

The Passion of Christ

*A Sermon Preached By
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I have noted that very few in our movement are making printed sermons available to the public. I am endeavoring to publish one sermon per month and hope that they will prove to be a blessing to someone along the journey of life. These sermons were first preached in the auditorium of Berean Baptist Church to our dear people. I am grateful to these dear people for allowing me to be their Pastor.

I am indeed thankful to my wife, Linda Baity, for encouraging me to put these sermons in print.

I am also thankful for my secretary, Mrs. Lisa Shutt, and the many hours she spent typing, correcting and retyping these pages.

"The weakest and unworthiest of human instrumentalities can sow the seed, Gods Word. The life is not in the sower, but in the seed." (Walter B. Knight)

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If you have your Bibles, would you turn with me to the book of I Peter chapter 2? I Peter 2:21-25 *“For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.”*

Disqualified People Do Not Qualify

Let's just suppose tonight that we are going to have a conference here in a few minutes and maybe not even conference, just a person to person meeting. We are going to plan some things here for our church. Easter is just around the corner and then before you realize it, Christmas is going to be upon us. We just decided that we are going to put on an Easter Passion Play/Drama. We are going to get different characters to play different parts. We are going to get the Marys' to come to the tomb, we are going to get somebody to represent the resurrection of Christ, and we are going to get eye witnesses that can testify of course to the resurrection of Jesus. However, we need somebody who can play the part of Mary. We get in a little quandering. Someone says I think this person would be a good candidate to play the part. Someone else recommends another candidate; first thing you know we've got about 12 or 15 ladies nominated to play the part of Mary. But, I can see that it is causing division. So I say, "Let's do this, all of you would make good Marys no doubt about it. Even those that are not going to play the part of Mary would make a good Mary. But, to keep down a quandra in the church and make sure no one will get their feelings hurt, let's do this. Let's go outside of the church and find somebody to play the part of Mary. When I say Mary, I am talking about Mary Magdalene, not Mary the Mother of Jesus. Let's find somebody to play the part of Mary Magdalene." And you say to me, "Preacher, who do you think we ought to get?" I say, "Well, you know, if we really read about her background, and see the kind of person she was, to really represent that character, the way that character ought to be represented, I

think we ought to check around and see if there is anyone in the Winston-Salem, Greensboro, High Point area that is involved in pornography. We should find someone who makes their living in x-rated pornography. That is their thing. Who else could play the part better than somebody who is taken up in some kind of x-rated film making?" You'd say, "Preacher, you have gone off your rocker. You know good and well we are not going to come to church and be part of an Easter Sunrise service or an Easter Service where we watch a lady play Mary in a drama, who last night was stripping somewhere in a pornography joint." You know what? You're right! That has no place in that which names the name of Jesus. That has no place in that which associates itself with the Son of God. Let me take it a step farther. We are going to talk about the cross. Just before we have the resurrection, we are going to put together the setting of Calvary. We need somebody to play the part of Jesus. However, to keep down contention in the church, maybe we better go outside of the church. Maybe we better find somebody that, well let's say they are dedicated, consecrated, devoted to Catholicism. Let's go get us a Catholic. Now in order for us to find out more about this resurrection, and more about the death of Christ, let's just go outside of Baptist theology. I mean we have heard Baptist theology all of our life, maybe it would be more enticing both to the Catholics and to the Baptist if we just become ecumenical. Suppose we go downtown to one of the major Catholic churches and we ask to get one of their priests to come over here and maybe have a couple of services. They can indoctrinate us about Christ and give us some information on how to put on a great passion for Christ. Let's get the Catholics to teach us. You know and I know that won't fly. You know and I know that we are not going to have a pornography star to come in here and tell us how we are suppose to live. You know and I know that we are not going to have someone come in here from the Catholic Church downtown and play the part of Jesus. We are not going to have a priest from the Catholic Church come here and try to teach us how Jesus died. They are not going to teach us the same thing in the same way that we have been taught. Are you with me? How many of you know where I'm going? Then you better not go see Mr. Gibson's The Passion of Christ. You say, "Preacher, you just ruined my night." I'm trying to help you and I hope you will follow me. I want to tell you something, it is amazing how far removed we have gotten from the reformation and from the theology of scriptures.

