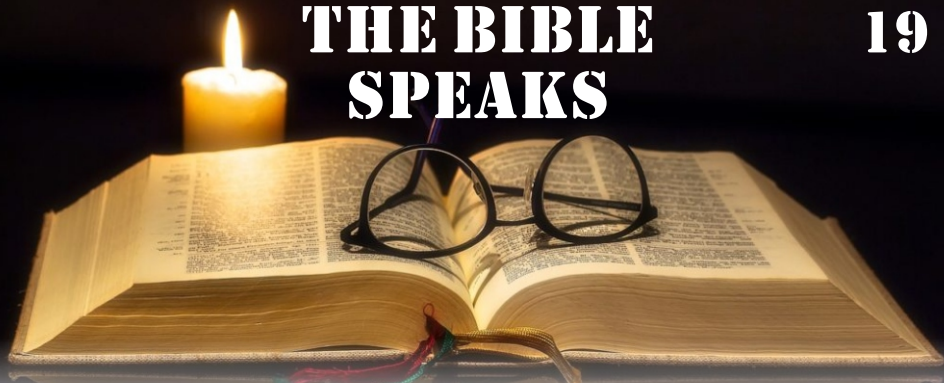


THE BIBLE SPEAKS

19



Does Christ Have a Church Today?



HIGHER LEVEL MINISTRIES

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus

Philippians Chapter 2 verse 5

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A Chinese exchange student once registered at an American university for an education course. The entrance form asked, "What is your religion?" His answer, written in the little English that he knew, was "Confusion." There are thousands of English speaking people who are followers of Confucius, who could also write that their religion is "Confusion." They don't know enough about their own belief, to know whether or not it's what the Bible teaches. Many inherit their religion from their parents and never take the time to study the Bible for themselves. Perhaps this is why over 300 various denominations can be found in the United States. Many of these churches teach theories diametrically opposed to one another and Bible doctrine. Many are deceived into thinking that as long as they are sincere they will end up in a better place.

But sincerity is not enough - we must also be right! Every teaching comes either from the source of truth or it is an attempt by the deceiver to mislead those who are seeking the way of eternal life. We cannot safely follow our feelings, for God has told us, "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end there of are the ways of death." **Proverbs 16:25**. If this is true and we believe it, we must be certain that we are accepting Bible truths and not error. Has God given us any way of knowing what truth is? Is there any means by which we can tell what is the true Church? Are all churches right? How can I know what to do and believe? God has not left us in darkness. Foreseeing this very need He gave us a prophecy that answers the question...

1. What is the true church of God called in the Bible? **1 Timothy 3:15** -
"The pillar and ground _____"

Note: God's true church in every age will be the depository of truth. Find His church and you will find the truth.

Please Read: The entire chapter of **Revelation 12** before you proceed.

2. To whom does God compare the daughter of Zion? **Jeremiah 6:2** -

3. Who is Zion? **Isaiah 51:16** - _____

Note: God has used the symbol of a pure woman to represent His people or His Church. Paul describes the church of Corinth as a chaste virgin. **2 Corinthians 11:2**. The "woman" of **Revelation 12:1** is God's means of picturing the Christian Church in its battle with Satan.

4. What power is represented by the great red dragon? **Revelation 12:7-9**

5. Who is the man child who the Devil tried to destroy? **Revelation 12:5** -

6. How did the Devil try to destroy Christ as soon as He was born?

Revelation 12:3-4; Matthew 2:1-16 - _____

7. When the Devil realised that he was bound to the earth and his days were numbered, what did he do to the “woman” (the church)? **Rev. 12:13-14** - _____

8. Where did the “woman” (the church) flee to escape the persecution which lasted 1,260 years? **Revelation 12:6 & 14** - _____

Note: The prophetic time period here mentioned represents 1,260 literal years. See **Ezekiel 4:6**.

9. Against what part of the true church does the Devil especially direct his wrath and final warfare? **Revelation 12:17** - _____

Note: The “Remnant,” is the last part of the church. Just as a remnant of a bolt of cloth is the last part of that roll, so the last part of God’s Church on earth is here brought to view.

10. What are the two special characteristics that the remnant, or last part of the true church, will have? **Revelation 12:17** -

1. _____
2. _____

Note: Rev. 19:10 says the “Testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of Prophecy.”

11. Which commandment of God does nearly the whole Christian world ignore? **Exodus 20:8-11** - _____

Note: In order to be the true church, which keeps all the commands of God, it must be keeping God’s holy day.

12. What is the three-fold message that will be proclaimed in all the world by this church? **Revelation 14:6-12** -

Verse 6, 7 - 1. _____

Verse 8 - 2. _____

Verse 9 - 3. _____

13. How are the people, who are called out by this three-fold message, and who are ready for the coming of Christ, characterised?

Revelation 14:12-14 - "They keep _____
_____ and _____."

14. What call does God make to His people who are in the false or confused religious bodies of the world today? **Revelation 18:1-4** -

Thousands of sincere seekers for truth have been kept so busy with the things of this world that they have not taken time to give serious study to this remarkable prophecy. It's amazing to see how clearly God has outlined the history of His Church from the day of Christ to the present hour. It is more than a coincidence, that in two places, in the book of Revelation, God uses the term, "...Keep the Commandments of God." In this age of spiritual confusion many religious leaders are teaching that God's children do not need to keep His commandments. They go so far as to assert that God's commandments have been abolished by the death of Christ. We see from this prophecy that God, by His divine foresight, must have known what was going to be taught today. He pictures His people as those who keep His commandments. Those who carry His last gospel message to the world are described as being obedient to Him. They obey Him because they love Him supremely and their obedience is a manifestation of this love.

In finding the true church, as described in Revelation, we must find a church which keeps all of God's commandments, which surely includes the Sabbath. That church must have the Gift of Prophecy and must be working in all of the world giving the three-fold gospel message of Revelation 14. Look about you today and you will find only one church that has all of the marks of the true church. When you find this church you will not hesitate in uniting with God's remnant in giving the gospel to all the world.

I want to unite my life with Christ and serve Him.

I want to be in that group which is ready for the coming of Jesus.

I want to visit services in a church that has these characteristics.

This study has been faithfully updated from the original "The Bible Speaks"

All Bible texts quoted are from the King James Bible



For more information call us or contact us through our website:

The South West - David Hatton: 07927 934572

The Midlands - Greg Campbell: 07880 921745

visit us at: www.thebiblespeaks.co.uk