

4-5-1953

# Churches of Christ Salute You with a Herald of Truth: Am I a Christian

James Nichols

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.acu.edu/hot\\_audio](https://digitalcommons.acu.edu/hot_audio)

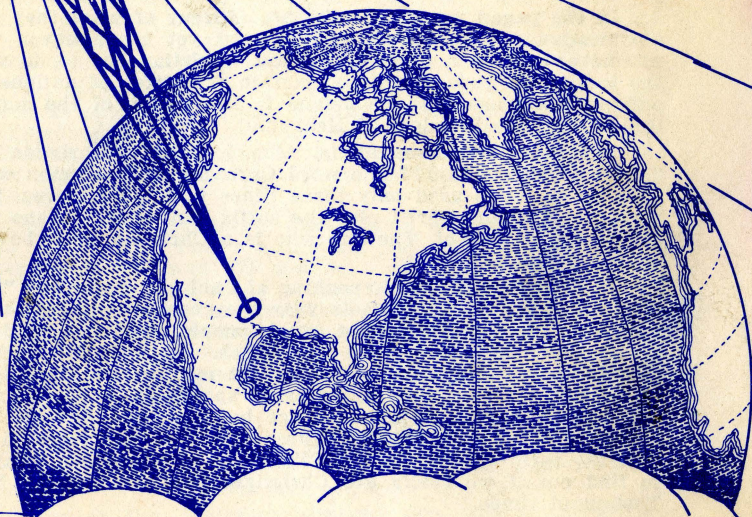
---

## Recommended Citation

Nichols, James, "Churches of Christ Salute You with a Herald of Truth: Am I a Christian" (1953). *Herald of Truth Audio*. 227.  
[https://digitalcommons.acu.edu/hot\\_audio/227](https://digitalcommons.acu.edu/hot_audio/227)

This Audio is brought to you for free and open access by the Herald of Truth Records at Digital Commons @ ACU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Herald of Truth Audio by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ ACU.

Churches of Christ  
Salute You  
with a



*Am I A Christian*

JAMES W. NICHOLS

APRIL 5, 1953

*Herald of Truth*



# Am I A Christian

JAMES W. NICHOLS

APRIL 5, 1953

Many perhaps believe that there is little need for such a question as "Am I A Christian?" But you just ask the next twenty people you meet, "Are you a Christian?" or "Are you a child of God?" and you will discover much confusion of thinking and great looseness of talking. If we were in Palestine today, then if one is neither a Jew nor a Moslem, he would be characterized a Christian. If one is in China or Japan and he is not an oriental, Indian, or an African negro, he would be called a Christian.

In the pagan world, all who are citizens of what they call a Christian nation are Christians, and yet there never was nor never will be a Christian nation. Christian has to do with the individual. It is a national matter or matter of nationality only in the sense that we belong to the nation of the son of God and to the kingdom of Heaven.

But today our question is, "Am I really a Christian" or "Am I a child of God?" The word Christian is a common word with us but it is used only three times in the scriptures. The word itself means Christ plus the suffix 'ian' which means pertaining to or part of. The one who is a Christian must be one who is a part of Christ.

In Acts 11, Luke said speaking of Paul and Barnabas, "And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch." Acts 26:28, Agrippa said to Paul: "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." In I Peter 4:16, the holy spirit again speaks: "Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf." These are the only three times that the term appears in the Bible. And our problem today is to find out if we really are Christians as they were in New Testament times.

To be a Christian according to the New Testament definition, means to be something more than just merely having one's name on the roll of some religious communion. It means more than just to contribute money or interest, or influence or even our presence to a religious institution or congregation, or just merely to acknowledge some formal humanly devised creed. With all the kindness possible but speaking in frankness all good people are not children of God or Christians.

Just because we live a good moral life doesn't entitle us to wear the name, "Son of God." Certainly morality is a part of Christianity, but that is not all of Christianity nor is it the foundation of Christianity.

