

A Demonstration to the Christians in Name, Without the Nature of it.

How they hinder the Conversion of the Jews. With an exhortation to them to come into the true nature and life of Christianity, which the Apostles and primitive Christians were in, who converted many of the Jews.

Which nature and life of Christianity is herein declared according to the scriptures, and by which alone the Jews may now be convinced and converted.

—By George Fox

The usual saying of the Jews is, 'when the Messiah is come, he will make all things new,' according to Isa 43:18-19, which also is testified to in 2 Cor 5:17, Rev 21:5.

But the Jews say, 'most of Christendom (so called), are in the old things, like the heathens, as their life and practice does demonstrate, whose conducts, many of them, are like unto Sodom and Egypt.'

Therefore the Jews say, 'how could the christians think we would turn to them, many of whose conducts are in cursing, swearing, drunkenness, and uncleanness, which the law of Moses forbids, and the prophets? By the law of God, we Jews are not to swear by any created thing, but only swear by the Lord. Although many of our forefathers swore by the temple and other things, yet it was when they were degenerated from the law of God, and then some of them swore by Baal, and other heathenish gods, all which was forbidden by the law of God and his prophets. Seeing many of those who call themselves christians, swear wickedly, and vainly, and by creatures, and books, the Old and New Testament, which the law of God forbids; and therefore, as our prophets say, when the Messiah is come, he will make all things new in the new covenant, which is not according to the old: and if, therefore, we now should turn to you christians, we should turn again but into the practice of those old things which our law forbids; for the new covenant, which God promised to make, does exceed the old: and therefore, if we should turn to you christians, and practice those things which the heathens do below the old covenant, we should bring

ourselves under the judgment of the law of God and the prophets, and beneath what was commanded in our law.'

And therefore, all christians are to lay away all swearing and oaths, as Christ commanded, and cursing, drunkenness, fornication and uncleanness: for all christians' conducts should preach, as well as their tongues, a new life, and a new heart in the new covenant.

For, Christ said, 'unless your righteousness (namely, the christians, in the new covenant), exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees,' (in the old covenant), 'you will by no means enter the kingdom of God.'

But, if the christians' unrighteousness and ungodliness, their swearing, cursing, whoring, and profaneness, etc., exceeds the transgressing Jews, and many of the heathens, how can they then think to enter into the kingdom of God, seeing if they do enter into the kingdom of, God their righteousness must exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, the Jews in the old covenant?

Therefore, this is a great stumbling block to the Jews, who profess the old covenant, and hold that the Messiah has not come, because they seeing the bad lives and conducts of the christians, who profess the Messiah is come; and they claim to be children of the new covenant, while still living in the old nature and old things, like the heathen. Thus the so-called children of the new covenant exhibit in their lives and conducts, themselves to be below the righteousness required by Jews' law in the old covenant.

They should show forth a new life, and a new spirit, according as God has promised, and as the Jews believe, that when the Messiah comes, he will make all things new, as in Jer 31:31-36. And in Ezek 11:19, it is said, 'I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take away the stony heart.'

But do not we see this stony heart, and old spirit, in most of them called christians?

'And therefore, if the Messiah has come, as you profess, you are in the transgression of the new covenant, as our forefathers were of the old covenant; and you cannot find fault with us,' say the Jews.

In Ezek 18:31, they were commanded 'to cast away their transgressions, that they might have a new heart and a new spirit; for why will you die, said the Lord? for I have no pleasure, said he, in the death of him that dies'

And therefore, if the Jews remain in this old transgressing heart and spirit, in the death, from Christ the life, in which God has no pleasure; should not the

christians, which profess the new covenant, cast away their transgressions, swearing, whoring, lying, and drunkenness, theft, murder, and all uncleanness; that they might put off the old man with his deeds, and put on the new man, and so have a new heart and spirit, and a new life, serving God in the new and living way, manifesting that they are children of the new covenant, and not of the old, and so show forth the fruits of the Messiah's having come, and of their being in the new covenant in their lives and conducts. For the apostle said, 'their citizenship was in heaven.' And now let Christendom see where their citizenship is now, and has been these many hundred years.

And also, in Ezek 36, he speaks of the blessings of the kingdom of Christ, by way of prophecy, where the Lord said, 'he will make in them a new heart, and put his spirit within his people, and give them a heart of flesh, and sprinkle clean water upon them, that they may be cleansed from their filthiness, and from their idols, and take away the stony heart,' ...

And now let all those who profess christianity consider: how can they hope to convert the Jews with their stony heart, from one stony heart to another, and from one old spirit to another old spirit? No, if they are to be converted, it must be from the old to the new, from the old covenant to the new and living way.

And do you think the Jews can be converted to images, and idols? They will tell you, 'the law of God throughout the Old Testament forbids them, and their prophets, and their forefathers; making and worshipping images brought all those dreadful judgments upon them, and upon all their forefathers, because they went a whoring after images.' And now to see what multitudes of images and idols are set up among christians, who profess the new covenant, and that the Messiah has come, who was supposed to have made all things new.

