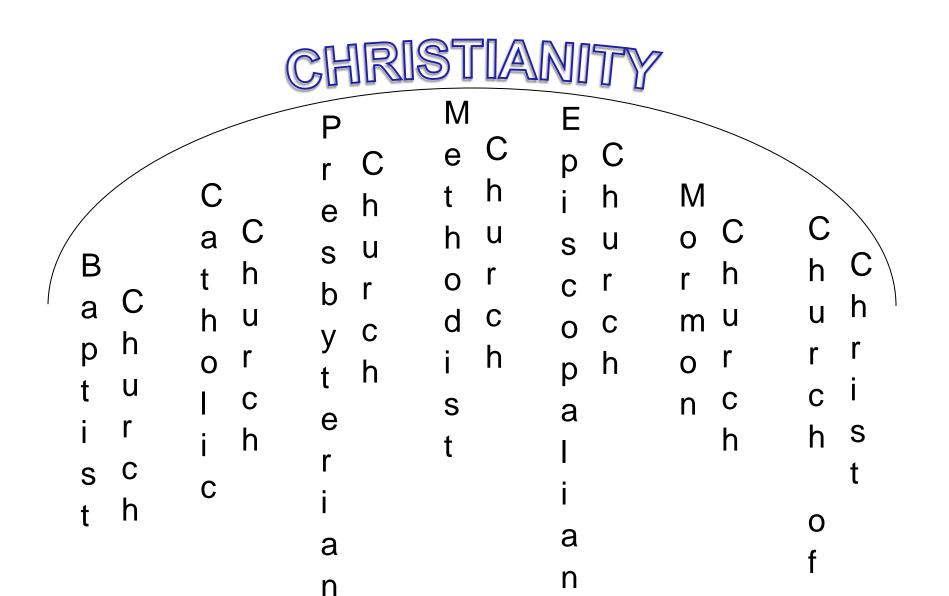
Denominationalism

Denominationalism is the division of one religion into separate groups, sects, schools of thought or denominations. Denominationalism views some or all Christian groups as being versions of the same religion regardless of their distinguishing labels; however, this ideology is not accepted by all Christian churches.

The Catholic and Orthodox Churches do not use this term as its implication of interchangeability does not agree with their theological teachings. Denominationalism is a largely Protestant concept among Christians.



Matthew 16 : 13 – 19

"...I will build My church..."

'ekklesia' – a calling out; a company of Christian, or of those who, hoping for eternal salvation through Jesus Christ, observe their own religious rites, hold their own religious meetings, and manage their own affairs, according to regulations prescribed for the body for order's sake

In this passage, we can establish many truths about the Church.

Whose church is it?

Jesus'

Who built the church?

Jesus

What is it?

A single body

If you were to establish (build) a business – what would this entitle you?

The right to choose Name of the Organization Organizational Structure Items of Service Service Times

Why do you have these entitlements?

It is your company. You own it.

of, pertaining to, or belonging to oneself or itself to acknowledge as one's own; recognize as having full claim, authority, power, dominion, etc

If Jesus were to establish (build) a church – what would this entitle Him?

The right to choose

Name the Church Organizational Structure Items of Service Service Times

Why does He have these entitlements?

He owns it.

Acts 20 : 28

"...He purchased with His own blood."

Jesus has the right to: Name the Church

Church of God (I Corinthians 10 : 3) (7x)

- Church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ (I/II Thessalonians 1:1)
- Church of the living God (I Timothy 3 : 15)
- Church of the Firstborn (Hebrews 12:23 heaven)
- Churches of God (I Thessalonians 2 : 14) (3x)
- Church(es) of Christ (Romans 16 : 16) (1x)

Jesus has the right to: Name the Church What is it not called? Worldly Name Baptist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, etc.

Does name matter?

Yes – Why?

It's not our church it's His Church.

He is entitled to give it's name.

Jesus has the right to: Provide the Organizational Structure

Colossians 1 : 18, 24

"...He is the head of the body, the church...He may have the preeminence."

I Corinthians 11:3

Head of Woman - Man; Head of Man - Christ; Head of Christ - God

Philippians 1:1

To the saints (people); To the bishops (elders); To the deacons I Peter 5 : 1 - 2 - Elders are to Shepherd and Oversee I Timothy 3 : 13 - Deacons are to serve 'diakoneo' – to be an attendant, that is, wait upon

Jesus has the right to: Provide the Organizational Structure

What is it?

God->Christ->Elders->Deacons->Man->Woman

If there is a position to be filled who has the right to give the qualifications and the duties to perform?

The One who the Organization belongs to or is Head of.

Did Jesus do this? - Yes

Acts 14:23 – Every City (Congregation)

I Timothy 3; Titus 1 – Qualification

Acts 20 : 17 – 28; I Timothy 3 : 13; I Peter 5 : 1 – 2 - Roles Defined

Jesus has the right to: Establish the Items of Service Ephesians 5 : 19 ; Colossians 3 : 16 Singing

- Colossians 1 : 3 4 Praying
- Acts 20 : 7 Teaching/Preaching Lord's Supper
- I Corinthians 16 : 1 2 Collection for the Saints

Jesus has the right to: Establish the Items of Service Do the items of service have qualifications/rules regarding each item? – Yes

> Who would have the right to provide such qualifications? The One who the Organization belongs to or is Head of. Did Jesus do this? - Yes

Do the item of service have stipulations – i.e. who can attend to each one of them, is allowed to lead, speak, etc.? – Yes Who would have the right to provide these? The One who the Organization belongs to or is Head of. Did Jesus do this? - Yes

Jesus has the right to: Set Service Times

Is there a time (day of week) we are supposed to keep the items of service? – Yes

Who would have the right to provide these?

The One who the Organization belongs to or is Head of. Did Jesus do this? - Yes

Acts 20 : 7

"Now on the first day of the week..."

Revelation 1:10

"...on the Lord's Day..."

Jesus said, "…I will build My church…" With it He also established her: Name Church of Christ Organizational Structure

Christ, Elders, Deacons, People

Items of Service

Singing, Praying, Teaching, Lord's Supper, Giving

Service Times First Day of the Week

Then what's wrong with Denominationalism? Whose Name does it bear? (who named it?)

Man

Who provides the Organizational structure?

Man

Who dictates the Items of Service?

Man

Who determines Service Times?

Man

What has Denominationalism established? Man Made Religion