

# Arlington Church of Christ

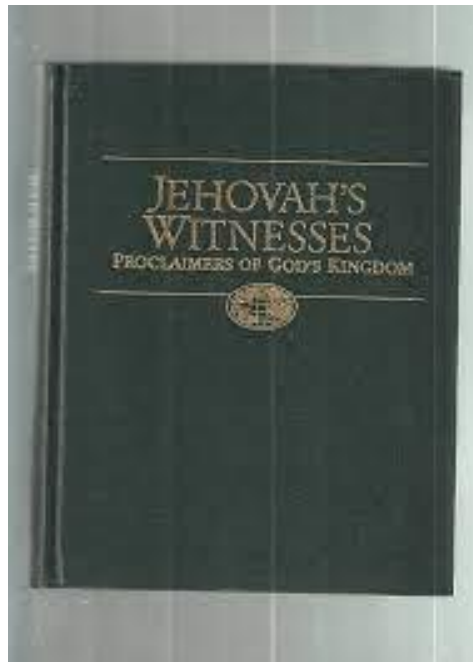
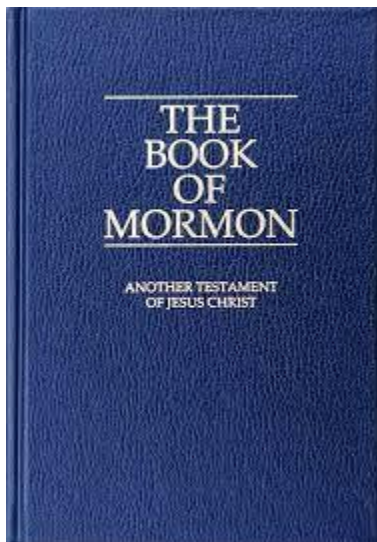
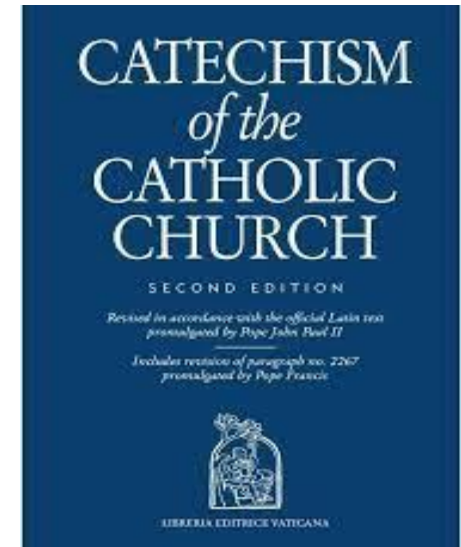
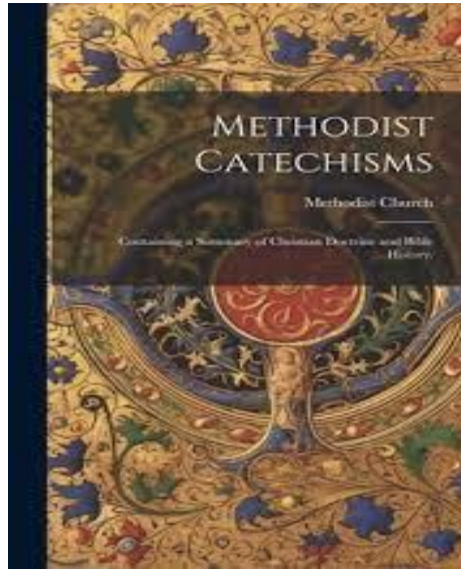
**Wednesday Night**

