

# **THE HOLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH, THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS**



*What does the title “the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints” tell us about the people who belong to this Church?*



# *Who belongs to the holy Christian Church?*

**Acts 5:14**

*All people who believe that Jesus is the Son of God and our Savior belong to this Church.*





# *The incident before Acts 5:14 talks about Ananias & Sapphira...*

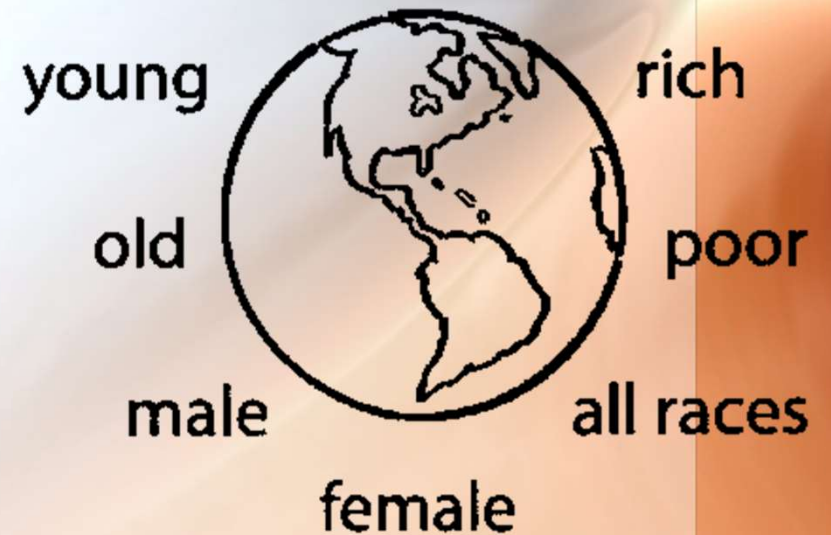
*who pretended to be believers but were not. By their deaths God showed they were hypocrites. So we see that not all in a church are the Church. Explain.*



# *Who belongs to the holy Christian Church?*

## **1 Corinthians 1:2**

*All true believers  
everywhere in the  
world belong to  
this church.*



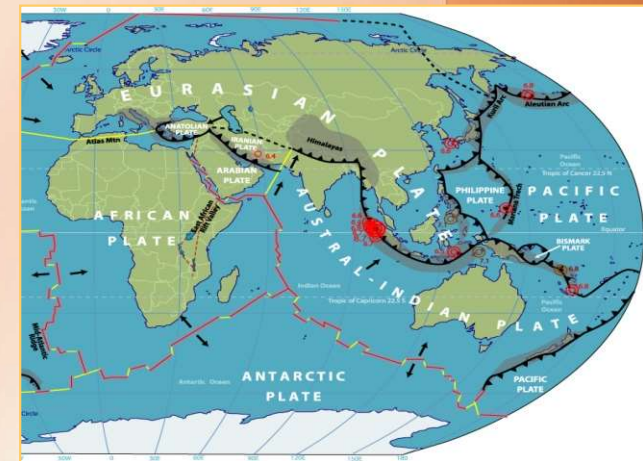
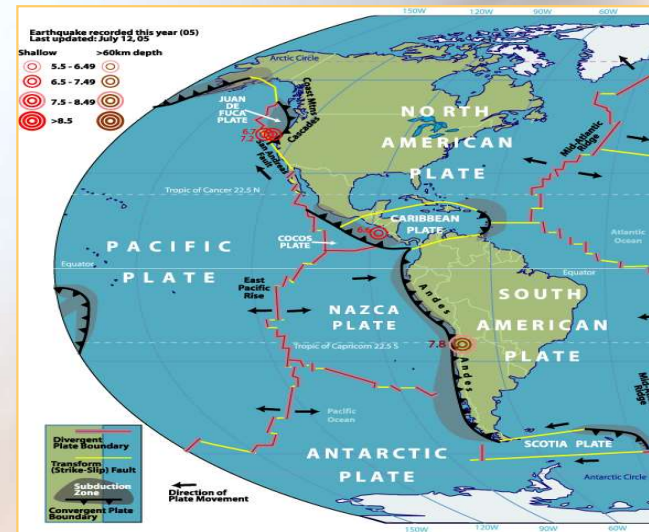
everyone in the  
world who...

