

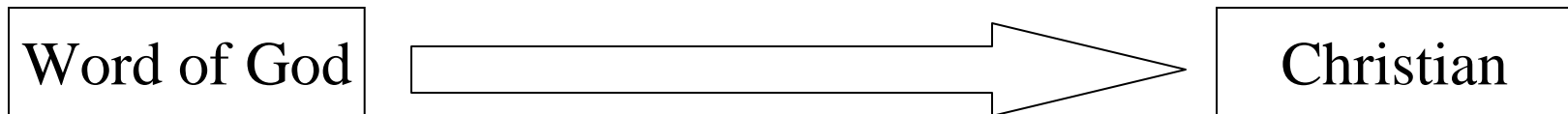
# How do I Find the Right Church?

Identifying Marks of the 1<sup>st</sup> Century  
Church

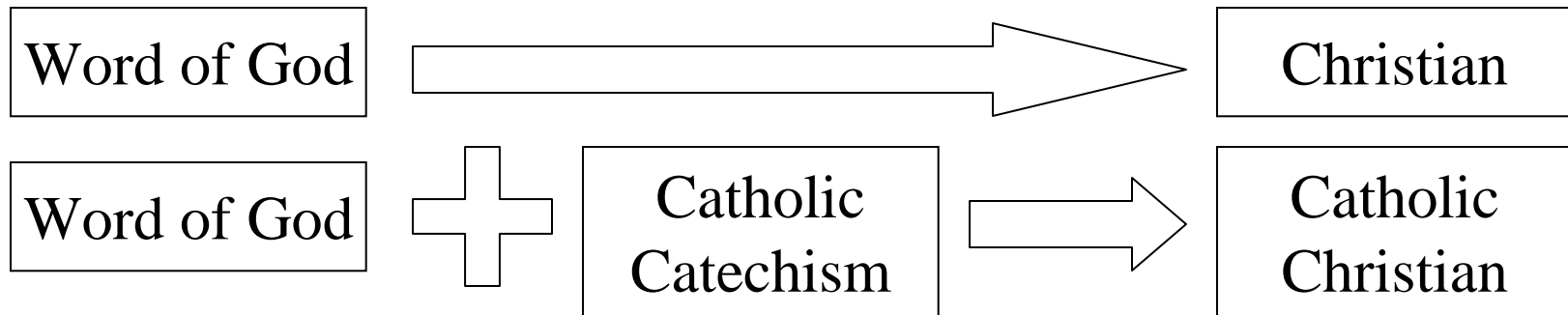
# Luke 8:11

“...The seed is the word of God.”