Take that great man Cornelius. He had morals and he was religious, living a life above reproach, but he wasn't a Christian until the apostle Peter came and talked to him about the matter and presented to him the words upon which, he could be translated or naturalized out of the kingdom of darkness, the king-

dom of Satan, into the kingdom of the son of God's love. When Peter and the other Jews came to Cornelius, he told Peter, "We are all here present to hear all things which are commanded of the Lord." No, being religious doesn't mean you are a Christian or you are a child of God. If so the heathen of darkest Africa and the pagans of Asia could be called a "child of God."

Again there is the case of Nicodemus. You remember Nicodemus was a leader and teacher of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and Jesus immediately told him, though he was a religious man, "Except a man be born anew (John 3:3) or 'except one be born of the water and the spirit' (John 3:5 'he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.' And then in the 7th verse of the same chapter, 'Ye must be born again.' Now then for Nicodemus, a religious man, to be in the kingdom of God he was told that he had to be born again.

The apostle Paul wrote in Col. 1:13, how that God delivered us out of the power of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of His love. Now Paul was writing to Christians. The first chapter of Colossians states that the letter was directed to the saints and the faithful brethren in Christ.

Not only is just merely being moral and religious not the basis for making one a Christian, but one can even be a worshiper of God and still not be a child of God or a Christian. We have illustrations of this fact in the days of Christ. The Pharisees were the straighter sect of the Jews and were worshipers of God but they were not Christians and even part of their worship was condemned. As he stated in Matt. 15, and Mark 7, "in vain do you worship me teaching the doctrines of the precepts of men."

Even on the day of Pentecost when those thousands upon thousands of devout Jews from every nation under heaven had assembled together, they were told to do something because they were not Christians nor were they saved.

There is the Ethiopian eunuch, who was treasurer for Queen Candace of Ethiopia. He was a worshiper of God. He had been to Jerusalem and he was returning home riding in a chariot, reading Isaiah when Philip appeared to him and said to him, "Do you understand what you read?" and he said, "How can I? except one guide me." And beginning with that scripture he preached unto him Jesus. Now he couldn't have been a Christian if he didn't know about Christ, for a Christian is one who is part of Christ. And Philip preached to him and when they came to a certain body of water, the eunuch said, "Here is water, what hindereth me to be baptized? And they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him and they both came up out of the water and the eunuch went on his way rejoicing." He wasn't a Christian before he heard of Christ though he was a worshiper of God.

Now then what is a Christian and how does one become a Christian? Our lesson reading today said, "As many as are led by the spirit of God they are the sons of God." And according to the language of Christ, one can not be a child of God in the Kingdom except one be born again. In the third chapter and the



