

What About The Church Of Christ?

I. Is There A Standard?

What is a standard?

Something established for use as a rule or basis of comparison in measuring or judging capacity, quantity, content, extend, value, quality, etc.

- Height?
- Weight?
- Law?

If there is no standard,
anything goes

- Hold knife to throat...?
- Drive 230 mph...?

Most agree on standard of morals;
exclude it in religion

- 'I think mechanical music helps worship; I like it.'
- 'Many ways to heaven.'
- 'We should be tolerant.'

God holds us accountable;
He IS the standard

Ro.3:4

I. Is There A Standard?

II. What Is The Standard?

Mt.7:21-23

21 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. **22** Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ **23** And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

Mt.28:18

18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.”

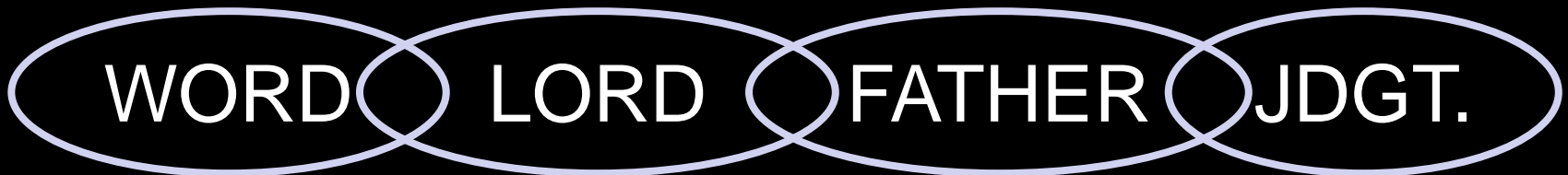
All authority – unlimited

And as soon as he knew that He belonged to Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time – Lk.23:7

Jn.12:48

48 He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

- Chain: rejection . . .



- Jews, 12:37-43
- Greeks, 12:20-21...

Ro.2:2, 8

² But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things . . . ⁸ but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath . . .

Jew – God's favorite?

Gal. 1:8-9

8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. **9** As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

- One who turns from gospel [truth, 2:5] is accursed.

Tit.2:15

8 Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

- Authority: right to rebuke with complete [f...]
- 'Show that you have every right to command when you rebuke them' -L-N.
 - Titus was not an apostle.
 - Power resides in the Word.

"Who do you think you are?"

Jude 3

8 Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was **once for all** delivered to the saints.

- His final word
- 'Pertaining to a single occurrence and decisively unique, *once and for all*'

Modern views of “church”:

- “One church is as good as another.”
- “We have to join some denomination.”
- “Don’t have to be in church to be saved.”

I. Is There A Standard?

II. What Is The Standard?

**III. What Does God's
Standard Say?**

Acts 2

Message, 36

Reaction, 37

Commands, 38

Promise, 39

Exhortation, 40

Reception, 41

Standard, 42

Collectivity, 47

Acts 11:19-26

- Spoke Word, 19
 - Believed, turned to Lord, 21
 - Church at Antioch, 25-26

Cannot separate Lord
and His church (2:47)

1 Thes.1:1; 2:14

- Churches belong to God.
- They did not . . .
 1. Change terms of entrance,
Ac.2:47
 2. Wear names that glorify men,
Ro.16:16
 3. Organize unscriptural worship,
Ep.5:19; Col.3:17

Standard condemns churches that abandon NT pattern

- 2 Co.11:3-4, 13-15
- Pergamos, Rv.2:12-16

Critic: sword. Hb.4:12-13

Commendation: great work, 13.

Condemnation: tolerate error, 14-15.

Choices: repent or sword, 16. Nu.22