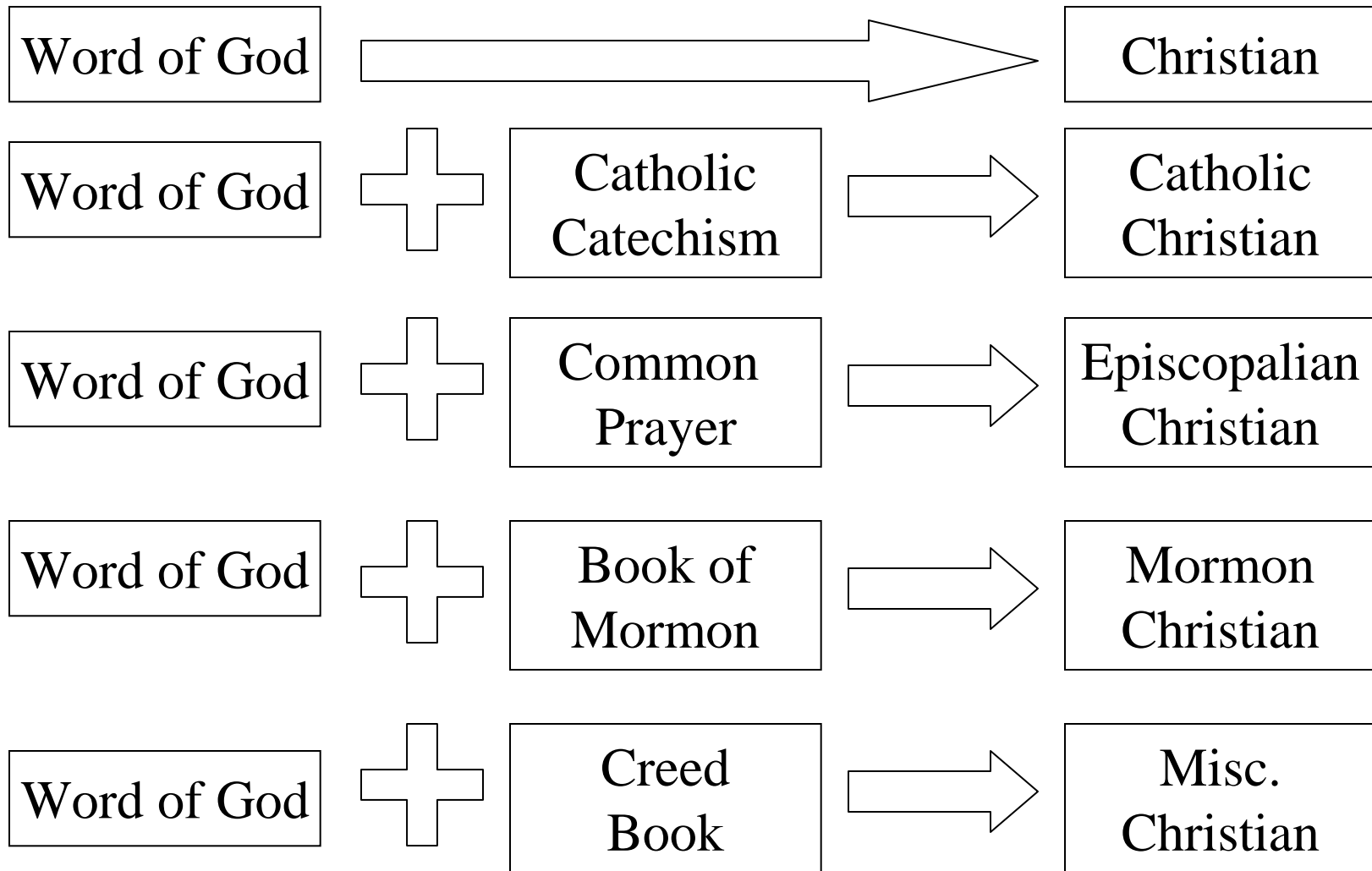
# Seed Produces After its Kind



# Seed Produces After its Kind



# Seed Produces After its Kind



# Why a Creed Book?

A creed book crystallizes and homogenizes the peculiar beliefs of a particular church.

# Why a Creed Book?

If the creed book has more than the Bible it is too much.

If it has less than the Bible, it is too little.

If it is the same as the Bible, why do you need it?

# What Does The Word of God Say?

	Belief	Repentance	Confession	Baptism
Pentecost Acts 2:38				
Samaritans Acts 8:12				
Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:36-39				
Saul Acts 9:1-6; 22:16				
Cornelius Acts 10:1-2, 43, 47-48				
Lydia Acts 16:14				
Philippian Jailer Acts 16:30-33				



## Acts 2:38

Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

# What Does The Word of God Say?

	Belief	Repentance	Confession	Baptism
Pentecost Acts 2:38		✓		✓
Samaritans Acts 8:12				
Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:36-39				
Saul Acts 9:1-6; 22:16				
Cornelius Acts 10:1-2, 43, 47-48				
Lydia Acts 16:14				
Philippian Jailer Acts 16:30-33				

## Acts 8:12

But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized.

# What Does The Word of God Say?

	Belief	Repentance	Confession	Baptism
Pentecost Acts 2:38		✓		✓
Samaritans Acts 8:12	✓			✓
Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:36-39				
Saul Acts 9:1-6; 22:16				
Cornelius Acts 10:1-2, 43, 47-48				
Lydia Acts 16:14				
Philippian Jailer Acts 16:30-33				

## Acts 8:35-37

Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture preached Jesus to him.

Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, “See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?”

Then Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.”

And he answered and said, “I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”

## Acts 8:38-39

So he commanded the chariot to stand still.

And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.