**YOU MAY HEAR THE HERALD OF TRUTH OVER THESE STATIONS**

<b>ALABAMA—</b>				Twin Falls KTFI 1270 7:30 a.m.				Great Falls KMON 560 7:30 a.m.				Morristown WCRK 1450 9:00 a.m.			
Albertville	WAVU	630	4:30 p.m.	<b>ILLINOIS—</b>				<b>NEBRASKA—</b>				Nashville WSIK 980 4:00 p.m.			
Anniston	WHMA	1450	1:00 p.m.	Chicago	WENR-WLS	890	2:30 p.m.	Lincoln	KFOR	1240	10:30 a.m.	<b>TEXAS—</b>			
Auburn	WAUD	1230	1:00 p.m.	Quincy	WGEM	1440	8:00 a.m.	N. Platt	KNBR	970	9:00 a.m.	Abilene	KRBC	1470	1:00 p.m.
Birmingham	WSGN	610	8:00 a.m.	<b>INDIANA—</b>				Omaha	KOIL	1290	5:30 p.m.	Amarillo	KFDA	1440	1:00 p.m.
Florence	WJOI	1340	9:30 a.m.	Anderson	WHBU	1240	1:30 p.m.	Sidney	KSID	1540	9:30 a.m.	Austin	KNOW	1490	2:00 p.m.
Gadsden	WGAD	1350	1:00 p.m.	Bloomington	WTTS	1370	1:00 p.m.	<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE—</b>				Beaumont	KFDM	560	1:00 p.m.
Greenville	WGYV	1400	4:00 p.m.	Evansville	WJPS	1330	10:15 p.m.	Claremont	WTSV	1230	1:00 p.m.	Big Spring	KBST	1490	1:00 p.m.
Huntsville	WHBS	1490	7:30 a.m.	Ft. Wayne	WGL	1250	1:00 p.m.	Lebanon	WTSL	1400	1:00 p.m.	Brownfield	KTFY	1300	4:30 p.m.
Marion	WJAM	1310	9:30 a.m.	<b>IOWA—</b>				Manchester	WMUR	610	3:00 p.m.	Brownwood	KBWD	1380	6:30 p.m.
Mobile	WABB	1480	6:30 a.m.	Cedar Rapids	WMT	600	7:30 a.m.	<b>NEW MEXICO—</b>				Corpus Christi	KEYS	1440	9:00 a.m.
Montgomery	WAPX	1600	1:00 p.m.	Des Moines	KSO	1460	1:00 p.m.	Albuquerque	KOAT	1450	3:00 p.m.	El Paso	KEPO	690	3:00 p.m.
Scottsboro	WCRI	1050	4:30 p.m.	Sioux City	KSCJ	1360	10:30 p.m.	Carlsbad	KPBM	740	1:30 p.m.	Ft. Worth	WBAP	570	1:00 p.m.
Selma	WGWC	1340	1:30 p.m.	Waterloo	KXEL	1540	5:30 p.m.	Clovis	KCLV	1240	1:00 p.m.	Graham	KSWA	1330	4:30 p.m.
Talladega	WHTB	1240	1:30 p.m.	<b>KANSAS—</b>				Los Alamos	KRSN	1490	3:00 p.m.	Houston	KXYZ	1320	8:00 a.m.
Troy	WTBT	1490	1:00 p.m.	Coffeyville	KGGF	690	2:00 p.m.	Santa Fe	KTRC	1400	3:00 p.m.	Longview	KFRD	1370	1:00 p.m.
Tuscaloosa	WJRD	1150	9:00 p.m.	Dodge City	KGNL	—	1:30 p.m.	<b>NEW YORK—</b>				Lubbock	KFYD	1340	4:00 p.m.
<b>ARIZONA—</b>				Topeka	WREN	1250	1:00 p.m.	Albany	WXXW	850	2:00 p.m.	Midland	KCRS	550	1:30 p.m.
Bisbee	KSUN	1230	1:00 p.m.	Wichita	KWBB	1410	3:30 p.m.	New York	WABC	770	12:30 p.m.	Nacogdoches	KOSF	1230	1:00 p.m.
Phoenix	KOY	550	7:00 a.m.	<b>KENTUCKY—</b>				Olson	WHDL	1450	1:00 p.m.	Paris	KPLT	1490	4:00 p.m.
Tucson	KCNA	580	3:00 p.m.	Bowling Green	WKCT	930	1:00 p.m.	Rochester	WARC	950	3:00 p.m.	San Angelo	KGKL	960	1:00 p.m.
<b>ARKANSAS—</b>				Harlan	WHLN	1230	3:00 p.m.	Saranac Lake	WEAV	960	2:00 p.m.	San Antonio	KMAC	630	9:00 p.m.
Eldorado	KDMS	1290	1:00 p.m.	Louisville	WKLO	1080	1:00 p.m.	Syracuse	WAGE	620	12:00 n.	Texarkana	KCMC	1230	1:00 p.m.
Forrest City	KXJK	950	9:00 a.m.	Mayfield	WKTM	1050	4:15 p.m.	<b>NORTH CAROLINA—</b>				Wichita Falls	KFDX	990	2:00 p.m.
