

This spectacular fossil footprint was found in July of 2000 by amateur archaeologist, Alvis Delk of Stephenville, Texas and is now on display at the Creation Evidence Museum, Glen Rose, TX. Mr. Delk found the loose slab against the bank of the Paluxy River, about one mile north of Dinosaur Valley State Park. He flipped over the rock and saw an excellent dinosaur track, so he took it home where it sat in his living room for years, with hundreds of other fossils...he decided he would sell the dinosaur track, thinking Dr. Carl Baugh of the nearby Creation Evidence Museum would pay a few hundred dollars for it. He began to clean the rock, and that was when he discovered the fossil human footprint underneath the dried clay! (www.bible.ca)



NAVARRE MESSENGER

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What Is the Church of Christ?

1. **The church of Christ is not a proper name...**rather it describes the church that belongs to Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "...I will build my church" (Matthew 16:18). All those who obey the will of Jesus Christ are added to that church (Acts 2:41,47; Matthew 7:21). We who are members of Christ's church, therefore, are not "Church Of Christ's." We are simply called "Christians," those who follow Christ. In Acts 11:26 we see, "...the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch."

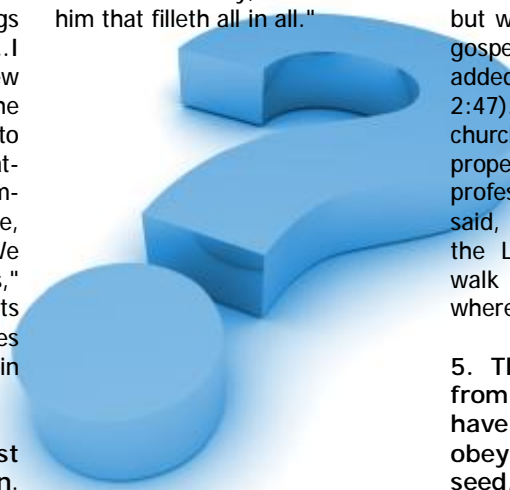
over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all."

4. **Christ's church is not something that we can join,** but when we are obedient to the gospel plan of salvation we are added to it by the Lord (Acts 2:47). As members of Christ's church we are expected to live proper lives in keeping with our profession, in Ephesians 4:1 Paul said, "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the profession wherewith ye are called. "

2. **The church that Christ built is not a denomination.** The word denomination gives the idea that there are many churches of different kinds. The Bible shows that there is one true church built by Christ, in Ephesians 4:4-6 Paul discusses unity. He says "...There is one body and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling..." This one body is the church. Ephesians 1:22, 23 says, "And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head

3. **All those who are saved are added to the church that Christ built (Acts 2:47).** Only those who are in Christ can be saved (2 Timothy 2:10). The only ones who are in Christ are the ones who have been baptized into Him (Romans 6:3,4; Galatians 3:26,27). Those who are baptized into Christ are at the same time baptized into His church (1 Corinthians 12:13).

5. **Those who are cleansed from their sins are ones who have been born again by obeying the incorruptible seed, the word of God.** 1 Peter 1:22-25, "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth



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Morning Worship Service ___ 10:00 AM
Evening Worship Service ___ 6:00 PM
Wednesday
Bible Class for all ages ___ 7:00 PM

VISITORS ARE WELCOME!

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away: But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." The seed is the word of God, and this seed produces Christians and only Christians. Following the gospel and nothing but the gospel will not cause a person to be in a denomination. It will cause him to be added by the Lord to the church that was built by the Lord. It takes something in addition to God's word to be added to a denomination, but God says that addition is wrong (Revelation 22:18,19).

6. What must we do to be

added to this church? The commandments are given in the New Testament! We must believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (John 8:24). We must repent of our sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30). We must confess Christ before men (Acts 8:37; Romans 10:9,10). Then we must be immersed in water to wash away our sins (Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16). When we have been washed from our sins, we can walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4; 2 Corinthians 5:17). But, this is not the end. It is the beginning. If we are going to continue to enjoy the cleansing power of Jesus' blood, we must continue

to walk in the light (according to His word). We are told this in 1 John 1:7.

These are things I have expressed in love to you. I have given the Bible references for all that I have written so you may look them up and determine if I have used them correctly. If you disagree with me, please be willing to study these things in a loving way so that we can both be in agreement (not my way or your way, but according to God's word). ~

Charles Ivie

A Successful Home?

The Washington Post published a survey of what makes a successful home. There were six things that stood out in that survey. Notice as I list these six principles with supporting scripture showing how they also apply to the church.

Successful families show appreciation for each other.

Paul to the Philippians, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you" (Philippians 1:3).

The ability to deal with a crisis in a positive manner; a mutual support system.

When James was put to death and Peter was in prison, the church gathered in Mary's house to pray on Peter's behalf (Acts 12). The Bible says we are to

"bear each other's burdens" (Galatians 6:2). When a crisis comes we are to be positive because God said "all things work together for good to them that love Him ..." (Romans 8:28).

They spend time together.

"Be kindly affectionate one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another" (Romans 12:10). "They continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship" (Acts 2:42).

A strong commitment to each other. "Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another" (1 John 4:11).

Good communication.

"Wherefore, my beloved brethren,

let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath" (James 1:19). "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer every man" (Colossians 4:6).

A high degree of religious orientation. "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the day approaching" (Hebrews 10:23-25). ~

Roy Dunavin

In Search of The Ancient Order



Clark Dugger

The plea of the restoration movement to go back to the Bible and restore New Testament Christianity is indeed a noble one. The efforts of courageous men of the past who studied themselves out of the chains of sectarianism and denominationalism should certainly be appreciated by those of us today who attempt to serve God in God's way. We owe a great debt to those of days gone by who have helped us understand more accurately the way of the Lord. But the fact is, we are still a part of that great restoration movement today in that we continue to study and learn exactly what God would have us to do and how to do it.

Certainly we are, and should be,

practicing that which we believe to be right in the sight of God. Not only so, we should be able to agree on the truth of God and stand together in defense of that truth. At the same time, we need to beware that we keep a proper attitude toward truth. We should still be "examining the scriptures daily, whether these things were so" (Acts 17:11). Whenever such examination ceases and individuals begin to consider their practice as the equivalence of truth, they are no longer in "search for the ancient order" and find themselves in the world of sectarianism.

Many in the church today perceive themselves as that body which accepts and obeys God's

truth, and as such, consider themselves to be the true church. They reason that only those who do as we do are members of the true church. Consequently, they deduct: "Since the church of Christ is the right church, if the church of Christ is doing it, it must be right." Such a subtle change in attitude is hardly recognizable, but the conclusion is unavoidable: human standards are substituted for divine standards. It is precisely this attitude that has caused brethren across the land to be involved in practices for which there is no Bible authority.

Whenever we place our confidence in the "Church of Christ" to be the "right church" to do the "right thing" we become no different than the denominations around us who are teaching and practicing what their sect has always done or wants to do. Our confidence must be in the Lord and in His Word. Our criterion of determining whether a thing is right must be whether we have a "thus saith the Lord." We cannot stop searching for truth. We cannot be content to allow others, either in the past or the present, to determine our convictions. A thing is right not because some man or church says it is, but because the Lord has authorized it in His Holy Writ. ~

~In Gospel Power, Anderson, Alabama, 11/2/97.