# What Does The Word of God Say?

	Belief	Repentance	Confession	Baptism
Pentecost Acts 2:38		✓		✓
Samaritans Acts 8:12	✓			✓
Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:36-39			✓	✓
Saul Acts 9:1-6; 22:16				
Cornelius Acts 10:1-2, 43, 47-48				
Lydia Acts 16:14				
Philippian Jailer Acts 16:30-33				

## Acts 9:4-6

Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice, saying,  
“Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?”

And he said, “Who are you, lord?”

Then the Lord said, “I am Jesus, whom you are  
persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the  
goads.”

So he, trembling and astonished, said, “Lord, what  
do You want me to do?”

Then the Lord said, “Arise and go into the city, and  
you will be told what you must do.”



## Acts 22:16

“And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”

# What Does The Word of God Say?

	Belief	Repentance	Confession	Baptism
Pentecost Acts 2:38		✓		✓
Samaritans Acts 8:12	✓			✓
Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:36-39			✓	✓
Saul Acts 9:1-6; 22:16				✓
Cornelius Acts 10:1-2, 43, 47-48				
Lydia Acts 16:14				
Philippian Jailer Acts 16:30-33				

## Acts 10:43, 47-48

“To Him all the prophets bear witness, that through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.”

...“Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.

# What Does The Word of God Say?

	Belief	Repentance	Confession	Baptism
Pentecost Acts 2:38		✓		✓
Samaritans Acts 8:12	✓			✓
Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:36-39			✓	✓
Saul Acts 9:1-6; 22:16				✓
Cornelius Acts 10:43, 47-48	✓			✓
Lydia Acts 16:14				
Philippian Jailer Acts 16:30-33				

## Acts 16:14-15

Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshipped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. And when she and her household were baptized, she begged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” So she persuaded us.

# What Does The Word of God Say?

	Belief	Repentance	Confession	Baptism
Pentecost Acts 2:38		✓		✓
Samaritans Acts 8:12	✓			✓
Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:36-39			✓	✓
Saul Acts 9:1-6; 22:16				✓
Cornelius Acts 10:43, 47-48	✓			✓
Lydia Acts 16:14	✓			✓
Philippian Jailer Acts 16:30-33				

# Acts 16:28-31

But Paul called out with a loud voice, saying, “Do yourself no harm, for we are all here.

Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

So they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.”

## Acts 16:32-33

Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized.



# What Does The Word of God Say?

	Belief	Repentance	Confession	Baptism
Pentecost Acts 2:38		✓		✓
Samaritans Acts 8:12	✓			✓
Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:36-39			✓	✓
Saul Acts 9:1-6; 22:16				✓
Cornelius Acts 10:43, 47-48	✓			✓
Lydia Acts 16:14	✓			✓
Philippian Jailer Acts 16:30-33	✓			✓

## John 8:24

“Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.”

# Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is the rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

	Belief	Repentance	Confession	Baptism
Pentecost Acts 2:38	X	✓		✓
Samaritans Acts 8:12	✓			✓
Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:36-39	X		✓	✓
Saul Acts 9:1-6; 22:16	X			✓
Cornelius Acts 10:43, 47-48	✓			✓
Lydia Acts 16:14	✓			✓
Philippian Jailer Acts 16:30-33	✓			✓

Jn. 8:24;  
Heb. 11:6

# Luke 13:5

“I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.”

# Acts 17:30

“Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent.”

	Belief	Repentance	Confession	Baptism
Pentecost Acts 2:38	X	✓		✓
Samaritans Acts 8:12	✓	X		✓
Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:36-39	X	X	✓	✓
Saul Acts 9:1-6; 22:16	X	X		✓
Cornelius Acts 10:43, 47-48	✓	X		✓
Lydia Acts 16:14	✓	X		✓
Philippian Jailer Acts 16:30-33	✓	X		✓

Jn. 8:24;  
Heb. 11:6

Lk. 13:5;  
Acts 17:30

## Romans 10:9-10

...that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.