Plus, the righteousness of the owners and receivers of this new covenant was supposed to exceed the righteousness of the professors of the old covenant; and yet they see so many of those called christians making molten images, and idols, which is below the law of Moses, and forbidden. Therefore, do the Jews say, 'how can you [possibly] think we might be converted to your Christianity.'

Therefore, it is good for all who profess christianity, to lay away all images and idols, and making of them, or bowing before them, and mind the image of God, which Christ in his new covenant renews his people up into, that you may show forth the effects of the new heart and new spirit, being wrought in you. And show that you abhor images and idols, having been cleansed from them, and that your hearts are sprinkled with the pure water by the word. Let it be seen that you are not grievous nor quenchers of the pure spirit of God, nor rebels against this new spirit, nor haters of the light, with which Christ enlightens you and everyone that comes into the world withal. For if you hate the light and

quench this spirit, do you desire to convert people to darkness, and the old spirit, and stony heart, that thus grieves the new? Therefore, as the apostle said, 'abhor the evil, and cleave to the good,' all you who are called christians.

All who profess themselves christians should come to wear the badge or garments of Christ, the heavenly man, and to have your old filthy garments put off, and to be clothed with the new garment, the righteousness of Christ. For all are clothed with the filthy garments, that are covered with the old spirit, while they are in transgression of the new covenant of light and life.

If any in that old spirit, and old heart, and covered with that old filthy garment, seeks to convert or bring people to themselves, they only bring them into the woes, where they themselves are; for the prophet Isaiah said, 'woe unto those who are covered, but not with my spirit, said the Lord.'

And those who are the true converts to Christ and God, they have the new spirit, new heart, and new mind, and walk in the new way, in the new and everlasting covenant, and their garments are made white with the blood of the life of the spotless Lamb, ordained before the foundation of the world. And these are the children of the new covenant, and do show forth in their lives and conduct the fruits of the new covenant.

And Jeremiah speaks of the new covenant in this manner, 'behold this is the new covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days,' ... and therefore, he said, 'behold the day is come, that I will make a new covenant;' and so tells them behold, or take notice of his prophecy. So this was after the days of the old covenant had done its service; for the law served until Christ the seed came. And so when this new covenant came, the old was to be abolished, which did wax old, and was to decay and vanish away. So Christ came with his new covenant, to take away the first, that he might establish the second covenant.

And now in the new covenant the Lord said, 'I will put my law in your inward parts, and I will write them in your hearts; I will be your God, and you shall be my people: and they shall not need to teach every man his neighbor, and brother, to say, know the Lord; for they shall all know me, from the least to the greatest of them, said the Lord; for I will be merciful to their iniquity, and I will remember their sins no more.'

And now, consider this, all you that profess yourselves christians, how the Jews will say, 'they do not see these fruits among you called christians, who profess the new covenant to have come, because your lives do not show forth this new spiritual law, written in your hearts and inward parts; but like people running into sin and iniquity, and drinking it up as the ox drinks up the water,' which the

Jews' forefathers were reprov'd for. And many teachers and professors plead for sin and a body of death to the grave, which is contrary to the law of God; for the old covenant commanded people to be holy; and the Lord commanded father Abraham, saying, 'walk before me, and be you perfect.'

Therefore, how can you think to convert the Jews, while you plead for a body of sin and death, who profess the new covenant, that takes away sin and iniquity?

And as for the papists; the Jews say, 'they tell them, they must have a purgatory, when they are dead, to cleanse them in; and set up nunneries and monasteries for men and women, that vow chastity, to live in. The Jews respond that there is no precedent for such practices in their old covenant or law.' And they are not in the practice of those who gave forth the new covenant; they neither preached, nor left upon record, anything of a purgatory for people to be cleansed in after they are dead. For the blood of the old covenant, which was the life of clean beasts and creatures, cleansed in the time of the law; but Christ, who makes all things new, in his new covenant, a Lamb ordained before the corruptible world was, or man was corrupted; he with his blood (his life), cleanses from all sin, and makes an end of sin, and finishes transgression, and brings in everlasting righteousness, according to Daniel's prophecy, who said, 'this is the work of the Messiah.'

Now, the Jews are not able to see a new work, or a new life and conduct among those who profess Christ and the new covenant. So instead of converting them, such conduct rather hardens than softens them to a possible conversion to Christ; they see the ungodly and unrighteous lives of the christians, who on the contrary, should exceed them in godliness, righteousness, and holiness, and in virtue, temperance, and soberness, and purity in life and conduct. That would be the way to win them, and convert the Jews, and make them believe the Messiah has come, and has made all things new. For to see the fruits of the new covenant, from a new heart and a new spirit, and you walking in the new and living way, where God and Christ have pleasure in those who so walk and live; this would preach to the Jews. If they could not be won by the preaching of the word, yet they might be won, by seeing the good and new life; for the apostle said, 'follow us as we follow Christ;' and everyone that receives Christ, is to walk in him, who was without sin and guile.

