

## CHURCH OF GOD

**Church of God** — The true church of God is not a building nor is it an organization. The true church of God is composed of men and women who are filled with and led by God's Holy Spirit (Romans 8:9, 14). In order for someone to become a member of God's true church—a genuine Christian—God must first call them and draw them to Christ (John 6:44, 6:65). Then upon real repentance, baptism, and the “laying on of hands,” they receive God's Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38, 19:1-6, 8:14-19). They are then set apart as a member of God's church (God's “called out ones”)—a true Christian.

**John 17:11** — Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, *keep through Your name* those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are.

**Acts 20:28** — Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the *church of God* which He purchased with His own blood.

**1 Cor 1:1-2** — [From] Paul... to the *Church of God* which is at Corinth.

**1 Cor 10:32** — Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the *church of God*.

**1 Cor 11:16** — But if anyone seems to be contentious, we have no such custom, nor do the *churches of God*.

**1 Cor 11:22** — What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the *church of God* and shame those who have nothing?

**1 Cor 15:9** — For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the *church of God*.

**2 Cor 1:1** — [From] Paul... to the *church of God* which is at Corinth.

**Gal 1:13** — For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the *church of God* beyond measure and tried to destroy it.

**1 Thes 2:14** — For you, brethren, became imitators of the *churches of God* which are in Judea in Christ Jesus.

**2 Thes 1:4** — So that we ourselves boast of you among the *churches of God* for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure.

**1 Tim 3:5** — For if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the *church of God*?

**1 Tim 3:14-15** — These things I write to you... so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the *church of the living God*, the pillar and ground of the truth.

**John 6:44** — “*No one* can come to Me *unless* the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

**John 6:65** — And He said, “Therefore I have said to you that *no one* can come to Me *unless* it has been granted to him by My Father.”

**Acts 2:38** — Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of

the *Holy Spirit*.”

**Acts 19:1-6** — And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples he said to them, “Did you receive the *Holy Spirit* when you believed?” So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.” And he said to them, “Into what then were you baptized?” So they said, “Into John’s baptism.” Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.” When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid hands on them, the *Holy Spirit* came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

**Acts 8:14-19** — Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the *Holy Spirit*. For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus [and had never had hands laid on them]. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the *Holy Spirit*. And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles’ hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, saying, “Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit.”

**Romans 8:9** — But you are not in the flesh but in the *Spirit*, if indeed the *Spirit of God* dwells in you. NOW IF ANYONE DOES NOT HAVE THE *Spirit of Christ*, HE IS NOT HIS.

**Romans 8:14** — For as many as are *led by the Spirit of God*, THESE ARE SONS OF GOD.