Ft. Smith	KFSJ	950	1:00 p.m.	Newport	WNOP	740	2:00 p.m.	Ashville	WLOS	1380	1:00 p.m.	<b>UTAH—</b>			
Hamilton	WERH	970	1:00 p.m.	Paducah	WKYB	570	1:30 p.m.	Charlotte	WAYS	610	1:00 p.m.	Provo	KCSU	1490	3:00 p.m.
Hot Springs	KTHS	1090	1:00 p.m.	<b>LOUISIANA—</b>				Durham	WTIK	1310	2:00 p.m.	Salt Lake City	KUTA	570	7:30 a.m.
Little Rock	KGHI	1250	1:00 p.m.	Baton Rouge	WLCS	910	1:00 p.m.	Fayetteville (Sat)	WFLB	1490	1:00 p.m.	<b>VERMONT—</b>			
Springdale	KBRS	1340	6:00 p.m.	Monroe	KMLB	1440	2:00 p.m.	Salisbury	WSAT	1280	1:00 p.m.	Brattleboro	WTSJ	1450	1:00 p.m.
<b>CALIFORNIA—</b>				New Iberia	KANE	1240	1:00 p.m.	Wilmington	WGNI	1340	8:30 a.m.	Burlington	WJOY	1230	1:00 p.m.
Bakersfield	KPMC	1360	10:00 a.m.	New Orleans	WDSU	1280	1:00 p.m.	Winston-Salem	WAIR	1340	1:00 p.m.	Montpelier-Barre	WSKI	1240	1:00 p.m.
Blythe	KYOR	1450	3:30 p.m.	Shreveport	KRMD	1340	1:00 p.m.	<b>NORTH DAKOTA—</b>				<b>VIRGINIA—</b>			
Brawley	KROP	1300	3:30 p.m.	<b>MAINE—</b>				Fargo	KFGO	790	1:00 p.m.	Charlottesville	WINA	1280	9:15 a.m.
Eureka	KIEM	1480	8:00 a.m.	Augusta	WFAU	1340	8:15 p.m.	<b>OHIO—</b>				Fredericksburg	WFVA	1230	12:30 p.m.
Fresno	KARM	1430	3:30 p.m.	Bangor	WABI	910	1:00 p.m.	Cleveland	WJW	850	1:00 p.m.	Marion	WMEV	1010	2:00 p.m.
Indio	KREO	1400	3:30 p.m.	Portland	WPOR	1450	9:00 a.m.	Columbus	WHKC	610	1:00 p.m.	Norfolk	WGH	1310	6:30 p.m.
Los Angeles	KECA	790	3:30 p.m.	<b>MARYLAND—</b>				Lima	WIMA	1150	9:00 a.m.	Richmond	WRNL	910	1:30 p.m.
Modesto	KTRB	860	3:00 p.m.	Baltimore	WFBR	1300	3:00 p.m.	Youngstown	WBBW	1240	8:30 a.m.	<b>WASHINGTON—</b>			
Portersville	KTIP	1450	3:30 p.m.	Cumberland	WDYK	1230	8:00 a.m.	<b>OKLAHOMA—</b>				Aberdeen	KBKW	1450	9:00 p.m.
San Francisco	KGO	810	3:30 p.m.	<b>MASSACHUSETTS—</b>				Ada	KADA	1230	1:00 p.m.	Omak	KOMW	680	9:15 a.m.
San Luis Obispo	KATY	1340	3:30 p.m.	Gardner	WHOB	1490	1:00 p.m.	Enid	KORC	1390	1:00 p.m.	Pasco	KPKW	1340	3:30 p.m.
<b>COLORADO—</b>				Lawrence	WLAW	680	1:00 p.m.	McAlester	KTMK	1400	1:00 p.m.	Seattle	KJR	950	3:30 p.m.
Craig	KRAI	1230	5:30 p.m.	Springfield	WSPR	1270	2:00 p.m.	Muskogee	KBIX	1490	2:00 p.m.	Spokane	KGA	1510	3:30 p.m.
Denver	KVOD	630	3:00 p.m.	Worcester	WAAB	1440	2:00 p.m.	Oklahoma City	KTMK	1000	9:30 a.m.	<b>WASHINGTON, D.C. WMAL 630 1:00 p.m.</b>			
<b>CONNECTICUT—</b>				<b>MICHIGAN—</b>				Tulsa	KRMG	740	2:00 p.m.	<b>WEST VIRGINIA—</b>			
Bridgeport	WNAB	1450	2:00 p.m.	Battle Creek	WELL	1400	1:00 p.m.	<b>OREGON—</b>				Beckley	WVNR	620	1:30 p.m.
Hartford	WTHT	1230	2:30 p.m.	Bay City	WBCM	1440	1:00 p.m.	Eugene	KASH	1600	1:00 p.m.	Huntington	WHTN	800	8:00 a.m.
<b>DELAWARE—</b>				Detroit	WXYZ	1270	1:00 p.m.	Medford	KMED	1440	7:30 a.m.	Parkersburg (Sat.)	WCOM	1230	5:30 p.m.
Wilmington	WILM	1450	2:00 p.m.	Flint	WFDF	910	10:00 p.m.	Portland	KEX	1190	3:30 p.m.	Wheeling	WKWK	1400	1:00 p.m.
