



# The Church VS the Churches

BIBLE AUTHORITY – PART 2



THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH'S FOUNDATION:

**Jesus, the Apostles, and the N.T.**

# Foundation

- ▶ Jesus is the church's foundation, being its sacrifice for sin and its lawgiver – 1 Cor. 3:11; Heb. 1:1-2; Jn. 6:63; Acts 3:22-23
- ▶ Because Christ's words were revealed to all through the apostles, they too are part of this foundation – Eph. 2:19-21
  - ▶ Christ's complete truth was revealed by the Holy Spirit to the apostles – Jn. 16:12-14
  - ▶ The apostle revealed these words by preaching – 1 Thess. 2:13
  - ▶ The apostles revealed Christ's words by writing the N.T. – 1 Cor. 14:37; Eph. 3:4; 1 Tim. 3:14-15
- ▶ The true church understands that the only foundation upon which to build is Christ and His words revealed for us in His N.T. – Luke 6:46-48



THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH ACKNOWLEDGES

**Christ's Words Have Complete  
Authority**

# N.T. Has Complete Authority

- ▶ The N.T. has complete authority over the church...
  - ▶ Because Jesus had complete authority – Mt. 28:18-20
  - ▶ Because Jesus is head over all things to the church – Eph. 1:22-23
  - ▶ Because Jesus said we can't separate His authority from His words – Lk. 6:46
- ▶ Christ's church recognizes His word revealed in the N.T. as having complete authority over its doctrine and practice – Mt. 7:21-23



THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

**Limits Its Doctrine and Practice  
to what is Revealed in the N.T.**



# The N.T. is the True Church's ONLY Guide

- ▶ The N.T. is the one and only means of knowing God's will today – 1 Cor. 2:11-13
- ▶ The true church obeys the N.T. without addition or subtraction – Rev. 22:18-19
- ▶ The true church does not seek to justify its doctrine and practices based on the SILENCE of the Scriptures.
  - ▶ This restrictive principle of *God's silence* was stated long ago – 2 Sam. 7:4-7
  - ▶ Silence does not authorize action – Acts 15:24
  - ▶ Those who act on God's silence would not be so accepting of others acting on their silence!