And the Jews say, 'in our old covenant we had our law in tables of stone, and in books; but in the new covenant, in the days of the Messiah, God writes his law in their hearts, and puts it in their inward parts; and shall no more teach every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, know the Lord: for all shall know him, from the least unto the greatest,' ...

And now, the Jews may tell the christians, 'if you were in this new covenant, then why do you set up so many schools and colleges to make priests in, and to learn so many languages, and then to give them such titles, as bachelors, and masters of arts, and doctors of divinity? Why do you say, when they have learned Latin, Greek, and Hebrew, that they have the original; which was not so accounted among us Jews in the old covenant; for Moses told us, the many languages began at Babel; and therefore, we cannot set up Latin and Greek to be the original. For Moses gives a relation from the beginning of things of the old world, all along to Noah's time, and to the time of the law, and he speaks nowhere that those tongues are the original; for if that were so, then they had no original before Babel.'

As for Hebrew, the Jews say, it was their natural mother tongue; and yet many of the Jews, who could speak natural Hebrew, Christ told them, 'they neither knew the scripture nor the power of God; for they persecuted him, and the prophets, and apostles.'

And then these, your priests, when they have served a time at the schools, and learned their natural languages and arts, are they not called ministers of the new covenant? But do they show forth the effects of the new spirit, and the new heart, and the fruits of the new and living way, and new covenant? If not, how are they like to convert the Jews, for the apostle said, in the new covenant, 'who is a wise man endued with knowledge among you, let him show out of a good conduct his works with meekness, and of wisdom from above, which is pure, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and hypocrisy; and the fruits of righteousness is sown in peace of those who make peace.'

The Jews may tell you, that the Romans who understood Latin and Greek, persecuted them; and they never looked upon their natural tongue to be the original.

But concerning your priests, when they have learned their lessons, and their arts, and natural languages, are they not all sworn? is not this contrary to the Jews in the old covenant? For the apostle said, 'the priests in the old time were not made by an oath,' as Heb 7:21. But Christ was made by an oath, who fulfils, finishes, and abolishes all oaths and swearing, and commands 'not to swear at all,' which is his doctrine in the new covenant, and the practice of the new heart and new spirit, in the new covenant, and new and living way; as you may see James walked in it, and said, 'above all things, my brethren, swear not, ... for fear that you fall into condemnation:' and Christ said, 'whatsoever is more than yes, yes, no, no, comes of evil.' So they go into evil and condemnation that swear in the new covenant, according to the doctrine of Christ and the apostle James, though swearing was not forbidden in the old covenant, but commanded. But the new

covenant is not according to the old, and therefore, forbidden in the new covenant of light, life, and grace, in the days of the gospel of glad tidings.

Are not the priests, after they have learned their lessons, and the natural tongues, and arts at schools, hired to preach?

And may not the Jews tell you, that was the transgression of their forefathers in the old covenant, that the priests preached for hire, and the prophets divined for money. And this was reprov'd by the prophet of God in the old covenant. And through the covetous priests, prophets, and teachers, the Jews were brought into misery, as the true prophets testified of and against such. For by the law of God, the Jews may tell you, the Levites and priests were to have no lot of the land, and therefore, they had the tenths given unto them for their inheritance, and for the maintenance of the widows and fatherless, and that was their portion. So out of tithes they had their maintenance; and they were to carry in their tithes to one place, which the Lord did choose, (namely, Jerusalem.)

Now, you priests, that profess the new covenant, that have learned your lessons, and natural tongues and arts, that take tithes, and have your several tithe-barns, and are hired to preach, and many of you have estates of land besides; yet you do not maintain the poor widows and fatherless. Might not the Jews tell you, that you are not likely to convert them while you are found below the practice of their priests, under the old covenant, which priests were forbidden by the law of God to have any lot or portion in the land, and were not to have all the tithes themselves neither, but the widows and fatherless were to be maintained out of them also? Therefore, how do you christians, that profess the new covenant, think to convert the Jews, while your practices are below the old covenant? But those who claim the new covenant, have a new spirit and a new heart, and a new and living way, not according to the old.' So as Christ said, when he sent forth his disciples to preach, 'freely (without pay) you have received, freely (without charge) give;' no, they were not to carry bag, stave, or scrip with them. So the new covenant is not according to the old; for he changed the first priesthood, and ended the commandment that gave tithes.

And though the Jews had schools in the time of the law and old covenant; yet in the new covenant, Christ who ascended up on high, gives gifts unto men for the work of the ministry. So all true ministers, and gifted men, have them from Christ (that is ascended on high), in the new covenant, and preach them forth freely, as they have received them freely, as he commands them, which freely gives unto them, to all his disciples, and learners, and followers of him in the new covenant.

And therefore, all that profess themselves christians, should take up the cross of Christ, and deny themselves in all things, whether it be in the practices of the heathen, or in the things abolished in the old covenant by Christ, and follow him.