Catholic Jesus

Churches by the hundreds across America are buying tickets today and tonight and this week and next week and next month to watch a Catholic Jesus. Most of them won't even go on visitation! They will go down there and watch a Catholic Jesus and will have animosity in their heart against a Preacher like this, who preaches against a Catholic movie. I don't want to shock you too bad tonight, but I want to tell you, the Jesus in The Passion of Christ of Mr. Mel Gibson is not the Jesus that I know. He is a made up, fictitious, so called Jesus that the Catholic Church has propped up, which is not the Jesus of the Biblical Calvary. The Jesus of the Catholic Church is not the Jesus that is my Savior. You stay with me. You say, "Preacher, how do you come to that conclusion?" Because, the Jesus of the Catholic Church can't save the Catholics. I'm just telling you what they say. They say that in order for you to be saved, you have to do about seven things which they spell out. If you don't do those seven things and trust Jesus, you've got to go to Purgatory. That is not my Jesus. I don't care how they parade this so called Jesus before the people in America, the truth is the people of America have been handed a bill of goods. They are saying, "Man, this is the greatest thing we have ever seen." I'm hearing of churches everywhere that are buying up tickets. A church in California has already bought 15,000 tickets to take their people to see the Passion of Christ. The Catholic Church is laughing 24 hours a day. Do you know why they're laughing? Because now the Catholic Church is saying, "They split off from us and started the Protestant Reformation. We used to teach them, but they rebelled against us and went out, and started their own reformation. They started their own churches, and they got their own teachers, and they wouldn't let us teach them." Oh, but they're laughing now, you know why? Because now, they're teaching us again. They're teaching us again! Because the Passion of Christ is Catholic through and through. I'm going to give you some quotes tonight from the people of the Passion of Christ. I will tell you what they say. Then if you can stand up and tell me that movement is of God, then we have some serious problems. The Catholic Church has been responsible for a hundred million Christians being killed. In the Inquisition, they killed Christians by the tens of thousands. It's not by accident that this movie had its beginning today. This is a

big day for Catholics. Today is the first day of Lent. That's a Catholic dogma. Lent is forty days of fasting that ends on Easter eve. Now their definition of forty days of fasting means, they don't eat fish on Friday. That's their definition. And they don't eat meat on Sunday for their fasting. The Passion of Christ, is the beginning this year of the first day of Lent. It's planned that way because it's Catholic. I've had a lot of people ask me, Preacher, what do you think about The Passion of Christ? I'll be honest with you, up front I wasn't sure. I'm glad that the name of Jesus is being broadcast on television. It's being broadcast over the radio. But it's a shame that it has to be broadcast in such a manner to represent something that is so off the center. Listen, when I don't know about something that's coming down the pipe about my Savior, I'm going to do some research. I'm going to look behind the scenes, because I want to know what's going on. I realize the devil is an angel of light, going about seeking whom he may devour. He appears on the scenes just like the Vatican in Rome. If you watch them around Christmas, you will be amazed. At New Year's Eve Mass, the cameras of the world come to Vatican Square, and zoom in on the Pope. You look at the finery, and the beautiful buildings, and the utensils, and the garb, and the procedures, and all they're doing, and you say, Man, isn't that something? That is something! That's the services of the whore of Revelation 17 and 18 that's going to eventually end up in the pit of hell for ever and ever. Why in the name of God would I want to be a part of something the Catholic Church is putting on? I wouldn't walk across the street to hear a Catholic priest.

The Passion – Introducing People to Catholicism

Now, follow me closely. The Catholic Church has recently launched a website to promote The Passion as a means of recruiting multitudes of people into the Catholic Church. You see, the Catholic Church has been losing people for years. Now they see this Catholic picture as a way to recruit people back into the Catholic Church. Now, the church, in this film has said absolutely nothing against the priest, or baptismal regeneration. They've said absolutely nothing against the celibacy, which is one of the big lies of the Bible. The diocese in the northern states of our country has been sued to the tune of bankruptcy because the people that tried and practiced celibacy found that they had a burning nature within them, a lustful nature. That nature preyed on young boys, altar boys. You know the story, the rest of it is history. They don't tell you about