	Belief	Repentance	Confession	Baptism
Pentecost Acts 2:38	X	✓	X	✓
Samaritans Acts 8:12	✓	X	X	✓
Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:36-39	X	X	✓	✓
Saul Acts 9:1-6; 22:16	X	X	X	✓
Cornelius Acts 10:43, 47-48	✓	X	X	✓
Lydia Acts 16:14	✓	X	X	✓
Philippian Jailer Acts 16:30-33	✓	X	X	✓

Jn. 8:24;  
Heb. 11:6

Lk. 13:5;  
Acts 17:30

Rom. 10:  
9-10

# Mark 16:16

“He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”

# Galatians 3:27

For as many of you was were baptized into  
Christ have put on Christ.

	Belief	Repentance	Confession	Baptism
Pentecost Acts 2:38	X	✓	X	✓
Samaritans Acts 8:12	✓	X	X	✓
Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:36-39	X	X	✓	✓
Saul Acts 9:1-6; 22:16	X	X	X	✓
Cornelius Acts 10:43, 47-48	✓	X	X	✓
Lydia Acts 16:14	✓	X	X	✓
Philippian Jailer Acts 16:30-33	✓	X	X	✓

Jn. 8:24;  
Heb. 11:6

Lk. 13:5;  
Acts 17:30

Rom. 10:  
9-10

Mk. 16:16  
Gal. 3:27

# Why Baptism?

# Ephesians 1:7

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.

# Colossians 1:14

In whom we have redemption through His  
blood, the forgiveness of sins

# Revelation 7:14

“... these are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”



# Why Baptism?

## BLOOD

- Forgiveness –  
Eph. 1:7
- Redemption –  
Col 1:14
- Made white –  
Rev. 7:14

## Acts 2:38

Then Peter said to them, “ Repent, and let every one of you be baptized for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

# 1 Peter 3:21

There is also an antitype which now saves us  
– baptism (not the removal of the filth of the  
flesh, but the answer of a good conscience  
toward God), through the resurrection of  
Jesus Christ

## Acts 22:16

“And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”

# Why Baptism?

## BAPTISM

- Remission of Sins –  
Acts 2:38
- Good conscience –  
1 Peter 3:21
- Wash away sin –  
Acts 22:16

## BLOOD

- Forgiveness –  
Eph. 1:7
- Redemption –  
Col 1:14
- Made white –  
Rev. 7:14

John 19:34

# Contradiction or Connection?

## BAPTISM

- Remission of Sins –  
Acts 2:38
- Good conscience –  
1 Peter 3:21
- Wash away sin –  
Acts 22:16

## BLOOD

- Forgiveness –  
Eph. 1:7
- Redemption –  
Col 1:14
- Made white –  
Rev. 7:14

John 19:34

# Romans 6:17

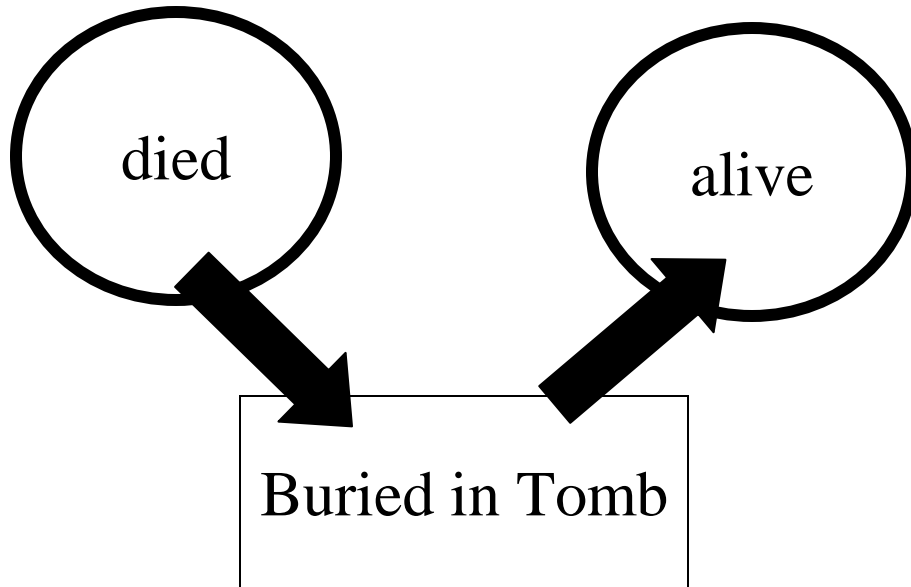
But God be thanked, that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.

