

WHAT IS "CHRISTIANITY"? 2016-1-17 SAM

- 1) The word "Christianity" has as its root the word 'Christ.' The word "Christ" comes from the Greek word "Christos" which means "to anoint; anointed; anointed one." The word "Messiah" is used in the Old Testament to mean the same thing.
- 2) The word "Christian" comes from the Greek word "Christianos." The word "Christianos" is a term used in reference to those individuals who are followers of Christ. Acts 11:26
- 3) Some have said, "Christianity is a white person's religion." This is impossible because Christianity began in Israel and the Middle East. Acts 2:1-11...Acts 8:26-39...Acts 4:12
- 4) Christianity is not a result of behavior, but Christianity should produce Christ-like behavior. Galatians 5:25...Ephesians 2:8-10
- 5) Christianity can impact the natural world we know, but it is not dependant on the natural world. Further, Christianity exists in this natural world, but it is not a part of this natural world. John 17:16...John 18:36...1 Corinthians 3:19...1 John 5:4
- 6) It is impossible to convert to Christianity as the world defines converting. The world defines converting as turning away from one form of religious practices to embrace another. It is impossible to convert to the practice of Christianity because Christianity is not a practiced set of religious behaviors. Christianity is a life born within an individual. True conversion to Christianity can only take place when a person is born again. John 3:3-7, 16-17
- 7) Christianity emphasizes that anyone who is a Christian has a totally new spirit, or inner man. This alone is one of the major truths that separates Christianity from all religions in the world. 2 Corinthians 5:17...Galatians 6:15
- 8) Christianity is not and has never been a religion. It is possible to join Islam, Judaism, Catholicism, Buddhism, and any other religion. But it is impossible to join Christianity. Christianity is a word that describes a relationship and not a religion. The relationship it describes is familial; it is a family where God is the Father. A person cannot join Christianity, he must be born into the family. Christianity has as its foundation the completed work of Jesus Christ. It exists within the Kingdom of God and His dear Son. Romans 8:15-16... Galatians 3:26-29...Colossians 1:12-14
- 9) Christianity is not simply an acknowledgement of who Jesus was and is; it is an acceptance of and agreement with who He was, who He is, what He did and everything the Bible says about Him. As explained, Christianity is a word used in reference to followers of Christ. This means that Christianity can only be described, defined and revealed in the Bible. God has made no provision for any individual, church or religious organization to devise or develop any standard for Christianity other than what has already been recorded in the Bible. Anyone who calls him or herself a Christian is declaring that he or she has admitted to being a lost, sin-natured individual, has put faith in Jesus Christ alone for redemption and salvation, has committed to living according to the pattern established by Jesus and has chosen to accept what the Bible says as the final word on any subject. Galatians 2:20...Philippians 1:21... Hebrews 12:2...Psalm 119:89...Matthew 24:35...Luke 6:46...John 12:48