<b>FLORIDA—</b>				Lansing	WILS	1320	1:00 p.m.	Redmond	KJUN	1240	3:30 p.m.	<b>WISCONSIN—</b>			
Gainesville	WGGG	1230	1:00 p.m.	Ludington	WKLA	1450	1:00 p.m.	The Dalles	KODL	1230	1:30 p.m.	Green Bay	WDUZ	1400	5:30 p.m.
Jacksonville	WPDQ	600	8:30 a.m.	Mt. Pleasant	WCBN	1150	2:00 p.m.	<b>PENNSYLVANIA—</b>				LaCrosse	WKTY	550	4:00 p.m.
Leesburg	WLBE	790	1:00 p.m.	Muskegon	WKBZ	850	2:00 p.m.	Johnstown	WCRO	1230	1:00 p.m.	Madison	WIBA	1330	8:00 a.m.
Miami	WQAM	560	1:00 p.m.	<b>MINNESOTA—</b>				Philadelphia	WFIL	560	2:00 p.m.	Milwaukee	WCAN	1250	2:00 p.m.
Panama City	WPCF	1400	1:00 p.m.	Mankato	KTOE	1420	2:00 p.m.	Pittsburg	WCAE	1250	3:00 p.m.	Neehan	WNAM	1280	8:00 a.m.
Pensacola	WEAR	1230	11:00 p.m.	Minn.-St. Paul	WTCN	1280	7:30 a.m.	State College	WMAJ	1450	9:00 a.m.	Wasau	WSAU	1400	9:30 a.m.
Sanford	WTRR	1400	check sta.	<b>MISSISSIPPI—</b>				Wilkes-Barre	WILK	980	5:00 p.m.	<b>WYOMING—</b>			
Tallahassee	WTNT	1450	5:00 p.m.	Booneville	WBIP	1400	1:00 p.m.	<b>RHODE ISLAND—</b>				Casper	KSPR	1470	9:15 p.m.
Tampa-St. Pete	WSUN	620	1:00 p.m.	Centerville	WGLC	1580	8:00 a.m.	Providence	WPJB	1420	1:00 p.m.	Cheyenne	KFCB	710	12:00 p.m.
<b>GEORGIA—</b>				Columbus	WCBI	1340	6:00 p.m.	<b>SOUTH CAROLINA—</b>				Cody	KODI	1400	12:00 p.m.
Atlanta	WGST	920	1:00 p.m.	Greenwood	WABG	960	1:00 p.m.	Columbia	WCOS	1400	1:00 p.m.	Rawlins	KRAL	1240	12:00 p.m.
Augusta	WGAC	580	2:00 p.m.	Jackson	WLSI	930	2:00 p.m.	Florence	WJMX	970	10:30 a.m.	Riverton	KWRL	1450	12:00 p.m.
Brunswick	WGIG	1440	1:00 p.m.	Kosciusko	WKZO	1340	1:00 p.m.	Orangeburg	WRNO	1450	7:00 a.m.	Torrington	KGOS	1490	12:00 p.m.
Cairo	WGRA	1300	3:00 p.m.	Laurel	WLAU	1490	1:00 p.m.	<b>SOUTH DAKOTA—</b>				Worldand	KWOR	1490	12:00 p.m.
Cartersville	WBHF	1450	10:00 a.m.	McComb	WSKB	1250	1:00 p.m.	Aberdeen	KSDN	930	10:30 a.m.	<b>ALASKA—</b>			
Columbus	WGBA	1460	7:30 a.m.	<b>MISSOURI—</b>				Huron	KIJV	1340	9:00 a.m.	Juneau (Sat.)	KJNO	630	1:00 p.m.
Dawson	WDWD	990	2:00 p.m.	Cape Girardeau	KFVS	960	8:30 p.m.	<b>TENNESSEE—</b>				<b>CANADA—</b>			
Macon	WNEK	1400	1:00 p.m.	Kansas City	KCMO	810	12:30 p.m.	Chattanooga	WDEF	1370	1:00 p.m.	Toronto, Ont.	CKEY	580	9:15 a.m.
Rome	WLAQ	670	1:00 p.m.	Poplar Bluff	KWOC	930	check sta.	Jackson	WTJS	1390	1:00 p.m.	Trail, B. C.	CJAT	610	9:30 a.m.
Savannah	WDAR	1400	1:00 p.m.	Rolla	KTTR	1490	8:45 a.m.	Johnson City	WJHL	910	11:30 p.m.	Winnipeg, Man.	CKY	580	2:00 p.m.
Valdosta	WGAF	910	1:00 p.m.	St. Louis	KXOK	630	9:15 p.m.	Knoxville	WBIR	1240	1:30 p.m.				
<b>IDAHO—</b>				Springfield	KWTO	560	1:00 p.m.	Memphis	WMP5	680	9:30 p.m.				
Boise	KGEM	1140	3:00 p.m.	<b>MONTANA—</b>				All Times Are Sunday Unless Otherwise Indicated.							
Pocatello	KWIK	1440	9:30 a.m.	Butte	KOPR	580	7:00 a.m.								