# Romans 6:3-5

Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so also we should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection.

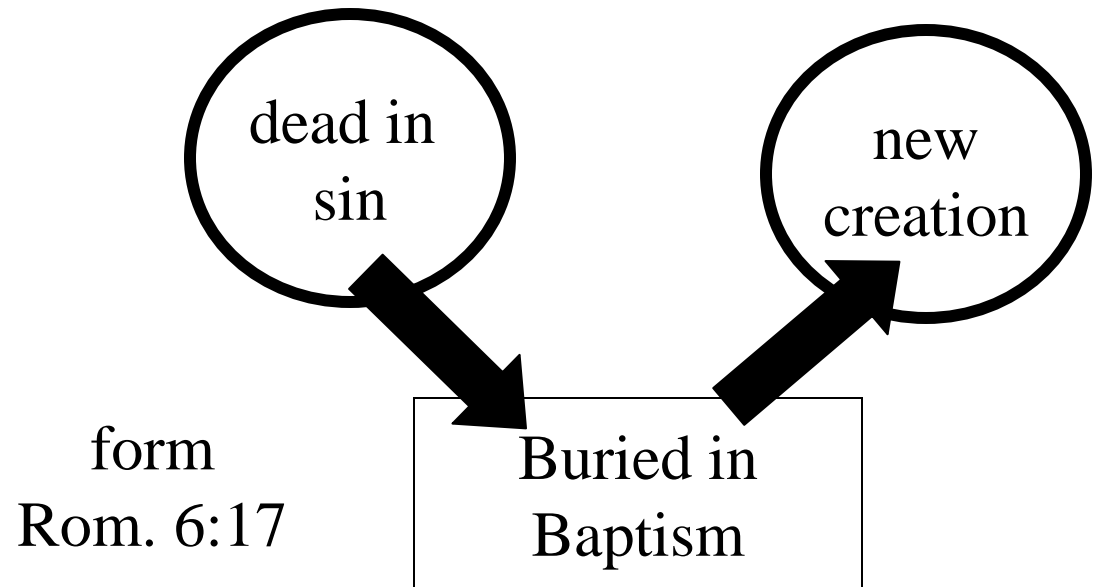


# Christ



# Christian

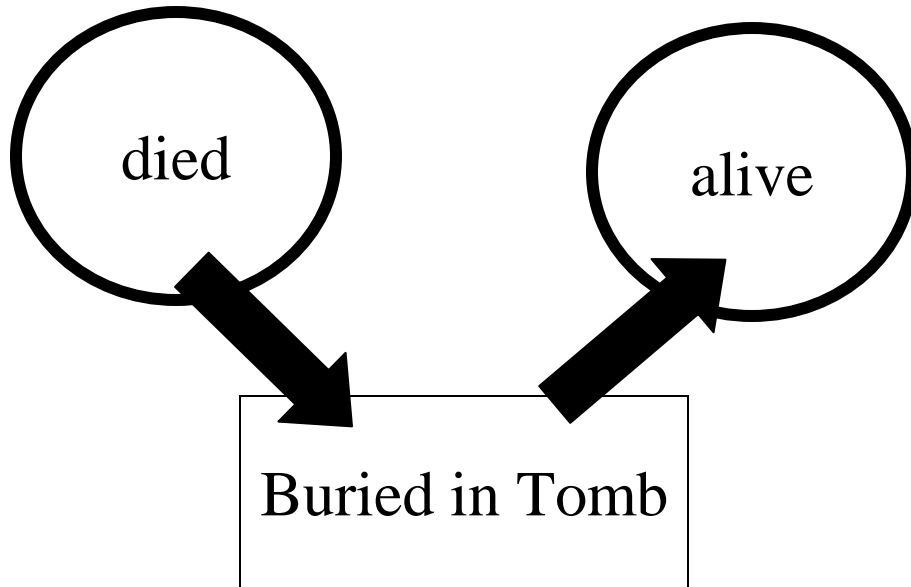
Rom. 6:3-4; Col. 2:12



