jesus!) 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." ([Matthew 28:19-20](#))

To be a "Christian" one must:

- 1) **observe all that Jesus commanded.** But He nowhere "commanded" that we observe His birth;
- 2) **assemble with the church.** What church? The church of Christ is the only one in the New Testament;
- 3) **remember, "Christian" is not hyphenated** nor applied to everyone who claims to be one!

2. Christ Or Christ-mass? Jesus said of the Pharisees:

"And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men." For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men — the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do. He said to them, "All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition." ([Mark 7:7-9](#))

Do you notice the "doctrines" and "commandments of men" are practices without any authority from God? The Pharisees wanted to appear even more religious than those who simply obeyed God's Word, so they made up practices to observe, and

set aside "the commandment of God." The observance of a "Christ's Mass" is just such a Pharisaical practice. Christians remember Jesus' death in the Lord's Supper, and resurrection every 1st day of the week (**Acts 20:7**; **1 Corinthians 11:23-26**). For a "Christ's Mass," many set these aside.

3. **Warning:**

If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself. (**1 Timothy 6:3-5**)

— *jtp11, August 14, 2022*