**All Times Are Sunday Unless Otherwise Indicated.**



seventh verse of John, Christ said, "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born anew." Therefore, a Christian is one who died and has been resurrected or born anew. He is dead to sin but he has been made alive in Christ Jesus.

It is the same situation that we understand in every day life from a physical standpoint. Many great and fine people are born citizens of some country other than the United States of America. They want to become Americans. It isn't primarily a question of their moral conduct. It is a question of their desire to renounce or to die to their nationality to which they were born. They were born citizens of Britain or Germany or of France, or Italy or some other nation of the world but they desire to repudiate that nationality. So they just simply die as it were; they renounce all allegiance they ever gave or will give to any potentate or king or governor of a foreign country, whoever he may be, and they then assume or they swear allegiance to the constitution of the United States of America. They simply die to one country, and become alive to another country.

This is the same principle set forth in the scriptures. A child of God is a citizen of a new kingdom. He has been translated according to Paul in Col. the first chapter from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of the Son of his love. That makes him, according to Biblical language, a stone in the spiritual temple, or a member of the body of the Lord, Jesus Christ, therefore a Christian. This principle was illustrated in the second chapter of Acts. The apostle Peter was preaching to thousands of devout Jews from every nation under heaven. He convicted them of the fact that they, by the hands of lawless men, had slain Jesus of Nazareth, who is the Christ, the Son of the living God. When they heard this, they were pricked in their hearts and said, "Brethren, what shall we do? And Peter said unto them, Repent and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." And then in the 41st and 42nd verses the inspired writer says, "They then that received his word were baptized: and there were added unto them in that day about three thousand souls. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers." And the last verse of this chapter tells us, "And the Lord added to them day by day those that were saved." That is God added these people to the body of Christ.

