

us in the Bible.

Imagine a group of men and women devoted to Christ and his word. Imagine religion without confusion of sects or traditions of men. Imagine Christians given to praise and prayer, to service and good works, in ways prescribed in the New Testament. Imagine a people who live righteous lives, who care for their poor and sick, who teach others and teach themselves. This describes simple Christianity. It is the religion that Christ left in the Bible and it is still within our reach today.

We are a group of Christians striving to do the will of our Lord Christ Jesus. We do not belong to any denomination, nor sect, nor church made by man. We are of Christ only. We invite you to study the Bible with us so we can all better understand the will of God.

— David Raif ([www.serdeCristo.com](http://www.serdeCristo.com))

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## AN INVITATION TO SIMPLE CHRISTIANITY



The religious world can be a frustrating place for a sincere person looking for the truth. There are so many denominations, each offering its own "truth" about important questions. Amid so much confusion, in whom should we trust? To which church should we listen?

### WHERE DOES ALL IT ALL COME FROM?

Obviously the source of the confusion isn't God. Paul said, "God is not the God of confusion, but of peace" (1Co. 14:33). If it doesn't come from God, then

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from where does it come? From us.

The disorder we observe in the religious word is not God's fault; it's man's fault. Instead of following the Bible and the simple gospel only, we have introduced our doctrines, opinions and traditions. Today's denominations do not respect the word of God; they also have creeds, books, traditions, councils and governments. What results is the confusion and the differences we see today.

However not only does this produce confusion, but also it produces a false religion that does not please God. Jesus said to the Pharisees about their own traditions,

*"So for the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God. You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said: 'This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'" (Mt. 15:6-9).*

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When we follow the traditions and doctrines of men, we serve man instead of God. Our worship is vain, and our souls are in peril.

### **LET'S RETURN TO GOD'S WILL FOR US**

With all the confusion in the religious world, in whom should we trust? The answer might surprise you: no one. All humans make mistakes, and if we trust in the wisdom of a human (even a scholar or a wise pastor), we are guaranteed for religious disaster. We can only confide in God and his word. Paul says, "Let God be true though every one were a liar" (Ro. 3:4). We shouldn't ask then, "what does my church say," but instead we should ask "what does the Bible say?" and study it for ourselves.

If we want a way out the chaos plaguing religion, if we want to return to the intention God had for man from the beginning, if we want to worship God in the simple ways he desires and if we want to go to Heaven, we have to return to the simple plan God left

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