# Colossians 2:11-13

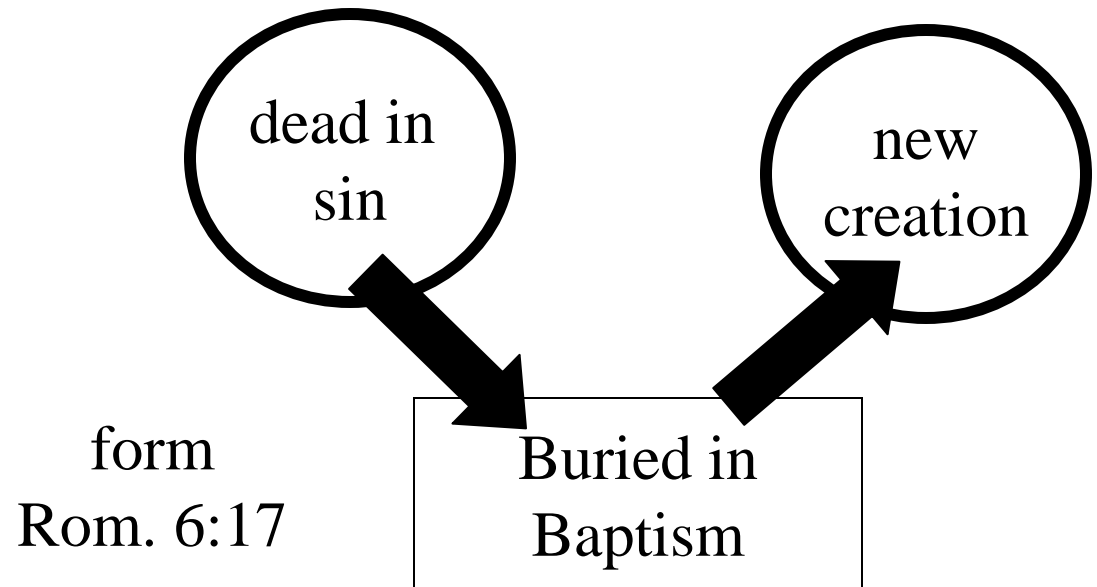
In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses.

# Christ



# Christian

Rom. 6:3-4; Col. 2:12



# Baptist Doctrine in One Year

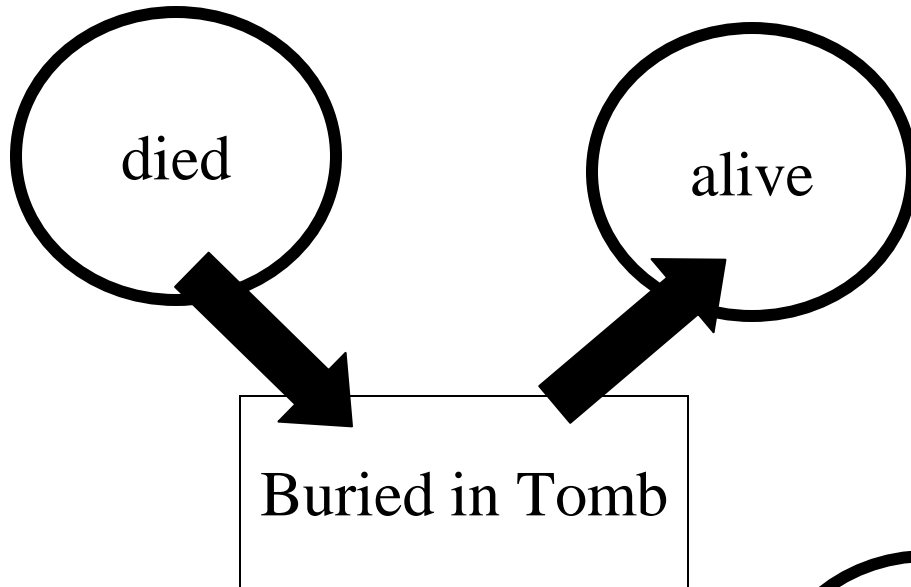
“There are two ways of receiving members into a church.

