

The Bulletin of
The Golden Isles
CHURCH OF CHRIST

441 Touchstone Parkway ♦ Brunswick, Georgia 31525

Volume 2

July 14, 2002

Number 7

Why I Left The Christian Church - #2

By Floyd Decker

(Editor's Note: This is the continuation of a series of articles wherein men who found themselves in unscriptural churches tell why they left the religious groups they were formerly with. We urge all our readers to examine yourselves to see whether you be in the one faith of the New Testament! There are several articles to come, Lord willing. mjw)

The late Floyd Decker was the "pastor" of the Murrell Boulevard Christian Church in Paducah, Kentucky. In 1930 he heard J. Petty Ezell preach on the differences between the Christian Church and the church you can read about in the Bible. Moved by a love for the truth Decker left the Christian Church. In 1944 he wrote an article titled "Why I Left The Christian Church." It was published in UNITY FORUM. In this article he mentioned 13 reasons for breaking ties with the Christian Church. This article was re-printed in numbers of papers, bulletins, and tracts.

I have reproduced this for the benefit of others. This is how I received the material in 1980.

1. The Christian Church has women counselors, Directors and Lecturers; the church of Christ does not (1 Tim. 2:11-12; 1 Cor. 14:34)
2. The Christian Church has Educational Directors, Associate Ministers and Youth Directors; the church of Christ has elders, deacons, evangelists and teachers (Eph. 4:11; Phil. 1:1).
3. The Christian Church has Missionary, Benevolent and Educational Organizations to execute the work of the church; the church of Christ does not (Eph. 4:4; Eph. 3:10, 21).
4. The Christian Church celebrates days of heathen worship, such as Easter, Mother's Day and Christmas; the church of Christ does not (Gal. 4:10).
5. The Christian Church fellowships various denominations in their activities, leaving the impression that all are brethren; the church of Christ does not (2 Jn. 9-11; Gal. 1:6-10).

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Times of Services

Sundays - 2:00 pm Bible class, 3:00 pm Assembly Wednesdays - 6:30 pm Bible class

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6. The Christian Church seeks to get crowds with Youth Meetings, Campaigns for Christ, Rallies, Drives and Promotions; the church of Christ does not (Rom. 1:16; Rev. 22:18-19).

7. The Christian Church emphasizes society and the physical man by appealing to the carnal nature with church carnivals, bands, plays, choruses, dramatics, church kitchens, church camps, and elaborate fellowship halls; the church of Christ does not (1 Cor. 10:7; Rom. 14:17; 1 Cor. 11:22, 34).

8. The Christian Church elevates its preachers above the rest of the members by using such titles as Pastor, Superintendent, President and Doctor; the church of Christ does not (Matt. 23:5-12).

9. The Christian Church misuses the name "Christian," which is a noun, by speaking of "Christian nations," "Christian schools," and "Christian Churches." The church of Christ does not (Acts 11:26).

10. The Christian Church takes up collections at services other than on the first day of the week, and uses unscriptural means such as suppers, property rentals and special collections to raise money for the church; the church of Christ does not (1 Cor. 16:1-2).

11. The Christian Church owns and operates Publishing Houses, Radio Stations, Hospitals, and other Benevolent Societies; churches of Christ build nothing but churches (Eph. 3:21)

12. The Christian Church owns, supports and operates schools for secular education, through theological schools; the church of Christ does not (1 Tim. 3:15).

13. The Christian Church has a compromising spirit, will not defend its doctrines, is nothing but a man-made denomination, has no regard for the authority of the Bible, bases its practice on the silence of the Scriptures, and appeals to the traditions of the elders rather than go to the simple unadulterated gospel of Christ. The Christian Church is not a part of the New Testament church and should not be regarded as a friend of Christ nor of the truth.

If you learned that the church that you regularly worship with was wrong in name, organization, teaching or practice, would you have the courage to either get them to change or leave? Be not deceived! It's not too late to worship God in spirit and in truth! Please visit the Golden Isles church of Christ. You'll be glad you did.

Editor's Note: If you would like a Home Bible Study, or would like to study further over the phone, or by computer, please feel free to contact us: Mark J. Ward, 445 Touchstone Parkway, Brunswick, Georgia 31525, (912) 265-6936 - markjward@yahoo.com

Attend the church of GOD's choice,
Not the church of YOUR choice.

Romans 16:16 "...the churches of Christ salute you."

Please visit our website at: <http://www.religiousinstructor.com/church>