But I would not have any to think, that I deny, or am against schools for the teaching of children the natural tongues and arts, whereby they may do natural things; for all natural tongues and languages upon the earth, make no more than natural men; and the natural man knows not the things of God. And therefore, all must come to the spiritual school of Christ, if they will learn or know the spiritual things of Christ; and so of him freely to receive them, and freely to give them forth, if his learners will keep under his command.

And the Jews may say, the christians have many altars and candlesticks, and some of them have wax candles burning in them all day and night in their temples; for which they have no command from God. And this is contrary to our law of God in the old covenant; for they say, 'thus did our forefathers, when they forsook the Lord, they built many temples and altars, but the Lord appointed them one altar to offer their sacrifices on, and one temple,' Joshua 22:16-34. And they may confess, when the Messiah is come, all those outward things will be ended, according to the prophets, that God will make a new covenant, not according to the old, and that God will raise up a prophet like Moses, whom they must hear.

Now you that profess christianity, through your degeneration from that spirit and power the apostles were in, you have inhibited the Jews from coming to christianity, rather than inspiring them by your lives and practices. For in the days of the new covenant, Christ, the high priest, lights the candle which is the spirit in man, in his temple, his body; providing you don't put it out by your evil works, and wicked ungodly lives and conducts. In the old covenant, it was Aaron and his sons, who were to light the outward lamp or candle in the outward tabernacle.

Do you think, that you can convert the Jews from their outward tithes, temple, lamps and candles, to your own outward lamps and candles; convert those who were forbidden from making images, to your outward images and idols; and convert those from their swearing by the Lord, to your swearing by the creatures; you, who can hardly speak without swearing in all your communications? Do you expect to convert them from their observing of days, which God commanded them, to your observing of saints' days? Is not this to bring them out of one outward form into another? Instead, would it be much better to observe the life of Christ, and spirit of Christ, and all the lives of his saints, and their conducts, how they lived, and how they walked? For it is not the talking as they talk, which makes you converts, nor to bring others to talk as you talk, that will make them converts; but as everyone has received Christ, in his

new covenant, in their new mind or heart, with their new spirit, they are to walk in him, the new and living way. This the old heart and old spirit, in the old covenant and old nature, cannot endure to hear talk of the new; so then it would be better if they never claimed it; for that makes others, Jews, and heathens, to blaspheme Christ that you profess, seeing you do not possess him whom you do profess; but possess the old spirit, and the old stony heart, that is in the Jews and heathens. And so if you are not in the new spirit, and new heart, and new and living way, in the new covenant, you will only bring people, Jews, or others, from one stony heart to another, and from one old way to another. And if they will not conform to your old way, then your old stony heart will be ready to stone them to death, as the Jews in their old stony heart were to stone Christ and his followers.

For those who would convert either Jews or Gentiles, must be in the new covenant, not in the old; and they must have the new heart and new spirit, and be in the new and living way themselves, else they cannot bring others unto it. It is true, they may bring into the words of the new covenant, as the Jews, who compassed sea and land to make proselytes, did, and brought them to say the words of the old covenant; but Christ told them, 'they made them two-fold more the children of hell than themselves.'

Tests of Being a Christian

And therefore, all Christendom, and those who profess christianity, must examine themselves, and see whether they have this new heart and spirit, and that they are in the new and living way, in the new covenant, as the apostles and church, in the apostles' days were in.

For false apostles, Satan's ministers and messengers, and the whore, the false church and Jezebel, deceivers and false prophets, wolves in sheep's clothing, and the dogs, the apostles cautioned to beware of, and such as had the form of godliness, but denied the power; all these may have the words of the new covenant.

Are these likely to convert the Jews, or rather worry the lambs, who manifest an old spirit, and an old heart, and walk in the old ways, below the old covenant and new? These people may beat people into the form [shell of practices] of the words of the new covenant, and so make them two-fold more the children of hell than they were before, like the Jews.

{Fox is saying that to frighten people into their sects, by threatening them with Hell, and then have them in a form of godliness without the perfecting, purifying power, or in a will-worship controlled by the carnal mind instead of the Holy Spirit, makes the convert twice as fit for hell, as the proselytizing preacher is fit

for Hell. No man can come to me unless the Father draws him. John 6:44. And so when the thousands of self-appointed evangelists go out and preach to anyone who will listen, they are scattering, they are hurting the cause of Christ.

And how does God draw someone?

Not with fear. God draws someone with a wonderful, loving spiritual experience. The evangelists of fear, will serve fear in the next life.

They speak words from their carnal minds, not supplied by the Holy Spirit.

Christ only spoke words as commanded by the Father, never from himself.

Jesus said: "**He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory,**

but he who seeks the glory of the One who sent him,

that man is true, and there is no unrighteousness in him." John 7:18.

Any man who speaks of God or Christ without the Spirit's specifically supplied words is **seeking his own glory,**

and he is estimating himself to be greater than Christ, for Christ said: The disciple is not above his master, but everyone who is **perfect** [purified, restored to the spiritual image of God, specifically authorized, and perfected] will be like his master. Luke 6:40.

