

## Some Bible Expressions That Are Never Used

by Bill Crews

The Bible is not simply “the word of God;” it is the very revelation of God’s will to man expressed in the very words chosen by the Holy Spirit. Please read 1 Corinthians 2:10-13; 2 Peter 1:20-21; 2 Timothy 3:16, and compare Matthew 10:19-20; Mark 13:11 and John 16:13 (the promises of Christ to the apostles).

We are not to preach *another gospel* than that preached by Paul (Gal. 1:6-9). We are not to *add to* or *take from* the things that are written (Rev. 22:18-19). We are to abide in and not go beyond the doctrine of Christ (2 Jn. 9-11). Compare 1 Timothy 1:3; 6:3ff; 2 Timothy 2:2; and 4:3.

In the light of such passages as 1 Peter 4: 11; Titus 1:9; 2: 1; and 2:7-8 we believe that God requires us to speak as the Bible speaks, and to be silent where the Bible is silent, and to call Bible things by Bible names (or to use Biblical expressions to teach Biblical ideas).

It should be obvious to those who read the Bible that most preachers use some expressions that are foreign to the Bible to teach some doctrines that are foreign to the Bible, and that there are some Bible expressions that they never use because they don’t believe what those expressions teach.

### The Bible Never Speaks Of. . .

(1) **Christening infants** or of christening anybody. (2) **Infant baptism** or infant church membership -- there is not a single instance of infant baptism in the New Testament. (3) **Joining the church**; it rather speaks of the Lord adding members to the church or of God setting members in the body (Acts 2:47; 1 Cor. 12:18). (4) **Justification, redemption, or salvation by faith only** (by faith, yes, but never by faith *only*). A well-known Baptist preacher is in the habit of saying, “There are more than 100 passages in the New Testament that teach salvation by faith only.” The truth is, there isn’t even one! The only passage that speaks specifically of faith only denies that we are justified by such (see Jas. 2:24). (5) Having a **salvation experience**. (6) **Receiving Christ in your heart** as your personal Savior. Alien sinners today are ever being taught to pray in connection with this receiving Christ and being saved; in the New Testament alien sinners were never taught to pray any prayer for anything.

### Some Bible Expressions That Most Preachers Never Use

1. **Entering the kingdom or becoming citizens of the kingdom of heaven.** To enter that kingdom we must be born again; the new birth puts one into that kingdom (Jn. 3:3, 5; Col. 1:13). To enter that kingdom we must do the will of the Father in heaven; it is not enough to simply acknowledge Jesus as Lord (Matt. 7:21). Most do not believe that the kingdom of Christ exists yet (they think it is still *future*), and most do not believe obedience to any command of God is essential to one’s salvation.
2. **Obedying the gospel.** They call upon sinners to believe in Christ, which is fine, but they never call on sinners to obey the gospel, and the two go together. Romans 1:5 and 16:26 speak of “*obedience of faith*.” 1 Peter 4:17 asks: “*What shall be the end of them that obey not the gospel of God?*” 2 Thessalonians 1:8 says of Christ at His second coming, “*Rendering vengeance to them that know not God, and to them that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus.*” 1 Peter 1:22 says, “*Seeing ye have purified your souls in your obedience to the truth...*” Hebrews 5:8-9 says: “*Though he was a Son, yet learned obedience by the things which he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became unto all them that obey him the author of eternal salvation.*” Please read also Matthew 7:24-27 and Acts 6:7.
3. **Becoming members of the Lord’s church.** The Lord’s church, as spoken of in the New Testament, is hardly ever referred to, but people are told repeatedly that no church can save and that . . .

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