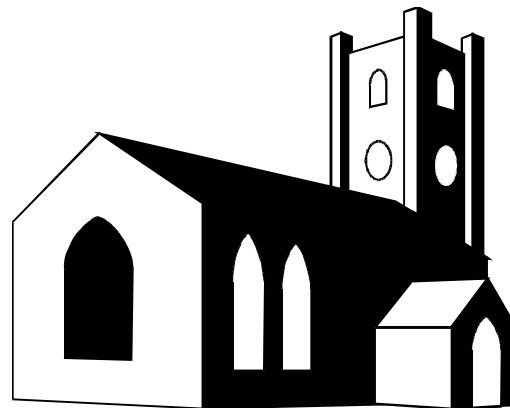


How Old Is Your Church ?



If you are a Roman Catholic, you know that your religion was founded after the Council of Nicea in the year 325 A.D. when the split came between eastern and western Rome. This Council had a view of harmonizing the different controversies between the Arians and the Athanasians. Arianism was denounced and the formula of the Roman Catholic Faith was adopted which is as we have it today.

If you are a Lutheran, your religion was founded by Martin Luther, an ex-monk of the Catholic Church, in the year 1517.

If you are a Mennonite, your church had its beginning with priest Menno Simons, a German, who broke with the Church of Rome in 1530, and articulated the Mennonite creed and doctrine.

If you belong to the Church of England, your religion was founded by King Henry VIII in the year 1534.

If you are a Presbyterian your religion was founded by John Knox in Scotland in the year 1560.

If you are a Congregationalist, your religion was originated by Robert Brown in Holland in 1582.

If you are a Protestant Episcopalian, your religion was an offshoot of the Church of England, founded by Samuel Seabury in the American colonies in the 17th century.

If you are a Baptist, you owe the tenets of your religion to John Smyth, who launched it in Amsterdam in 1606.

If you are of the Dutch Reformed Church, you recognize Michaelis Jones as the founder, because he originated your church in New York in 1628.

If you are Methodist, your religion was launched by John and Charles Wesley in England in 1744.

If you are a Unitarian, Theophilus Lindley founded your church in London in 1774.

If you belong to the Apostolic Christian Church, your founder was S.H. Droeklich, a Swiss who came to America about 1850 and organized this group.

If you are a United Brethren, your religious body originated in 1815 in Pennsylvania under the preaching of Philip W. Otterbein and Martin Boehm. In 1946, you joined The Evangelical Church which was an alliance founded in 1845 by a group of English and Scotch ministers in Liverpool. Some of you later merged with the Methodist Church, thus forming the United Methodist Church.

If you are a Disciple of Christ or Church of Christ, you are an offshoot of Presbyterianism led by Alexander Campbell and his father, Thomas Campbell in 1812, who wanted to accept only the New Testament teachings.

If you are a Mormon, The

Church of the Latter Day Saints, your tap roots began with Joseph Smith, Jr. who started your sect in 1830 at Palmyra, New York.

If you are a Seventh Day Adventist, your church was born through the efforts of William Miller and Mr. and Mrs. James White, in the early years of the 1800s. Mrs. White was later confirmed to be your Spirit of Prophecy and main organizer.

If you worship with the Salvation Army, your organization began with William Booth in London in 1865.

If you are a Christian Scientist, you look to 1879 as the year in which your religion was born and to Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy as its founder.

If you belong to one of the religious organizations known as "Church of the Nazarene," "Pentecostal Gospel," "Holiness Church," "Assemblies of God," "Pilgrim Holiness" or "Jehovah's Witnesses," your re-

ligion is one of the hundreds of new sects founded by men within the past one hundred years.

If you notice in your Bible there was only one Church purchased by the blood of Jesus. There was only one Church of which Jesus Christ is the head. There was only one Church to which the Apostles added saints daily. There is only one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and only one Church. Christ cannot be divided. The Holy Spirit cannot tell one church to believe one thing and another to believe something else. Acts 2:46,47,41.

All of the above named churches had their beginnings centuries after the Lord Jesus was on earth. We are told that Jesus purchased a church. Acts 20:28 "...The Church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood."

Now if you wish to find out what the real name of the Church which Jesus purchased with His blood is, read I Cor.

10:32; I Tim. 3:5, 15; Acts 20:28; Gal. 1:13; I Cor. 15:9; II Cor. 1:1. We know that these few texts are sufficient to prove to your satisfaction which is the first and original Church. I belong to it, why not you?

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