" TEN REASON WHY YOU SHOULD INVESTIGATE THE CHURCH OF CHRIST ‘X’"

**I. IT HAS NO CREED BUT THE BIBLE.**

1. **2 Tim. 3:16-17—the scriptures furnish a man unto all good works.**

1**Pet. 1:3—gives all things that pertain unto life and godliness.**

1. **The New Testament was the Apostles' Creed.**
2. **The churches of the New Testament were governed without human creeds. It can be done now.**

**II.** **IT BELIEVES IN SPEAKING WHERE THE BIBLE SPEAKS AND BEING SILENT WHERE THE BIBLE IS SILENT**

1. **1 Pet. 4:11—it speaks as the oracles of God.**
2. **2 Tim. 1:13—it holds fast the form of sound words.**
3. **Gal.1:9—it teaches nothing that the apostles did not preach.**
4. **We must teach and practice all the truth—nothing less. Acts 20:20, 26, 27; Rev. 22:19.**
5. **Not to go beyond the truth as revealed in New Testament. 2 Jn. 9**

**III.** **IT PLEADS FOR THE UNITY OF ALL BELIEVERS IN CHRIST, UPON THE BASIS OF** **THE WORD OF GOD AND THE ONE BODY.**

1. **Jn. 17:20-21—Jesus prayed that all be ONE.**
2. **1 Cor. 1:10—Paul pleaded for "speaking the same things."**
3. **Eph. 4:4-7-there *is* ONE body and the body is the CHURCH. Col. 1:18; Eph. 1:22, 23".**

**IV.   IT WORSHIP LS FASHIONED ACCORDING TO THE NEW**  **TESTAMENT PATTERN.**

1. **"In Spirit" - with sincerity. "In truth" - as the world of truth directs. Jn.4:24.**
2. **It opposes all items of worship not authorized in the New Testament. Mt. 15:9-the unauthorized is VAIN worship.**  
   **Acts2:47 - continues steadfastly in the apostles' docrines.**
3. **The worship of the early church consisted of:**
   1. **SINGING—Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16.**
   2. **GIVING—1 Cor. 16:1; 2 Cor. 9:7.**
   3. **TEACHING—Acts 20:7.**
   4. **LORD'S SUPPER—Acts** [**20:7**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Co+20%3A7)**. PRAYING—Acts 2:42.**

**"ON THE FIRST DAY OF EACH WEEK"**

**V.** **IT WEARS NO NAME BUT THE NAME OF CHRIST, AND OPPOSES ALL NAMES OF MAN'S INVENTION.**

1. **Acts 11:26-called CHRISTIANS at Antioch.**
2. **Acts 26:28—almost persuaded to be a CHRISTIAN.**
3. **1 Pet. 4:16-glorify God in name CHRISTIAN. (R.V.S)**
4. **All to wear same name as Bible speaks. 1 Pet, 4:16**
5. ***1* Cor. 1st chapter condemns wearing human names.**

**VI.** **IT IS APOSTOLIC IN ITS ORGANIZATION, ELDERS AND DEA­CONS IN EVERY CHURCH OR CONGREGATION.**

1. **Acts 20:28—ELDERS to oversee the church.**
2. **Acts 14:23—ordained ELDERS in every church,**
3. **1 Tim. 5:17-let the ELDERS rule well.**
4. **1 Pet. 5:1-3—ELDERS to take the oversight and not lord it, Over God's heritage.**
5. **The church is not run by a majority rule or by popes, councils, conferences, etc., but as it's only Head, Christ, dictates through the apostles and oversight of the ELDERS.**

**VII.** **IT TEACHES THE GOSPEL, AS REVEALED AND CONFIRMED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT IS ABLE TO CONVERT SINNERS AND BRING THEM TO SALVATION.**

1. **Rom. 1:16 - the gospel is The Power of God unto salvation. 1 Cor. 15:2 - we are saved by the gospel. 1 Cor. 4:15- we are begotten through the gospel. Jas. 1:18 - we are begotten by the word of truth. Rom. 10:17 - Faith comes by hearing the world of God. Jn. 17:17 - we are sanctified through the truth.**
2. **2. God does not miraculously convert sinners by a direct op­eration of the Holy Spirit without, the word or gospel — hence MK.** [**16:1**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Col+16%3A1)**5, 16. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.**

**VIII.** **ALL OF ITS WORK AND WORSHIP IS DONE SIMPLY AS CHRISTIANS THROUGH THE CHURCH AND NOT THROUGH SOME HUMAN SOCIETY OR ORGANIZATION.**

1. **Eph. 3:21—glorify God in and through the church.**
2. **1 Tim. 3:15—the church is the pillar and ground of the truth.**
3. **Mt.** [**16**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mk+16%3A16)**:18—Jesus built the church—it belongs to Him.**

**IX.** **IT TEACHES SINNERS TO DO ONLY WHAT THE APOSTLES TAUGHT THEM AND ALL THEY TAUGHT THEM IN ORDER TO THEIR SALVATION.**

1. [**Rom. 10:17**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ro+10%3A17)**; Acts 16:31—they mast believe,**
2. **Acts 3:19; 17:30-32; Lk. 13:3—they must repent.**
3. **Rom. 10:9, 10—they must confess Christ with the mouth.**
4. **Mk.18:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21—they must be baptized.**

**X.** **IT TEACHES CHRISTIANS TO REMAIN FAITHFUL TO CHRIST THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH LEST THEY FALL AND BE LOST.**

1. **Jn. 15:1-8—unfruitful branches to be cast into fire and burned.**
2. **2 Pet. 1:5-11—if you do these things you shall never fall.**
3. **Rev. 2:10—the FAITHFUL receive a crown of life,**
4. **1 Cor. 6:9—the unrighteous shall not enter the** **Kingdom of God.**

**IT WELCOMES YOUR INVESTIGATION**