

# THE ONE BODY.

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## INTRO.:

### A. **Acts 2** marks the beginning of the Christian Age. The pivotal point in New Testament Christianity.

- Several important points are seen in this chapter.
  - For our study, we will focus on the church's establishment.
  - The world's view is far from what we see in Scripture.
- Acts 2** overview:
  - Vss. 1-13: The apostles received the full measure of the Holy Spirit.**
  - Vss. 14-36: Peter's sermon.**
  - Vss. 37-47: The result of the gospel message.**
- In this chapter, we see God's plan and O/T prophecies being fulfilled.
- A wonderful introduction of the Lord's church to mankind!

### B. The world says, "Go to the church of your choice."

- Why do we find so many different churches?
- Is it true that all are correct?

### C. Has God said anything concerning this matter?

- Ephesians 4:4** says there is one body.
- What is this one body? **Ephesians 1:22-23; Colossians 1:18, 24.**
- Body = church/1 Body = 1 church.

### D. When a thing is established, at least three things will be in place.

- Place.
- Person.
- Time

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| If the place, person, and time are not correct, the establishment cannot be correct! |
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## I. WHAT SAYETH THE SCRIPTURES?

### A. The Bible unfolds the prophecy, the establishment, and the destiny of the one church.

- READ \*\*\***
  - Isaiah 2:1-3 (Joel 2; Dan. 2).**
  - Matthew 16:15-19.**
  - Luke 24:45-49.**
  - Acts 1:1-5.**
  - Acts 2:1-3; 2:33-38; 2:40-41; 2:46-47.**
- From these verses, we can identify the place, the person, and the time the N/T was established.

### B. The N/T church is important! It is valuable!

- First, Christ died to purchase it (**Acts 20:28**).
- The saved are in it (**Ephesians 5:23** "Christ is the head of the church: and he is the Saviour of the body." **Colossians 1:13** "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.")

## II. OTHER RELIGIOUS GROUPS.

### A. Notice carefully the PLACE, PERSON, AND TIME OF ESTABLISHMENT.

- 1830 - Joseph Smith - Fayette, N. Y. = Mormon.
- 1739 - John Wesley - London, Eng. = Methodist.
- 1607 - John Smythe - England = Baptist.
- 1536 - John Calvin - Switzerland = Presbyterian.
- 1859 - A group - Kentucky = Christian Church.

B. What is wrong with each of these?

### III. HOW DOES ONE GET INTO THE N/T CHURCH?

- A. Exactly as they did in the first century (**Acts 2:38; 22:16; 8:36-38; 1 Corinthians 12:13**).
- B. Then we must live faithfully (**1 John 1:7, 9; Rev. 2:10; 1 Cor. 15:58**).

### IV. CONCLUSION:

- A. The conclusion is unmistakable.
  - 1. The one body means one church (**Ephesians 4:4; 1:22-23**).
  - 2. The one church is the only place where salvation is found (**Ephesians 5:23** “... Christ is the head of the church; and he is the savior of the body.”)
  - 3. Entrance into the one church requires baptism for remission of sins (**1 Corinthians 12:13; Acts 2:47**).
- B. God’s word declares that there is ONE church. Without doubt, this means there cannot be more than one.