The preachers of Christendom stand condemned for seeking their own glory and then accepting pay for their worthless words; when to even charge for true words of life like Balaam, spoken from the spirit of God, is expressly forbidden by Peter and Jesus. Seeking their own glory, the preachers of Christendom speak from their carnal minds, the nature of death, and preach their vain opinions from the imagination their evil hearts. }

And therefore, that which must convert people to God and Christ, whether Jews or Gentiles, it must be the same life, power, spirit, light, and grace that converted the apostles and primitive christians in their days, which brought them to a new life of righteousness and holiness, yes, and brought them to have their conduct in heaven, as the apostle said; so this conduct is above the old, earthly, sensual wisdom, and devilish and unclean, corrupt and profane cursing and swearing, whoredom, murder, and theft, which is the fruit of the old spirit, and the old stony heart, and image-makers, and swearers, and is above tithe-paying, and the outward temple.

And the apostle said plainly, 'those who act such things cannot enter into the kingdom of God.'

Therefore, those who are converted into the new covenant of grace, light, and life, over darkness and death, and the power of it, have a new spirit and a new heart, and walk in the new and living way, in the new covenant; and such do show forth the fruits of their conduct in the word, life, and conduct.

And again, the apostles said to the christians in his time, that were getting up into a form of godliness, and a profession of Christ in words, he bid them 'examine themselves whether they were in the faith.'

So, all that profess themselves christians, should examine themselves now, whether they are in the faith that Christ Jesus was the author and finisher of, that one faith that purifies their hearts, and gives them victory, by which they have access to God, in which faith they please God. For it is not a professing the words of the new covenant, with the old heart and spirit, or serving God with their lips, that makes a true christian; for Christ said, 'it is not everyone that said, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of God: but he that does the will of the Father,' ... And the apostle said plainly to the church, 'he that has not the spirit of Christ, is none of his;' and then they are none of his sheep; for they are not likely to hear his voice without his spirit.

Therefore, all who claim to be christians are to examine themselves, whether they have this spirit of Christ, and if not, they are none of Christ's; and what then is your profession worth, without the possession of this spirit? For you can neither serve nor worship God aright, nor know the scriptures [right] , without the spirit of Christ. And therefore, all your services are good for nothing, that be without the spirit of Christ; for God abhorred such that served him with their lips in the old covenant, (that could make a profession), when their hearts were far from him.

First: Therefore all that profess themselves christians must examine themselves, whether they are in that one faith that the apostles speaks of, which Jesus Christ is the author and finisher of; and if they are not in this faith, but are erred from it, they have no victory nor access to God, neither can they please God. For this was the examination the apostle put the christians upon in his days; and this is the examination that all christians should be put upon now in these days; for that is and was the catholic, universal, divine, precious, and holy faith, which all that profess christianity, are to examine themselves, whether they be in that or no. And the apostle did not put them to examine themselves, whether they profess it or no, but whether they were in it.

{Faith is a journey. It has a beginning and a finish; listening to, and obeying Jesus, is him being the **author** and **finisher** of your faith. When you hear him speak to you, **Jesus authors your faith** by laying the foundation of your faith on rock;

Whoever comes to me, and **listens to my words** and **does [practices, obeys]** them, I will show you what he is like. He is like a man who built a house, and dug deep and laid the foundation securely built on a rock; and when the flood arose, the torrent beat violently upon that house, but could not shake it

because it **was founded on a rock**. Luke 6:47-48.

And when you hear Jesus speak his words to you, and you believe it to be him, **the foundation of your faith has been set in rock**, a rock so solid that the gates of Hell cannot prevail against it.

Jesus **finishes your faith** when **you see** him bring your salvation:

he will appear the second time, not to bear sin, but **to bring full salvation** to those who are waiting for and expecting him. Heb 9:28

For the grace of God that **brings salvation** .. Tit 2:11

looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to **bring eternal life**. Jude 1:21

Receiving the end of your faith - the salvation of your souls. 1 Pet 1:9

You are saved through *faith*, and by *faith* your hearts are *purified*; but obviously in the beginning of faith, you are not purified, neither are you saved in the beginning. You must contend for the faith, grow in the faith, build up your faith, increase in faith, until your faith is finished by the finisher; faith is a process and a journey, the end of which is to see Christ bring your salvation, to bring your eternal life.}

Second: They are to examine and prove themselves, 'whether they have the spirit of Christ, yes or no, all that do profess Christ: for if they do not have the spirit of Christ (the apostle said in plain words), they are none of Christ's.' So the apostle does not say, examine yourselves, to see if you talk about Christ; rather he said, 'examine and prove yourselves, whether you have the spirit of Christ, yes or no.' For antichrist, and false prophets, and false apostles, and wolves in sheep's clothing, may profess Christ, that are not of Christ's flock, nor his sheep. Therefore, the main thing is, to examine 'whether you have the spirit of Christ;* and if you have the spirit of Christ, then you are his; and if you do not have the spirit of Christ, then you are none of his;' though you may profess all Christ's and the apostles' words in all the languages, Hebrew, Greek or Latin, your profession with and in your own spirits, is good for nothing, if you have not the spirit of Christ Jesus; 'for such are none of Christ's followers, that are without his spirit, who follow their own spirit, and see nothing, as the prophet said. And all those who are baptized by one spirit into one body, and are made to drink into one spirit, in which spirit they have unity and fellowship:' these all have the spirit of Christ.

