

Words of Wisdom by [John T Polk II](#)
For *WECO FM 101.3* and [The Fellowship Room](#)

5-18-2015 Hyphenated Christians

What “kind” of Christian are you? Paul found “contentions” in the Corinthian church of Christ caused by hyphenated Christians. Paul charged that:

Each of you says, 'I am of Paul,' or 'I am of Apollos,' or 'I am of Cephas,' or 'I am of Christ.' Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? (**1 Corinthians 1:12-13**).

Each group sought special identity among Christians, which defeated the purpose of Jesus' death. The churches of Christ should “all speak the same thing and *that* there be no divisions among” us (**1 Corinthians 1:10**). Those who only are “of Christ” were right, all the others had gone astray. Jesus Christ died to bring us together, people hyphenate to divide us up. Are you a hyphenated Christian?

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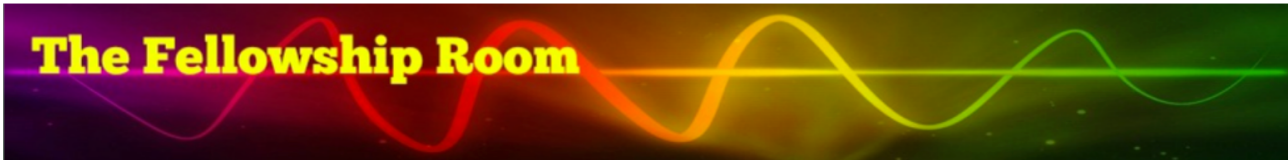
**5-19-2015            Questions for Unity**

To the divided Corinthian church of Christ, Paul asked:

“Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?” (**1 Corinthians 1:13**).

Many people act as if denominations don't matter – but they do! Regardless of their affiliation, the claim is “we're all in the church of Christ.” It may not matter to them, but it did to the Apostle Paul! “Is Christ divided” was answered in the New Testament

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



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with a resounding "NO!" Paul's appeal then was that there should be "no divisions among" Christians (**1 Corinthians 1:10**). Paul urged Christians:

Note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them (**Romans 16:17**).

Divisions are not over "the doctrine" but over those who misrepresent and mis-teach that doctrine!

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5-20-2015 The Lord's Church Are The Lord's Saved

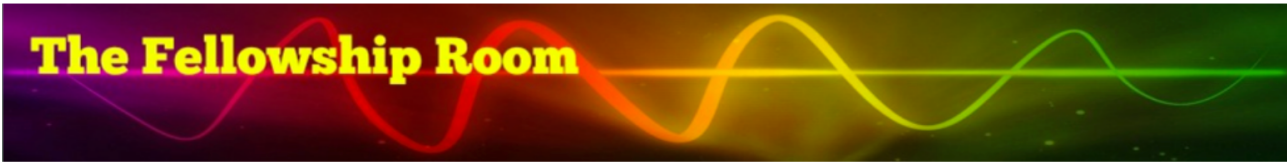
On Pentecost, after Jesus' resurrection:

[People] were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Men and brethren, what shall we do?' 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 2:37-38**).

As a result:

Those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (**Acts 2:41**).

In fact:



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The Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved
(**Acts 2:47**).

The Lord still adds to His church those whom He has saved, and the church of Christ is composed of the saved. Let the Lord add you.

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**5-21-2015                      The Church of Your Choice**

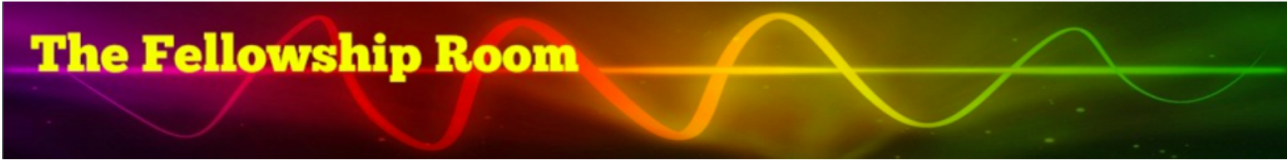
And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence  
(**Colossians 1:18**).

Jesus Christ is "the head of the body, the church" — all singular. There may be many named "Hesus or Jesus," but there is only one Jesus Christ. There may be many churches, but there is only one "body" of Christ. There may be many heads of churches, but there is only one preeminent "head of the body, the church" of Christ!

Pick any "Jesus or Hesus" you wish, but only "the Christ" can save souls. Choose any "church" you wish, but only Christ's church is made up of the saved. Follow any church "head" you wish, but only Jesus Christ is "preeminent" over the church of Christ.

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5-22-2015 Do You Hear The Sheep's Name?

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out (**John 10:1-3**).

There is only one door for the "sheep." Jesus said:

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned" (**Mark 16:16**).

Any other salvation plan came from "a thief and a robber." When Jesus calls "his own sheep by name" it is "Christian" (**Acts 11:26**). Are you waiting to hear your "denomination" called? Just be a "Christian."

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