**Bible Class**

**'Authority'**

# Following the Scriptural Trail

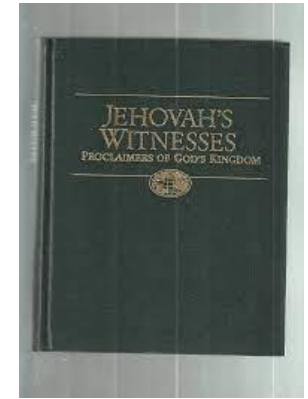
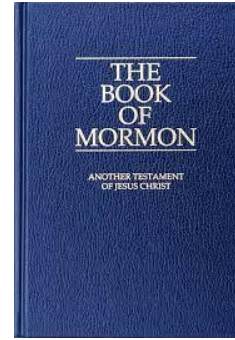
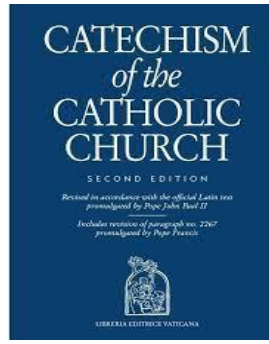
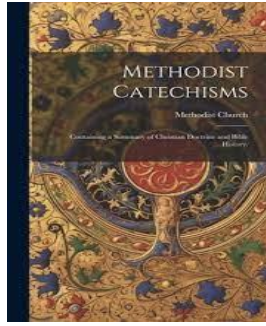




# Man's Teachings



The **ONLY** Authority in Religion

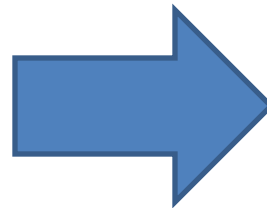


Two sources of religious teaching,

Man's doctrine

or

God's truth



## Matthew 21:23-27

Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him.

**“By what authority are you doing these things?”** they asked.

**“And who gave you this authority?”** <sup>24</sup> Jesus replied, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. <sup>25</sup> John’s baptism—where did it come from? **Was it from heaven, or of human**

**origin?**” They discussed it among themselves and said, **“If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ <sup>26</sup> But if we say, ‘Of human origin’—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.”**

<sup>27</sup> So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.”

Then he said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things

Matthew 15:7-9

You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you:

<sup>8</sup> “These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

<sup>9</sup> They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules



# 1 Corinthians 15:27

For he **(Christ)** “has put everything under his feet.” Now when it says that “everything” has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ.

**GOD**

gives authority to

**CHRIST**

over

**ALL THINGS**



## **Ephesians 1:19-23**

**and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength <sup>20</sup> he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.**



# WHO RULES THE CHURCH?

Men or Christ?



John 16:13-15

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. <sup>14</sup> He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. <sup>15</sup> All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.”



## Matthew 28:18-20

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”<sup>19</sup> **Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”**



# 1 Corinthians 14:37

If anyone thinks they are a prophet or otherwise gifted by the Spirit, let them acknowledge that what I am writing to you is the Lord's command.

Paul's letters are not his own ideas, but are the commands of the Lord!



2 Peter 3:16

He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.



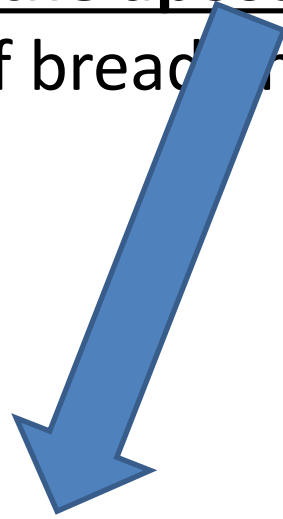
Acts 2:42

They devoted themselves to the apostles'  
teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of  
bread and to prayer.

**The apostles teaching is recorded for us in the scriptures.**

Acts 2:42

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.



**2 Timothy 3:16-17**

**All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**



## 2 John 9-11

Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. <sup>10</sup> If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take them into your house or welcome them. <sup>11</sup> Anyone who welcomes them shares in their wicked work.

“Taking them into your house” – doesn’t mean don’t talk to them or try to convince them of their error – it means don’t give material support to their teachings ! (That is how you would ‘share’ in their wicked work.)