*{If you have the Spirit of Christ, he leads you; he teaches you, he speaks to you, you hear him, you obey. He controls your life. He has shown you how to live righteously, soberly, and godly in this present world. He has removed all or most all of the sin from your heart. You may not yet be in the kingdom, the end of grace, but you are well under his control.}

Third: The apostle tells the christians in his day, 'no man can say Jesus is Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.' Now, let all who call themselves christians examine themselves, whether they have this same Holy Ghost that the apostles had, which proceeded from the Father and the Son, and that have received this from the Father and the Son, which led the holy men of God to give and speak forth the holy scriptures, as they were moved by the Holy Ghost; which Holy Ghost leads into all truth, yes, even the same Holy Ghost that moved all the holy men of God to give forth the scriptures, by which Holy Ghost the holy men of God foresaw the coming of Christ, and prophesied of him; and by which Holy Ghost the apostle saw Christ was come, and fulfilled the prophets, by which Holy Ghost they called him Lord in truth and righteousness. And now, if no man can call Jesus Lord, but by the Holy Ghost, as the apostle teaches, and positively declares; then all you who call yourselves christians, calling Jesus Lord without this Holy Ghost, as the apostles were in, and many of your teachers, both papists and protestants, say, 'you have not the same Holy Ghost the apostles had;' then it is impossible for you with the unclean Holy Ghost to call him Lord. And all such callers of him Lord, Lord, with their unclean ghost, and not in the Holy Ghost, will be found workers of iniquity, and not to be able to enter into the kingdom of God; for unto such Christ will say, 'depart, I know you not.* And therefore, let all christians examine themselves, whether they have this same Holy Ghost, seeing none can call him Lord [their ruling Lord of thoughts, words, and deeds], but by the Holy Ghost; and none can be led into all truth, but by the Holy Ghost; but are led into all untruth by their unclean ghost, though they may make a profession of the scriptures from Genesis to the Revelation; and that profession with the lips, is not accepted with the Lord, no more than it was among the backsliding Jews, without the Holy Ghost, which leads into all truth, by which they may call Jesus Lord, who fulfils all the types, and shadows, and figures, and the law, and the old covenant.

*{Do not make the **grave mistake** of thinking that if you can say: "Jesus is Lord," you are saved and you have the Holy Ghost. For we have several direct statements from the Lord telling us that **many who called him Lord would not enter the Kingdom of Heaven**; only those who do the will of the Father will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Mat 7:21-27, Luke 6:46-50, Mat 25:11-12, Luke 13:24-27. No one can call Jesus Lord (a Lord, controlling their thoughts, words, and deeds), unless they possess the gift of the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those **who obey Him**. Acts 5:32

Without Jesus controlling you thought, words, and deeds, He is not your Lord. Still sinning, our lord is our sinful nature or fleshly spirit, which must die on the inward cross of self-denial. Only after death on the cross, can Jesus' spirit take possession of your heart to rule you as Lord and Master.

To call God, "God" does not make him your God, whom you serve. To call Jesus, "Lord" does not make him your Lord and Master, whom you serve. You serve whom you obey: you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? Rom 6:16. Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. John 8:34.}

Fourth: The apostle said to the Christians in his days, examine and prove your own selves; do you not know your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, unless you are reprobates [tested, rejected, and left in sin]? Now this was the duty then of all that name themselves Christians, to examine and prove themselves. And this is the duty of all that call themselves Christians now, to examine and prove themselves, whether Jesus Christ is in them [ruling their lives] and if not, they are reprobates, according to the apostles' doctrine.

And now for Christians and their teachers to say, 'they have been born again,' and go about to prove the birth of Christ without them by the scriptures,* and his sufferings, and his resurrection, etc. and to say, 'they will prove this by the scriptures;' this is already proved by those in whom Christ has been revealed; and it was preached by them, and since printed; for the apostle said, 'it has pleased the Father to reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him.' And again he said, 'I live, yet not I, but Christ that lives in me. The apostle saw then, that wolves, false apostles, Satan's messengers, false prophets, and false teachers, might get the form of godliness and talk about Christ Jesus being their Lord in words, in their days; and since the apostle's days, so many more do the same. Therefore, he would have the true Christians then to examine and prove, and know their own selves, 'whether Jesus Christ was in them, or not; for if not, they were disqualified' [reprobates, having been tested, failed the test, and abandoned to sin]. ** And so it is requisite for all who call themselves Christians now to come to this proof, and examination, and knowledge, whether Jesus Christ is in them [ruling them], or not; and if not they are reprobates;' seeing wolves, false apostles, false prophets, and such as go in Cain's, Cora's and Balaam's way, and Satan's messengers, and reprobates may profess Christ [talking about him being the Lord and their savior, usually quoting the Bible to convince themselves of their false security].