the rosary. They are not going to mention the Pope. They are not going to say a lot about Mary worship, although I'll get to that in a minute. It's sprinkled in there. They are not going to talk about the sacraments. Not now, it's not time for that. Once they get you in, then they will indoctrinate you. They are not going to say much to you right now about infant sprinkling, baptizing of babies. They are not going to talk to you right now about the perpetual virginity of Mary. How that, although she had Jesus, yet she remained a virgin. The truth is in the gospel of Mark, Jesus had brothers. He had other people in his family. He had brothers and sisters. He was not the only child of Mary and she was not a perpetual virgin. They are not going to talk to you about the confessionals.

Mel Gibson and the Council of Trent

Let me tell you something about this movie. Let me share with you something first of all about Mel Gibson. By the way, there is probably not a film that Mel Gibson has ever put out that Jesus Christ would OK. If there is one, you let me know. Mr. Mel Gibson has someone who every week of his life gives him the Mass in Latin. He still abstains from meat on Friday. Mr. Mel Gibson has his own church in California. It is called the Holy Family church. He has given to his church, personally, \$5.1 million for operations. It is amazing that Mr. Gibson's church has an unlisted phone number. Mr. Gibson's church doesn't have a listed address and he tells the few people that might get involved in his church not to give anyone their phone number or their address. Sounds like a real independent, fundamental, soul-winning church doesn't it. One of the things about Mr. Mel Gibson is, he doesn't accept what is called Vatican II. He accepts what is called the Council of Trent. Let me tell you the difference. The Council of Trent in the Catholic Church made a decree and said over 100 times in their Council that anyone that is not a Catholic is accursed to Hell forever. Vatican II came out a little later and became a little more modern. Vatican II had more of an evangelistic appeal. Vatican II reached out to appeal to more people. But, the Council of Trent which consigns you and me to Hell forever is what Mr. Mel Gibson still endorses. You know what Mr. Mel Gibson says? You know why he's got the film out? He wants to get you and the people that are not in the Catholic Church indoctrinated into the Catholic Church according to the Council of Trent. Mr. Gibson says that if we don't become a part of the Catholic Church we have already been further accursed by God. That is what Mr. Mel Gibson says. Mr.

Mel Gibson said, “When I was 35 years of age, I started praying the prayers of St. Bridgette. That really helped me understand what the passion was all about. Now I want to share it with others.” When you view the movie, you are becoming a part of the prayer he prayed to a Saint when he was 35-years-old. I wonder who is answering his prayer. According to the Word of God, God can’t answer that kind of praying. In the making of the movie, he had Roman Catholic theological advisers. How amazing that The Passion of Christ has the endorsement of Pope John Paul II, who said and I quote, “It is as it was.” Do you think I want to spend one minute listening to the Pope, who says he is the spokesman for the Catholic Church and the world. Do you think that I want to spend one minute of my time looking at something he approved? Listen, we are as far apart as a piano in a Church of Christ convention. John Caviezel played the part of Jesus in the movie. Here is the man that got up about 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning to play the part of Jesus. He is a dedicated, bonified Catholic. Please listen. Jesus Christ was not a Catholic. John Caviezel, who played Jesus in the movie, said “that the filming of the movie prompted many in the crew to convert to, not Christianity, but to Catholicism”. He said that many of the people on the set had become Catholics.” You say, “Preacher Baity, do you believe there will be any Catholics in Heaven?” I want to tell you what the Bible says. I know this is a radical statement. I want to tell you something. If a person is a Catholic in the strictest sense of Catholic doctrine, they cannot be saved. Catholicism is a religion of works. He said, we have a lot of people on the set that converted to Catholicism. Mel Gibson said about the movie, The Passion of Jesus Christ, “it reflects my belief”. I guess it does Mr. Gibson, you are Catholic. A person who was interviewing Mel Gibson said, “Mr. Gibson, I am a protestant and I wonder whether your pre-Vatican world view disqualifies me from salvation? Mr. Gibson, I am a protestant, am I disqualified from salvation?” Here is his answer, “There is no salvation for those outside the church (talking about the Catholic Church). Put it this way, my wife is a Saint. She is a much better person than I am, honestly. She is like Episcopalian, Church of England. She prays, she believes in God, she knows Jesus, she believes in that stuff and if she doesn’t make it, she is better than I am, but that is a pronouncement from the chair I go with it.” Now listen, when he said that is a “pronouncement from the chair, I go with it”, he is saying what the Pope says. What he is saying is, my wife, although she

