

CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Independent)
Restoration Movement

I. HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

a. Reformation Principles

1. Priesthood of all believers
2. Bible, the only authority
3. Right and duty of private judgment

b. Restoration Movement: Restore the New Testament Church
(Disciples of Christ)

1. Thomas Campbell (1807) Old Light Anti Burger Seceder Presbyterian
2. Alexander Campbell
3. Raccoon John Smith

c. Present Status (5,000,000 + members)

1. Church of Christ (non-instrumental) 1906
2. Christian Church @ 1926
3. Disciples of Christ (organizational)

II. BASIC BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

a. Ancient Name: Christian

1. Acts 11:26, 26:28, 1 Peter 4:16
2. Barton W. Stone "We are not only Christians, but we are Christians only"

b. Ancient Book: Bible

1. 11 Timothy 3:16, 17, Hebrews 4:12, 13
2. Thomas Campbell "If we follow the bible only, we will be Christians only"
3. "Where the bible speaks, we speak, where the Bible is silent, we are silent"
4. "In essentials unity, in non-essential liberty, and in all things love"
5. "No Creed but Christ: No Book but the Bible"

c. Ancient Order of things

1. Alexander Campbell "Do things in bible ways, call Bible things by Bible names"
2. Polity
 - a. Autonomous congregation
 - b. Lead by Elders and Deacons (1 Timothy 3)
3. Ordinances (Sacraments)
 - a. Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7)
 - b. Baptism (by immersion) Romans 6:3-5

d. Ancient Gospel

1. Walter Scott, Evangelist
2. "No Creed but Christ"
 - a. Hear
 - b. Believe
 - c. Repent
 - d. Confess
 - e. Be baptized
 - f. Receive Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38)

111. GROWTH OF THE MOVEMENT

a. History of Growth

1. Between 1830-1960 members grew by 900%, population of country 300%
2. 1860-1900 grew by 500%, twice the rate of population growth
3. By 1900 R.M. was 45 x's as large as 1830
4. By 1900 new churches at the rate of 1,, per year
5. Restoration was an idea whose time had come

b. History of Division and Stagnation

1. We became a monument
2. Divided 1906 non-instrumental, 1923 Christ from Disciples
3. Changed focus from evangelism to unity and doctrinal purity (to minute details)
4. Now disciples—20% last 20 years
5. Non-instrumental—beginning to decline
6. Christian Church—holding even, just now signs of growth

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