*The big misunderstood scripture, which people use to fool themselves is: (quoted out of context)

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ, is born of God .. John 1:5. "See," they say - "scripture proves I am born again because I believe Jesus is the Christ." But look at the verses immediately after this partial verse taken out of context: 1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot [them] also loves him who is begotten of Him. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His

commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. 4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. 5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

So John is saying: if you have been born of God: 1) you love God, 2) you love your fellow believers, 3) you keep God's commandments [are obedient], and 4) you have overcome the world. John tells us who really believes that Jesus is the Son of God: he who has overcome the world, by fighting the good fight of faith, to victory over sin. He that believes in the Son of God **has the witness in himself** ... He who **has** the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God **does not have life**, John 5:10,12. To have the Son, is to possess the Son and Father in your heart, in sufficient measure to be your true Lord in control of your thoughts, words, and deeds. If you have been born again, you know him to be in total control of you; you don't have to search the scriptures to think that you have eternal life.

****Before Jesus Christ is in you as your Lord, ruling your thoughts, words, and deeds; you are first tested, to see if you are obedient. If you are not obedient, you are disqualified, fail to receive his Spirit, and are abandoned to sin; this is to be reprobated. However, you can keep seeking, demonstrate obedience, and eventually be tested again.**

Therefore, what is theirs' and the reprobates' profession with the lips good for , though they may profess the scriptures from Genesis to the Revelation, and may talk of the apostles' preaching of him, the new covenant? For as long as Christ the Son of God is known not in them, they do not have life [the life in Christ, a newness of life, an entirely new creature].

Therefore, this is the examination and proof that all that call themselves christians should come to, 'whether Christ, which they profess in words, is in them, yes or no; and if not, they are reprobates.' And then their profession of the words of the new covenant is no more accepted with the Lord, than the Jews was in the old covenant, that served God with their lips, who were reprobated from the old covenant, as those christians are from the new, that know not Christ in them. Therefore, let all that profess themselves to be christians examine themselves of all these things before mentioned.

First: Whether they are in that one catholic, holy, divine, and precious faith, which Jesus Christ is the author of, and that they have not erred from it? For if they are not, they need not make new faiths.

Second: Whether they have the spirit of Christ? And if not, they are none of Christ's.

Third: If they have not the Holy Ghost, they cannot call Jesus Lord [a Lord, who controls your thoughts, words, and deeds], seeing the apostle said, 'no man can call Jesus Lord, but by the Holy Ghost;' neither can they call Jesus Lord, **nor be led into all truth, if they have not the Holy Ghost; neither have they the comfort of the Holy Ghost, neither can they pray in the Holy Ghost, as the apostles did.** Therefore, how can all your prayers, worships, and services be accepted, if you do not have this Holy Ghost, and do not have this spirit, seeing without it you cannot call him Lord, and are none of his?

*The Holy Spirit is only gifted to those who are obedient to him. Acts 5:34.

Fourth: Examine yourselves, and prove yourselves; and you should know that if Jesus Christ is not in you, you are reprobates [tested and disqualified to receive his spirit]? Do you think that God and Christ will accept the reprobate's religion, worship, and prayers, who does not have his spirit, and this Holy Ghost, and who have erred from the true faith, and in whom Christ is not?

Fifth: Examine yourselves, whether you are of the circumcision in spirit, that serve and worship God in his spirit and truth, and are not of the circumcision of the letter, but of the circumcision of the spirit, by which the body of death and the sins of the flesh are put off, that are come upon man and woman by transgression. For Adam and Eve had not this body of death and sin before they transgressed the command of God. For if you are of this circumcision in the spirit, which all christians should be in, and which the apostles were in, then the body of death and the sins of the flesh will be put off by the circumcision of the spirit; and then there will be no pleading for a body of death and sin to the grave, and a purgatory when they are dead; if they be of this circumcision in the spirit, and worship and serve God in the spirit, as the apostle and the true church in the primitive times did.

Sixth: Examine yourselves, all who profess yourselves christians, whether you can discern the Lord's body, and if not, you eat and drink damnation to yourselves. So, let all who call themselves christians examine, from the teacher to the hearer, whether they discern the Lord's body; and those who do discern it, may come to eat his flesh and drink his blood, which he gave for the life of the world, which is not outward bread and wine; neither can any make outward bread and wine his body. Therefore, let all Christendom examine, whether they do discern the Lord's body; for they must discern it before they can eat this heavenly bread, that gives them life, John 6:51,63.