Peter explains the relationship in another figure of speech in I Peter 2:5, "Ye also, as living stones, are built up a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." He added them as stones to his spiritual house or his temple, that they might be offered as spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. If you have obeyed as they obeyed on the day of Pentecost, you have been translated out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of God's son. You have been added to the church of which Paul tells us in Eph. 1:22-23, "and he put all things in subjection under his feet, and gave him to be head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all." If you are in the body of Christ, you are part of Christ or a Christian.

Think for just a moment of this figure of speech as a stone in the temple of God. We might say that these stones must meet certain structural tests which are set forth in God's blueprint, the New Testament. These tests could be applied to any and everyone who would become a stone in the temple of God. May we consider these tests for just a moment. For instance there is the faith test. Without faith it is impossible to please God, for He said: "He that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is the rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Heb. 11:6.

Here is another explanation from the lips of Jesus Christ: "Except ye believe that I am he, you will die in your sins."

We have also what might be called "The repentance test." In Luke 13:3, the son of God is quoted: "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." In Acts 2:38, Peter is quoted: Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." In Acts 17:30-31, the apostle Paul is quoted, when he said: "The times of ignorance therefore God overlooked; but now he commandeth men that they should all everywhere repent: inasmuch as he hath appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by the man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead."

Another structural test is that given by Christ in Matt. 10:32-33, "Everyone therefore who shall confess me before men, him will I also confess before my Father who is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me, him will I also deny before my Father who is in heaven." Here is still another in Gal. 3:26-27, "For ye are all sons of God, through faith, in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ did put on Christ." To be sons of God is to be a citizen of the kingdom and a citizen of the kingdom is a Christian.

And here is a particularly beautiful and instructive scripture: "All we who were baptized into Christ Jesus, were baptized into his death. We were buried with him; therefore by baptism into death; that like as Christ, was raised from the dead through the glory of the father, so we also might walk in newness of life." Now listen to this: "For if we have been united with likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection." Rom. 6:2-6. There we have the complete picture dead to an old kingdom—alive in the kingdom of God. Paul said in II Cor. 5:17, "Wherefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature: the old things are passed away; behold, they are become new."

We have read today from God's word that which made Christians on the day of Pentecost and we have examined the tests that God lays down in his word for those who would be stones in the spiritual temple or Christians. If you have obeyed as they did on the day of Pentecost, if you meet these tests as set down by the New Testament, you can say with assurance that "I am a Christian." "I am a child of God."

Our text says, "So then, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh: for if ye live after the flesh ye must die; but if by the Spirit ye put to death the deeds of



the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For ye received not the spirit of bondage again unto fear; Abba, Father. The Spirit himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified with him." The Lord in John 14:15:16:17, told his disciples that he was sending the spirit that he should guide them into all truth and bring to remembrance all things whatsoever he had commanded. That, the spirit did when he came on the day of Pentecost speaking and moving through the apostles that men might know how they might become Christians. If we are led by the spirit as it speaks to us through the New Testament then we are children of God. We have become heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ. Then as we suffer with him as Christians we glorify God and we shall be glorified in the last day with Christ. Are you a Christian? Could you honestly say I do not want to be a Christian? You can be a citizen of the kingdom of the Son of God just as they did nearly two thousand years ago. Will you not today meet the tests, believe with all your heart that Jesus is the Christ, turn aside in repentance from every sin, confess your faith in Jesus as Son of God and then be dead to sin by being buried with him in baptism and as he was raised, be raised to walk in newness of life. Then you are a new creature in Christ. Our plea is for every person in the audience today that you be a Christian, nothing more, nothing less, that you might glorify God in that name.