

What Denominationalism Does to Jesus Christ

Franklin Church of Christ
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AM Worship

- I. Denominationalism *mocks* Jesus' fervent prayer for unity (**John 17:20-23**).
- II. Denominationalism represents a lack of faith in God and in His revealed will.
 - A. It is an expression of unbelief.
 - B. It represents disrespect for the word of God.
- III. Denominationalism also *produces* or *causes unbelief* (**John 17:20-21**).
- IV. Denominationalism makes Jesus Christ *contradict* Himself.
 - A. Conflicting teachings of Denominationalism:
 1. Babies born in sin vs. Babies born innocent
 2. Babies must be baptized vs. Babies don't have to be baptized
 3. Sprinkling or pouring is o.k. for baptism vs. Baptism must be by immersion only
 4. Baptism isn't necessary to be saved vs. Baptism is absolutely essential for salvation
 5. Piano in worship is o.k. vs. Piano in worship is not o.k.
 6. Some predestined to be saved or lost vs. No one is predestined to be saved or lost
 - B. Therefore I exhort you, be imitators of me. For this reason I have sent to you Timothy, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, and he will remind you of my ways which are in Christ, just as I teach everywhere in every church. (**1 Corinthians 4:16-17**)
- V. Denominationalism makes Jesus Christ a *hypocrite* in His teaching.
 - A. Would Jesus teach conflicting doctrines?
 1. People are saved by faith only vs. People are saved by faith coupled with works of obedience
 2. Divorce is permitted for any reason vs. Divorce [and remarriage] is only permitted on the basis of fornication
 - B. Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? (**Luke 6:46**)
- VI. Denominationalism sets forth Jesus as *unfair* and *unjust*.
 - A. Opening his mouth, Peter said: "I most certainly understand that God is not one to show partiality, But in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him." (**Acts 10:34-35**)
- VII. Denominationalism makes Jesus an *incompetent* Lord.
- VIII. Denominationalism makes Jesus Christ the author of *confusion*.
 - A. "Would to God that all party names, and unscriptural phrases and forms which have divided the Christian world, were forgot... that the very name (Methodist mr) might never be mentioned more, but be buried in eternal oblivion." John Wesley, Universal Knowledge, Vol. 9, p.540
 - B. "I look forward to the day when there will not be a Baptist living! I hope that the Baptist name will soon perish, but let Christ's name last forever." Charles Spurgeon, Spurgeon's Memorial Library, Vol. 1, p. 168
 - C. "Let us abolish all party names and call ourselves Christians, after him whose teaching we hold... I hold, together with the universal church, the one universal teaching of Christ, who is our only Master." Martin Luther, 1522 (www.mb-soft.com)

Conclusion:

What does denominationalism do to Christ?

1. It mocks Jesus' prayer for unity
2. It is an expression of unbelief
3. It produces unbelief in Christ
4. Makes Jesus contradict Himself
5. Makes Jesus a hypocrite
6. Sets forth Jesus as unfair & unjust
7. Makes Jesus an incompetent Lord
8. Makes Jesus the author of confusion