





# food for thought

## Wearing The Name: “Christian”

The name Christian(s) is only mentioned in 3 times in the entire Bible (Ac 11:26; 26;28; 1 Pet 4:16) and they are all in the New Testament. All other names worn by people of God were in the Old Testament. Christian is the new name: “For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp *that* burneth. And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name (Isa 62:1, 2). By His Life *for* us in heaven and *in* us by His Spirit (Rom 5:10).

It was in Antioch where the disciples were first called “Christians” (Ac 11:26), literally meaning “people of Christ”.

Notice how this emphatically occurred only after the Gentiles were allowed to obey the gospel of Christ (Ac 10:44-48). Notice “Christian” contains the word “Christ” [Greek equivalent of its Hebrew word “Messiah”] because both mean “Anointed One” and coming from the anointing with oil [tradition of the leaders in the ancient world]. It is the distinct name of God's People in the Christian era - the new name. It honors Christ. There was much debate whether this is a God-given name or in derision by Christ enemies.

The year was about 42 AD. It had been 9 years since Luke last mentioned Saul as he was escaping by way of Caesarea to Tarsus (Ac 9:30). Barnabas sought and found Paul, then brought him to Antioch. They had worked harmoniously together and the Lord BLESSED their work. Many were taught and obeyed the gospel.

People today should be “people of Christ” and nothing else (Mt 28:20; Mk 16:16; 1 Cor 9:16; Col 1:5, 23).

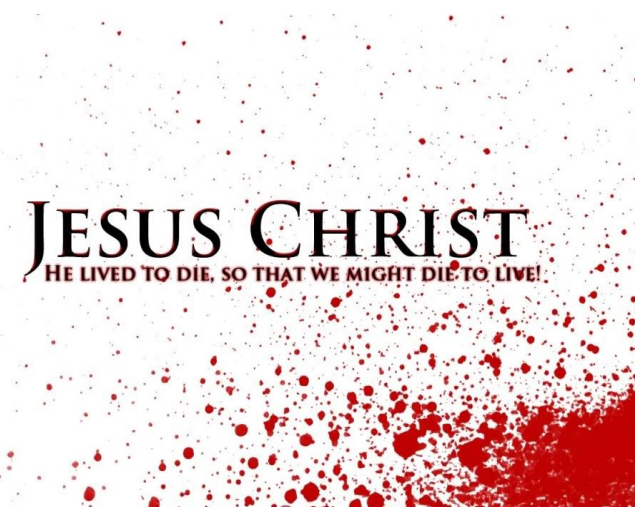
Next, King Agrippa reveals to the Apostle Paul, “...Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian” (Ac 26:28).

The word translated **almost** is vague. He did not answer if he believed the prophets because he was indifferent to the message. He understood, but refused to accept it, like so many people of today. Paul intended for him to be a Christian, but not just him (Ac 26:29). Agrippa choose not to be obedient to these deep, religious truths.

Lastly, we have the Apostle Peter, “Yet if *any man suffer* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf” (1 Pet 4:16). Suffering is nothing to be ashamed. We are called upon to share our Savior's sufferings, not those of His Substitution, but His Daily self-denial, the hatred of men, the anguish of His soul over the obstinacy and opposition of the world. One should live in such a way their life emulates what glorifies God. Do not be ashamed to be a Christian and called by this name. The salvation of the righteous is a task of enormous difficulty. It requires the dead-lift of Omnipotence. Nothing less will suffice than the infinite Father's Grace, the blood of the Son and the patience of the Holy Spirit. What will be the fate of those who refuse these! Will they appear at the marriage-supper of the Lamb; and if not, *where* (Rom 5:1-11)?

The Hebrew word “Messiah” is used in the Old Testament a total of 39 times: 37 times translated “anointed” and it usually refers to one of the kings of Israel. Have you studied the book of Daniel? It was translated with the English word “Messiah” twice (Dan 9:25, 26). The Jews were expecting God's Messiah, His Anointed One, to arrive. Christ fulfilled all prophecies of the Anointed. Therefore, He was the Messiah.

In the New Testament, the word “Christ” (Greek for “anointed one”) is used exclusively referring to Jesus. As Christians, we are followers of the Anointed One, Jesus and the word “Christ” is a title, not Jesus' last name. What an honor it is to share the title “Christ” with Jesus as “Christians” is Peter's specific point (1 Pet 4:16).