is a good woman and she prays and believes in God and knows Jesus and is better than I am, she probably won't make it although she is better than I am, however she probably won't make it. Why? Because she is not a Catholic and he said I make that assumption on the pronouncement from the chair. Rome has said that in order to get to Heaven, you've got to convert to Catholicism. He said my own wife is going to Hell because she is not a Catholic.

Sacraments are not Biblical

What about the film and the sacraments? Again, the man who played Jesus, told Mel Gibson, "I think it is very important that we have mass everyday I need Mass to play this guy". I want to tell you something tonight, Mr. Gibson and Mr. What ever you call your name that is playing the part of Jesus, my Savior is not a "guy". My mother was in the hospital in intensive care. The Doctor and some of the interns were standing in a huddle a few feet from my momma's bed. I heard them on several occasions call my mother, "that old woman". Bad move. I walked right over in the middle of their huddle and I said, "Do you see that woman lying over there in that bed? That woman lying over there in that bed is not an "old woman" that woman lying over there in that bed is my mother and from this point forward I expect you to reverence her as such." I want it go on record tonight that my Saviour is not just a "guy". My Saviour is not just some old foggy up yonder with a lawn chair and unable to function. My Saviour is Jesus Christ the Son of God! He is as much God now as he was ten million years ago. He is as much God now as He was when He walked among us. He's never, never, never ceased to be God. He shall always be God. He is not a "guy" and I have a disdain for people who would look at my Saviour and say, "He is just another guy." He is not another "guy". John Caviezel, who played Jesus, told Mel Gibson, "I have been praying for us to have Mass at least once everyday. I need that to play this guy." And then he said this, "I felt if I was going to play Him I needed the sacraments in me." So everyday, Mel Gibson provided the sacraments in the guy that played the part of Jesus. "Well now you say Preacher, what in the world is a sacrament?" He had to have it everyday he said. He had to have that in him in order to play the part of Jesus. Let me tell you what the Catholic Church teaches the sacraments are. Here I am quoting their definition of the sacrament. "The church affirms that for believers, the sacraments of the new covenant are necessary for

salvation.” The Catholic Church says you have to have the sacraments in order to be saved. Then why do you need Jesus? I’ve got a question for you Mel Gibson; I’ve got a question for the Catholic Church. If the Catholic Church that you are a bonified part of, says that you must have the sacraments to be saved, why do you want to put on the Passion? Why do you need Jesus if you have the sacraments? Idiots. They say there are seven sacraments. 1) In order to be saved, the Catholic Church, Mel Gibson, and the man that played Jesus, said, in order to be saved you have to be baptized. You think I want to go through them to learn something about the sufferings of Jesus when they don’t even believe that the sufferings of Jesus are sufficient. I don’t think so. They say you have to be baptized. 2) In order to be saved you have to have confirmation. 3) You have to have Eucharist. 4) You have to do penance. 5) Anointing of the sick. 6) Holy Orders and 7) Matrimony. Amazing that marriage is a sacrament when they teach you have to be a nun. That is a contradiction of terms. They have priests who can’t marry and yet one of the sacraments is matrimony. Well, the Bible says in Romans 3:20, *“Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”* You know what they are saying in the sacraments? They are saying that you have to submit to the Catholic Church because in their terminology, the Catholic Church is the only one that can give the sacraments. So in order to receive the sacraments, and in order to be saved, you have to become a Catholic and if you don’t become a Catholic, you can’t be saved. So they are not putting on the Passion to get people saved. That is what a lot of liberal Baptist and liberal Methodist and Protestants believe. Salvation is not their purpose, because, they don’t believe that. They believe the sufferings of Jesus wrongly also. Their preference is to get people into the Catholic faith. Gibson said that the script of The Passion of Christ was specifically intended to link the crucifixion of Christ with what Roman Catholics believe is the re-sacrificing of Christ that occurs in the Mass. Here is what the Roman Catholic Church teaches. Every time you go to Mass and the Priest puts the wafer in your mouth, it turns into the literal body and suffering of Jesus. I want you to follow me here. They do not believe that the sufferings of Christ ended. I want you to watch this. I am about to get into something here that is going to show you the error of this garbage. They believe that the sufferings of Jesus are ongoing and that every time that wafer from that Priest is placed in your mouth Jesus Christ bodily suffers all