1) By experience and baptism

2) By letters of dismission from sister churches.

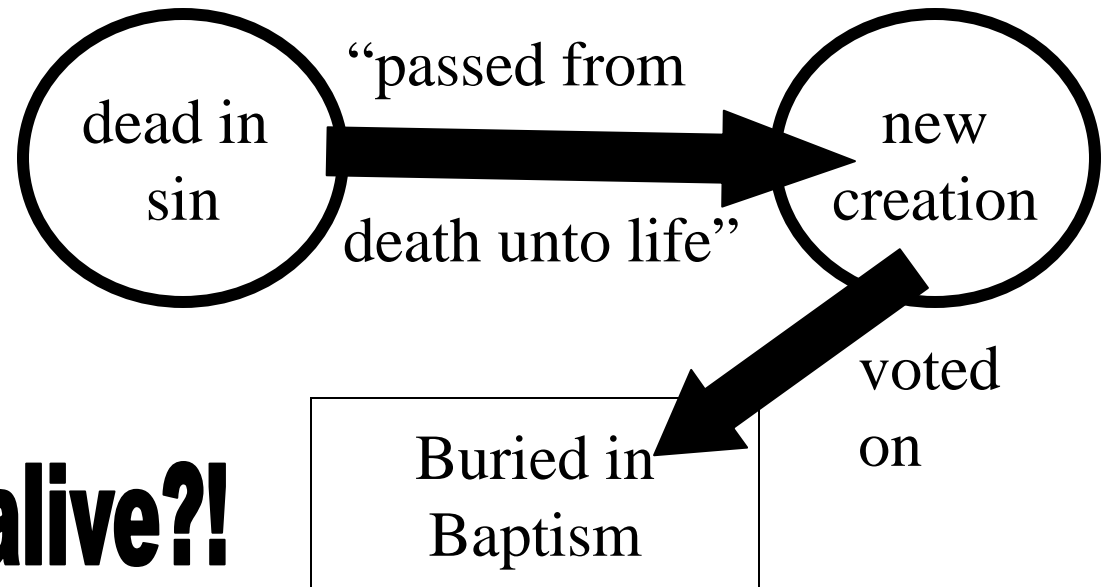
In accordance with the first way, persons wishing to unite with a church give an account of the dealings of God with their souls, and state the “reason for the hope that is in them” whereupon, if, in the judgment of the church they “have passed from death into life” they are by vote of the church recognized as candidates for baptism, with the understanding that when baptized they will be entitled to all the rights and privileges of membership.” – pg. 24

# Christ



# Denominational

# Baptism



**buried alive?!**

# Finding Christ's Church

- Belief, Repentance, Confession, Baptism  
Rom. 6:3-5; Acts 2:47
  - Elders & Deacons  
Acts 14:23; Acts 20:28
  - Lord's Supper each Sunday  
Acts 20:7
  - Free Will Offering each Sunday  
1 Cor. 16:1-2
    - Called simply Christians  
Acts 11:26

# Finding My Car

## **My Car**

- 1995
- Toyota
- Corolla
- Blue exterior
- Gray interior
- KLR 1509, Virginia

## **Another Car**

- New
- Mercedes
- Convertible
- Red Exterior
- White Interior
- CHERI-G, New York

# Finding Christ's Church

## **One Church**

- Church of Christ -  
Christians
- Belief, Repentance,  
Confession, Baptism
- Elders & Deacons
  - Lord's Supper  
each Sunday
- Free Will Offering  
each Sunday



# Finding Christ's Church

## **Another Church**

- Baptist Church -  
Baptists
  - Voted on,  
“Buried Alive”
- No Elders, only  
Deacons
  - Communion  
once a month
    - “Tithe”,  
rummage sale, etc

# Finding Christ's Church

## **One Church**

- Church of Christ - Christians
- Belief, Repentance, Confession, Baptism
- Elders & Deacons
  - Lord's Supper each Sunday
- Free Will Offering each Sunday

## **Another Church**

- Baptist Church - Baptists
  - Voted on, "Buried Alive"
- No Elders, only Deacons
  - Communion once a month
    - "Tithe", rummage sale, etc

# Where are You?