{To discern the Lord's body is to recognize the group of true believers, all who have one mind and one heart, as the body; such a group has one faith, and one Spirit, and are in the unity of the Spirit, which is the bond of peace. As of 06/09 there is not a mature body on the earth. According to the voice of the Lord, from the word within, the last substance of the Quakers' true faith, disappeared in 1880. There are isolated people, sometimes husband and wife, throughout the world, growing in Christ daily. When several break through through the wall (a breaker, Micah 2:13) there will not be a large body. However, husbands and wives seeking together, make up a body, which Peter addresses: Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous, 1 Pet 3:8.

To eat the heavenly bread it to hear and keep [obey, practice] the spoken word of God from within heart. The Lord said: It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. **The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.** John 6:63. }

Seventh: Let all that call themselves christians examine themselves, whether they have experienced the baptism of Christ, with fire and the Holy Ghost, who thoroughly purges his floor, and burns up the chaff with unquenchable fire, who baptizes with one spirit into one body, and plunges down the corruptions that are gotten up by transgression. So Christ is the minister of this baptism and circumcision, who plunges down sin and the body of death, chaff and corruption, and thoroughly purges the floor, (the heart of man), and burns up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

So this is the one baptism, into one body, with one spirit, by which all may come to drink into this one spirit, and not into the many. And those who have come to this baptism of Christ, cannot plead for a body of sin and death to the grave, nor for a purgatory to purge them in after they are dead; for the baptism of Christ, which he ministers, is sufficient to purge thoroughly the heart, mind, body, and soul of every man and woman. For many would reign with Christ, but few come to be baptized into his death, and to drink of his cup, which they must do before they can come to reign with him. For the apostle said, 'those who are Christ's, have crucified the flesh, with the affections and lusts thereof.' Gal 5:24

Therefore, let all that profess themselves christians examine, whether they have crucified the flesh, and those affections and lusts thereof, for the apostle tells the christians, 'God forbid that I should glory in anything, save in the cross of Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.'

Then those who have not crucified the flesh, with the affections and lusts thereof, are not Christ's: and therefore, let them consider, whose they are then, with their flesh, and affections, and lusts, thereof, uncrucified, Gal 5:24, 6:4.

Therefore, let everyone prove himself, and his own work; for if a man thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. Just saying you believe the prophets', Christ's, and the apostles' words, and a claiming the outer water baptism, counts for nothing unless you possess the same spirit of Christ that the apostles had — if you are Christ's. You must have the same one faith that the apostles were in, if you are to please God, and would have access to him. You must have the same Holy Ghost that the apostles had, if you are to call Jesus Lord [and him truly be in control of you]; and Christ must be in you, if you are not reprobates. If you do serve God, and worship him, it **must** be in the spirit, which puts off the body of death, and the sins of the flesh, which is the circumcision of the spirit in the new covenant.

And therefore do you, who claim to be christians, not know that 'so many as are baptized into Christ Jesus, are baptized into his death?' Rom 6:3. Therefore, examine yourselves; are you baptized into the death of Christ, and buried with Christ by baptism into death? Therefore, examine again, have you been buried with Christ by baptism unto death? This is a further thing than [being dunked in] outward water, that 'like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.' Rom 6:4.

And now, can any christians walk in newness of life, until their old man and his life is buried by baptism into death? for must not all Christendom be planted into the likeness of Christ's death, if they are planted into the likeness of his resurrection? Therefore, examine yourselves, where, and how you are planted. For you are not likely to be planted with Christ in his resurrection, unless you are planted into his death. Therefore, examine yourselves, that you may come into the virtue, and life of true christianity. For the apostle said to the true christians, 'knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Christ,' ... And now all you that profess yourselves christians, come, and search, and examine, is your old man alive, and not crucified? Then how can you serve God and Christ in newness of life? For your old man must be crucified, if the new man be renewed, which is after the image of God, ... And can the old unmortified man be a true christian in his old life, with his profession of the words of the prophets, Christ, and the apostles, from Genesis to the Revelation? No, the apostle tells the christians, 'the old man must be put off and crucified.' So he is not a good christian then; for it is the new man who is the christian, who walks in newness of life, and serves God in his new and living way, in his new covenant, who has the new heart and new spirit.

From him who loves the purity and virtue of all true christianity, and all who receive Christ, and walk in him.

George Fox

The 28th of the 2d month, 1679

Site Editor's Comment: In addition to Fox's outstanding proofs of being a Christian cited above, here are several other tests for true belief in Christ:

1) Jesus said: When you bear (produce) much **fruit**, My Father is honored and glorified, and you show **and prove yourselves to be true followers of Mine**. John 15:8

2) John tells us who really believes that Jesus is the Son of God: he who has overcome the world, by fighting the good fight of faith, to victory over sin. He that believes in the Son of God **has the witness in himself**, 1 John 5:10-12. 'and he that has the Son, has the Father.'

3) Do you know that Jesus Christ lives in you, ruling your thoughts, words, and deeds?

4) Who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life. John 8:12. Further confirmation of 3 above: you will see by the light of God, always knowing what to do, what to say - following the promptings and leadings of God.

5) **Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires.** Gal 5:24 Having suffered on the cross, they do not live the rest of their earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. 1 Pet 4:1-2.