over again. What is one of the prominent focuses of the Catholic Church? The crucifix. What does it show all of the time? Christ on the Cross. Why? Because they believe that the sufferings of Christ continue each time you put the wafer in your mouth. They believe He continues to suffer. That is the reason for the Passion of Christ. They say He is still suffering and they want you to understand how much He suffered yet the suffering they are talking about is not even the suffering of redemption. It is the external suffering. I want to say once again what I just said. You had better get hold of this. The suffering they make Jesus look like He suffers such a horrible death, and He did, is not the suffering of Salvation. Nobody saw that suffering. That was solely between the Father and the Son. During those three hours on that Cross when Jesus became sin for us, nobody ever saw that. They are just portraying what Rome did externally to our Saviour because that is the emphasis of Catholicism. You had better get hold of this! You are going to see how foolish this garbage is.

Extra Biblical Revelations

Now concerning the script of The Passion of Christ they would have you to believe that the movie is based entirely on the Gospel of John. Not so! In fact there is nothing farther from the truth. There is much extra biblical revelation incorporated into it. Let me tell you where some of the things in the movie came from. Let me tell you where Mel Gibson got his inspiration to do The Passion of Christ. From a 18th century nun who had extra Biblical revelation and her extra Biblical revelation was put in a book. The book was published as well as I can remember about 1920 - 1924. In that book, she listed what God gave to her about the sufferings of Christ on the Cross. Her revelations are not in the Gospels of the Word of God. Mel Gibson was in the library one day and picked up her book. He read in her book revelations beyond the scripture. He said that as he read that book, he got inspiration to do The Passion of Christ. I want to ask you something. Do you think that God is going to give someone a Passion from somebody that had visions and dreams beyond Bible truths who received revelations that are not even recorded in the Word of God? Do you think one skinny minute that God is going to work that way? I want to tell you something, God doesn't work in extra Biblical revelation. I don't care if it is a Catholic Church, Charismatic movement, or Baptist movement. When you tread on any ground over and beyond this Book you are on thin

ice and you are going to break through. Her name was Sister Anne Emmorach. Her work was entitled The Dolorous Passion of Christ. As a result of the Passion that he got out of this nuns book, he began The Passion of Christ. Now, this church has been taught for years. You would not accept somebody coming to this pulpit with a Revised Standard Edition of the Bible trying to preach unto you another Jesus. Then, why would you want to go somewhere and see somebody that is trying to tell you about Jesus who got his Passion from a revelation outside of the Bible. There are some scenes, although they may be brief, in that movie that came out of a book that a nun supposedly received from God. You wouldn't let a preacher stand in this pulpit and preach out of an RSV. But, churches all over the country are eating it up. They think it is the greatest thing since ice cream and apple pie. Of course, Mel Gibson has changed the person of Jesus into a long hair person. You say, how do you know he didn't have long hair? Because of what the Bible says. He said in the book of I Corinthians that it is a shame for a man to have long hair. Listen, there is not one contradiction in this Bible! My Saviour would not have long hair and then turn around and approve it in His Word. That is a contradiction of terms and there are no contradiction from my Saviour, none. Part of the make up that Mel Gibson used to make Jesus look like he suffered so horribly came from the Shroud of Turin. He read about the history of the Shroud of Turin. Supposedly they found this shroud that at one time covered the body of Jesus and had blood stains on it. They believed the shroud covered the body of Jesus. They wrote books about it and essays and did movies on it. Nothing has ever been substantiated and if they proved it, I don't know what in the flip it would mean. I don't need a Shroud of Turin to find out about my Saviour, I have the Bible! People won't accept what the Bible says. They have to go out somewhere and get a bunch of high paid Hollywood actors and sluts and harlots. They talk about Jesus and get excited and shed crocodile tears, yet, they don't believe the Bible. God help us!

