

# The Old Paths

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## “Christ Reigns Today”

Jarrod Jacobs

**O**ur Lord Jesus Christ rules over us today. Yet, this fact is lost on much of the world. After His resurrection and ascension, Christ sat down at the right hand of God to rule and reign over us (Mk. 16:19; Rom. 8:34; Col. 3:1; Heb. 10:12; I Pet. 3:22). Daniel saw this day, and declared, “I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed” (Dan. 7:13-14). The fulfillment of Daniel’s vision is seen in Acts 1:9-11 when Christ “came to” God and sat down at His right hand. Paul said that Christ is reigning now, and “must reign til he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death” (I Cor. 15:25-26). Has death been destroyed? No, sir! Therefore, Christ is reigning today.

In the book of Ephesians, Paul discusses Christ’s resurrection and ascension and says, “Which he (God) wrought in Christ, when he (God) raised him

(Christ) from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all” (Eph. 1:20-23). Does this sound like Christ is or is not reigning now? He is reigning over us today! We may not want to think about it, some may even deny it; but when all is said and done, Christ reigns today! God told His Son, “Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom” (Heb. 1:8).

Based on the truth that Christ reigns today, what does this mean to us?

1) It means man has no authority over himself. Jesus pronounced that He has all authority. “Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth” (Matt. 28:18). If Christ has all authority, then how much does that leave for you or me? Once we understand this, may we then be submissive to our King!

2) It means that man has no legislative power. Sadly, some in this world have taken upon themselves the job of lawmaker! You see this in those who hear

Christ’s words and declare, “I know the Bible says that, but...” Sometimes people will hear the word of God read plainly and then state, “That is your opinion.” If you or I are guilty of such things, then we are trying to be the lawmaker! Friends, that job has already been taken! Christ is the lawmaker today. His law is found in the New Testament, and will not change. It is high time we accepted it and obeyed rather than fighting against it!

3) It means that we will be punished if we do not do as the King says. Paul wrote the Thessalonians and told them that on the last day, Christ would come, “In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power” (II Thess. 1:8-9). Do you want to be found in rebellion against the King? Of course, not! Therefore, become a citizen of His Kingdom through faith in Christ (Jn. 8:24), repenting of your sins (Lk. 13:3), confessing your faith in Christ (Matt. 10:32), and being baptized for the remission of sins (Mk. 16:16). If you have not submitted to the will of the King, then what is keeping you from doing what is right? Don’t defy your King, Jesus Christ, but believe in His word, and follow Him all the days of your life (I Cor. 15:58)!

### **Something To Consider ...**

**“ ‘Everybody does it’ does not justify your behavior. This excuse simply says you’re as wrong as everyone else!”**

## "The Paralyzing Effects Of Sin"

*The Gospel Guardian,*  
December 1, 1960, p. 7 (471)

☞ Sin paralyzes the eye that it cannot see.

"But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins" (II Pet. 1:9).

☞ Sin paralyzes the mouth that it cannot speak.

"He will keep the feet of his holy ones, but the wicked shall be put to silence in darkness" (I Sam. 2:9, ASV).

☞ Sin paralyzes the hand that it cannot work.

"I will early destroy all the wicked of the land; that I may cut off all wicked doers from the city of the LORD" (Ps. 101:8).

☞ Sin paralyzes the feet that they cannot go.

"I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come" (Jn. 8:21).

☞ Sin paralyzes the ear that it cannot hear.

"Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word" (Jn. 8:43).

☞ Sin paralyzes the heart that it cannot trust.

"But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin" (Heb. 3:13).

**Facts Do Not Cease To Exist Just Because They Are Ignored!**

—Unknown

## "Talk About Being Old!"

Aude McKee, Madison, TN

**T**he church of God (I Cor. 1:9; II Cor. 1:1) existed long before the Catholic church or any Protestant denomination. It was founded on the first Pentecost following Christ's resurrection (Matt. 16:18; Acts 1:8, 2:1-27). Its members were identified by the name "Christian" and not by sectarian names (Acts 11:26, 26:28; I Pet. 4:16). The congregations were referred to as "churches of Christ" (Rom. 16:16) and more frequently as simply, "the church" (Matt. 18:17; Acts 5:11, 14:27, 18:22; Eph. 3:10). The phrase, "church of God" and "churches of Christ" simply denote ownership! The church belongs to God - He bought every member of it with the blood of His only begotten Son. Likewise, the church is the property of Jesus Christ because He purchased every member of it with His own blood (Acts 20:28).

There is no head but Jesus (Eph. 1:22-23, 5:23). The members met on the first day of the week to "break bread" (Acts 20:7), and to give of their material blessings (I Cor. 16:1-

2). Each local church had its own bishops (elders) and deacons (Phil. 1:1). Those who proclaimed Jesus as the crucified and risen Saviour taught people to "repent and be baptized ... for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:22-40).

The church about which you read in the New Testament is no less than 600 years older than the Catholic church, and 1500 years older than the oldest Protestant Church.

### Editor's Note:

With the overwhelming Scriptural proof that has been laid before us by Brother McKee, why would we want to belong to any church except the church found in the Bible? Can any other group make the claims that the church of Christ can? No, sir!

No other group can make these claims because they were not built upon the foundation of Christ (I Cor. 3:11). The church found in the New Testament was founded upon the confession that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God (Matt. 16:16). No other group was established in this way. To those who are members of churches not found in the Bible, we would remind them of the words of Jesus who said, "Every plant which my Heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted up" (Matt. 15:1-13).  
-JJ

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Our address is: 2920 New Hartford Rd. Owensboro, KY 42303.

### **MEETING TIMES:**

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**Sunday Morning Worship** \_\_\_\_\_ **10:20 am**  
**Sunday Evening Worship** \_\_\_\_\_ **6:00 pm**  
**Wednesday Evening Bible Study** \_\_\_\_\_ **7:00 pm**

Our call-in radio program is on **WBIO, FM 94.7**, Sunday afternoon from 12:30-1:00 pm. **Call: 683-9246 (WBIO)** with your Bible question.

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