# PRAYER REQUEST

**Continuous Prayers:** Walter Simon, Mack & Carolyn Clouds, Ron Forge, Christina Jones, Miguel Graves, Joyce Fair Patricia Hurd, Ruby Busby (Bro/Sis Busby's FAMILY), Sheila Harris, Curtis Ward, Joyce Gutierrez, Vernon Skinner (Sis Skinner's son), Mattie Stafford, Annette Rolette, Chris White (Sis White's son) Adam McCants (Bro Ramsey's daughter father-in-law), Ray and Byron Busby (Bro/Sis Busby's sons) Joel Sotelo Vazquez / Bertha Tapia [Mexico City, Mexico], Alfredo Cabrera/Ana Yescas (Bro Ramsey's friend) Maria Diaz (Sis Skinner's neighbor), Willie Gray (Sis Gray's brother-in-law) Anthony Yescas (Bro Ramsey's friend)

**Sick:** Arthur Henry, Dan Allen, Jerry Birdow, Jose (Bro Spataro's friend)

**General:** Demetria Washington, Greg Owens (Bro Owens' brother), Kelvin & Michael Porter (Sis Owens' brothers), Simon Young, Sam Lily (Sis Guthrie's stepson), James Hunter, Jr, Michael Neazer, M. Staton, Millicent Douglas (Sis Glasker's neice)

### UPDATES:

1. **Bob Wetzel** (member Aledo CC) passed away after going to the hospital with NO outstanding health issues [08 Nov 20].
2. **Juan Esquivel** (father of Barbara Sanchez [member of Seagoville CC]) on hospice with infection in heart and brain [08 Nov 20]

## Upcoming Activities/Announcements

1. **Door Knocking Campaign** Postponed until further notice.



## HOW TO GET THINGS FROM GOD

### Jeremiah 33:1 – 3

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. The more I consider the Bible, the more I am convinced [we] have a “millionaire” God.
2. As the Bible speaks, God created the world [we] are living in (Gen 1:1-2:25).
3. In further study, we easily see that God owns the world and ALL in it (Psa 24:1; 50:10-12).
4. God is able to supply whatever [we] need (Psa 103:1-5; Eph 3:20; Jas 1:17).
5. God loves us and wants to give to us (Mt 11:28-30; Jn 3:16).
  - A. However, even with this knowledge [we] ask for peanuts.

#### BODY:

##### 1. WE ARE NOT ASKING FOR THINGS WE WON'T RECEIVE

- A. I am talking about asking for things that we have already had promised to us.
  1. It cannot be successfully denied, we have numerous promises of blessings from God.
- B. Our text, [we] see the promise of “great and mighty things, which thou knowest **NOT**”.
  1. I understand this was intended for Israel, but does not diminish we, too, can expect great things as [we] learn from these promises (Rom 15:4).
- C. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus confirmed (Mt 7:7).
  1. It says [we] have had great and mighty promises made to us.
- D. We have been promised the blessings God deems necessary in our lives, including “all spiritual blessings” (Eph 1:3); yet [we] ask for peanuts.

##### 2. WHAT DO YOU NEED? Mt 21:22; Mk 11:24

- A. Do you need strength, courage and wisdom?
- B. Do you need help in making the right decisions in life?
- C. Do you need help in finding solutions to problems?
- D. Do you as an erring Christian need forgiveness?
- E. Do you believe this promise? Then why ask for peanuts?
- F. We need to be positive, “Ask and it shall be given unto you...”

##### 3. THE PEOPLE OF GOD PROSPER

- A. God's People have always prospered and they always will.
  1. If [we] are **NOT**; then, what should this something say to us (Psa 1:1 – 3)?
    - A. Notice what is affirmed there.
      1. Those that “delight in the law of the Lord” will prosper.
        - A. More than just READ, **BUT** delight.
      2. Those who “meditate day and night” will prosper.
        - A. If [we] want to see good things happen, meditate on the law of the Lord and accept the promise (Psa 1:3).
  - B. [We] need to quit asking for peanuts and start asking for the things God has promised the faithful (Heb 4:16).

##### 4. THE A.B.C.'S OF ASKING AND RECEIVING

- A. Abiding (Jn 15:7)
- B. Believing (Mk 9:23; 11:24)
- C. Committing (Jos 24:15; Lk 9:23)
- D. If [we] are satisfied with peanuts, it can surely stay that way.
  1. If **NOT**, within these ABC's is found those things necessary to get things from God.