Wrong Bible

The Bible that Mel Gibson used was the Revised Standard Version which calls Mary a "young woman" in Isaiah 7:14. It is amazing what the harlot who played Mary Magdalene, the porn lady, said about Mary. "She really didn't need to be saved." That is what she said. But, then what else would you expect from a harlot. She also said about

Mary, “She was already a strong, independent woman. What Jesus did for her wasn’t to save her from sin, but Jesus gave her love and acceptance and purpose and direction for her life.” That is what churches today want to hear. Love, pat them on the end of their nose, rub them behind their ears. “Oh, you are so sweet. And you are so cute and you are one of God’s children. After all, we are all God’s children. By the way, that is what Mel Gibson is saying. I’ve got the quote in my office. He said, “We are all God’s children!” Then why are you trying to portray the sufferings of Christ? What is the purpose of His sufferings if we are going to Heaven anyway? That doesn’t make any sense. The man, who played Jesus, gives Mary a lot of credit. I’m talking about the Mother of Jesus. If the next statement doesn’t speak conviction to you, then either you or I are beyond help, and I think I know who it is. Caviezel, who played Jesus said, “This film is something that I believe was made by Mary for her son.” That is a statement from the man who played Jesus. That is the man that took the sacrament everyday. He said, “I want Him in me everyday”.

Christ is Received by Faith

It’s is amazing that he received Christ in a piece of bread; I received Him by faith, didn’t you? I have Him everyday! I don’t have to go look up a Priest to get Jesus, I already have Him, Hallelujah! He is already there; He is not going anywhere unless I go with Him. I’m not going anywhere unless He goes with me. By the way, the wife of the man who played Jesus has the same séances that the nun had who gave him the Passion for The Passion of Christ. Mary is suppose to have appeared to that nun and is supposed to have made an appearance to the man who played Jesus. Here is what she said, “I pray that we are open to where Mary is leading us and in all the places where we go and we meet around the world we may bring these messages.” Mary is given the ability in the film to see Satan physically behind the scenes manipulating. That is what they say she is able to do today. And today Mary is holding the Heart of God for Brother Larry; Mary is holding the heart of God for Brother David, so that when you pray, she is the intermediary. Listen, this thing is rotten to the core and people have swallowed it hook line and sinker. You want that kind of people coming in here teaching spiritual truths. God have mercy.

The True Sufferings of Calvary

What is the true meaning of Calvary? The film as I said misses the whole purpose of Calvary. Listen, I said this earlier and I want to say it in closing; the most severe sufferings of Calvary were not the outward sufferings that were portrayed in that movie. I want you to remember this. The Roman Catholic Church believes that His suffering continues through the crucifix and through the mass. The greatest torment that our Saviour experienced at Calvary was not the nails that were driven into His hands and His feet, not the spear that was thrust in His side, not the crown of thorns that was placed on His head. Calvary was all about Him being made sin for us that man might be saved! Calvary is about Him vicariously suffering the righteous punishment of the Father in our place. That is not in Mel Gibson's film. Calvary is about the place where God gives to us in our filthiness His righteousness and takes our filthiness away from us. It is about Him becoming accursed for us. It is about God placing on Him what is not seen by Mel Gibson's Christ. Peter said, He died for the unjust! There is a vast difference in physical pain and the agony of sin bearing. Let me say that again. There is a vast difference in physical pain and the agony of sin bearing. I John 4:10, "*Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*" That is my Saviour. That is your Saviour tonight if you are saved. I could go on, I'm going to stop. I don't like to lift up that garbage any more than I have to. Paul said in the book of Galatians, if someone comes to you and preaches another Christ which I have not preached unto you, let him be accursed. Did you hear what I said? It is not the Roman Catholic Church that has the power to accurse us, it is God that has the power to accurse those that bypass His son. The greatest disappointment that is going to ever come to any human being is one split second after the Pope dies and he awakens in the flame that burns and he learns that he wasn't the head of the church after all. You say, "Preacher that is a tough statement you just made." I make it without any apologies. There is not but one head of the church that I am a part of and His name is Jesus Christ. I make no allusions about it; Jesus Christ is the head of the Church!