



## QA: Aren't All Believers in Christ Christians? by [John T Polk II](#)

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

### QUESTION: Aren't all believers in Christ Christians?"

#### ANSWER:

(1) **A "brand name" only applies to the original.** Examples: Kleenex is not all facial tissues; Xerox is not all photocopiers; Coke is not all soft drinks; Band-aid is not all first aid bandages, etc. It actually is a misrepresentation to use the first product brand name to refer to everything that comes after it, but is like it.

#### (2) **It is the church of Jesus:**

"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**)

**What church?** The church of Christ began in **Acts 2** with: the preaching of the new Prophet, Jesus, whom God raised from the dead (vs. **22-36**); the new command to:

"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." (vs. **38**);

and the Lord daily adding the saved to "the church" (vs. **47**). Jesus only promised to build His church (**Matthew 16:18**), over which He is the Head (**Colossians 1:18, 24**), and "that there should be no schism in the body" (**1 Corinthians 12:25**).

#### (3) **"Christian" isn't a "brand name" that applies to anything people invent that is similar to, but not authorized in, the New Testament:**

- a. those claiming salvation before baptism (**Mark 16:16**);
- b. music from instruments other than the heart (**Colossians 3:16**);
- c. the Lord's Supper observed other than weekly (**Acts 20:7**);
- d. later-formed denominations claiming to be a part of the church of Christ (**1 Corinthians 12:27**);
- e. applause-garnering entertainment, rather than, "You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up *spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God* through Jesus Christ" (**1 Peter 2:5**).

Not all churches or believers are "Christian," many have used a God-given name for their imitations. --- jttjII, July 29, 2018