# 1 Corinthians 4:6

Now, brothers and sisters, I have applied these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, so that you may learn from us the meaning of the saying, **“Do not go beyond what is written.”** **Then you will not be puffed up in being a follower of one of us over against the other.**

1 Corinthians 3:3-6 You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans? **4 For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not mere human beings?** **5 What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task.** **6 I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.**

## **1 Peter 4:11**

**If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.**

**How do you 'speak the words of God' ?**

**- you quote the scriptures on the subject,  
not give your own opinion.**

## Galatians 1:6-8

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— <sup>7</sup> which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. <sup>8</sup> **But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse!**



Joseph Smith and the angel Moroni

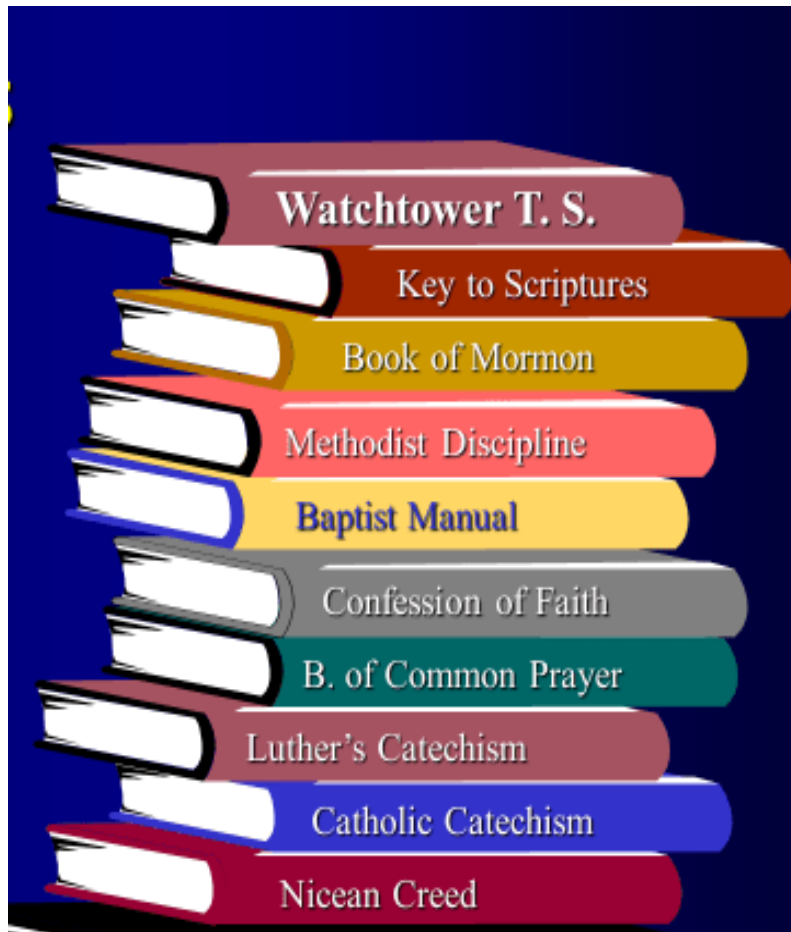


Mohammed and the angel Gabriel

James 1:17-18

**Every** good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, **who does not change** like **shifting shadows**. <sup>18</sup> He chose to give us birth **through the word of truth**, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

