

Why do we do it? (Part three)

When instructions are long, technical, and complicated, we often get them wrong. We usually need specialists to explain certain information to us. Only doctors and pharmacists sometimes understand all the fine print that accompanies many medications.

The Bible also contains some complicated data. I've wished I had an architect advise me when I read the building details of the Jerusalem Temple in *I Kings 6* and *Ezekiel 40-42*. I struggle with many of the descriptions because my construction knowledge is limited.

Yet most Bible teaching and examples are straightforward; not difficult at all. The trouble is, each new generation of human beings thinks it knows better than the Lord. And every age suffers because folks depart from the insight in God's Word. When we attempt to use human wisdom to rectify the messes we create, we're worse than dirty-diapered babies trying to clean themselves.

A glaring example of failure to follow the Lord is how people disregard *I Corinthians 1:12,13*: "What I mean is this: One of you says, 'I follow Paul'; another, 'I follow Apollos'; another, 'I follow Cephas'; still another, 'I follow Christ.' Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized into the name of Paul?"

The above reading instructs us that the Lord doesn't want believers to name sects or groups of Christians after Apostles, dogmas, or human leaders. Christ should get all credit and glory in his church. Christ died for us, and we are baptized into his name.

Isn't it strange that intelligent, well-meaning folks name denominations and churches after reformers or after certain types of doctrine? Why do we do that?