**God gives us truth through the Bible and we are to be firstfruits (what is devoted to God)**

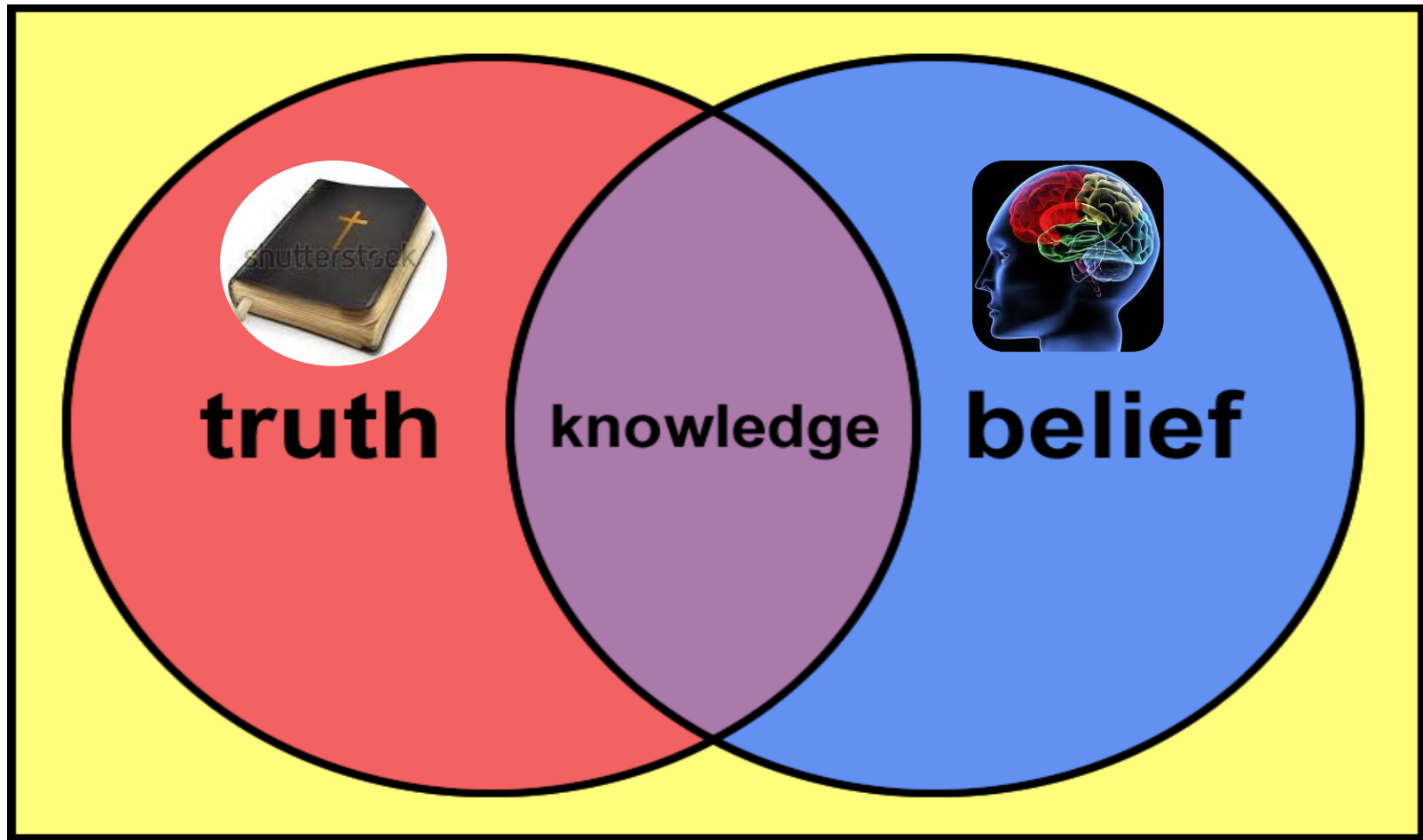


# THE APOSTLES CREED



I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY,  
CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH,  
AND IN JESUS CHRIST, HIS ONLY SON, OUR LORD,  
WHO WAS CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT,  
BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY,  
SUFFERED UNDER PONTIUS PILATE,  
WAS CRUCIFIED, DIED AND WAS BURIED;  
HE DESCENDED INTO HELL; ←  
ON THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN FROM THE DEAD;  
HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN,  
AND IS SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF  
GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY;  
FROM THERE HE WILL COME TO JUDGE THE LIVING AND THE DEAD.  
I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT,  
THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH, ←  
THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS,  
THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS,  
THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY,  
AND LIFE EVERLASTING.

AMEN.



The goal is to bring our **'belief'** into line with the **'truth of God's Word'** - To **'know Christ'** is to **ACT** on our **'belief'** – that is when the authority of the Bible becomes real to us !