*believes in  
Jesus*

*There are believers in Jesus in places like China, Brazil, Egypt, Norway, Australia, etc., etc.*

*You don't know them and may never meet them until heaven, but they are your family – members of the only True Church, the Invisible Church.*

*“Invisible” means the membership is hidden.*





# Key Point #1

*The holy Christian Church is everyone who is trusting in Jesus as their Savior.*



# *Why are the members of this Church called holy and saints?*

## **Ephesians 5:25-27**

*By his death  
Jesus took all sins  
away and thus  
made the  
members of the  
church holy.*

Jesus took  
*all sins away*



*holy &*



# *Why are the members of this Church called holy and saints?*

**Romans 1:7**

Because believers are holy, they are also called saints.

Jesus took  
*all sins away*



*holy & saint*

# *The Roman Catholic Church uses the word “saint” in a different way*

*They use it to refer only to certain special people their leaders determined worthy of the title by virtue of their works.*

**What is the problem with this definition?**



## Key Point #2

**All true believers in Jesus  
everywhere in the world  
are called holy and saints  
because He took away all  
their sins.**



# *Why is this Church called the Christian church?*

## **1 Corinthians 3:11**

This Church is called the Christian Church because *Christ* is her only foundation, on which her *faith* is built.

Christian



*A building's foundation is the most important part of it.*

*Why is it vitally important for a building to have a firm foundation?*

*Why is Christ the only firm foundation for us, the Church?*



# Key Point #3

*The Church of all believers everywhere in the world is called Christian because the hope of every member is founded on Christ.*

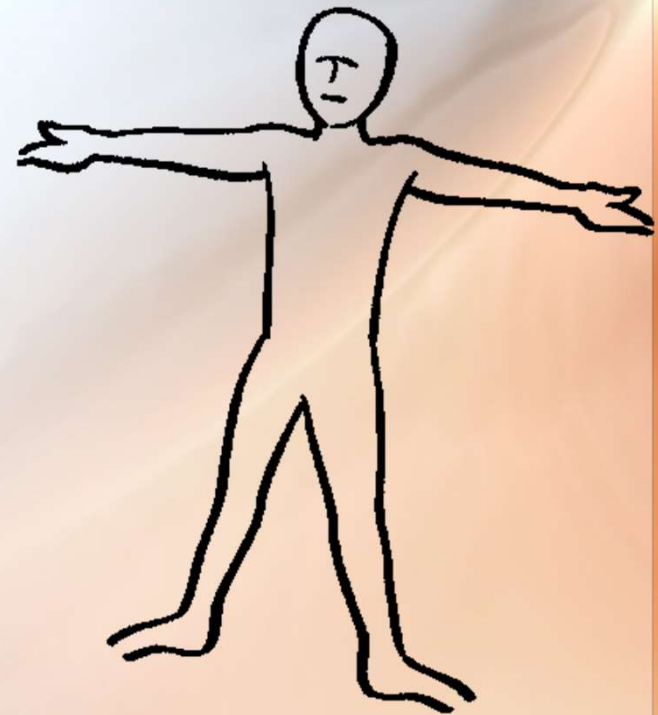


# *Why is this Church called a communion of saints?*

**Romans 12:5**

By faith in Christ  
all believers are  
brought together  
(communion) into  
one body whose  
head is Christ.

Communion



we all belong to

*Though we may have different accents, skin color, and come from different places, citizens in the U.S. see themselves as one country, one people. The same is true for the True Church in the world.*



## Key Point #4

*All believers everywhere in the world are called a communion of saints because we all belong to one body and have Christ as our head.*



*Why is God the only one who  
knows the members of the holy  
Christian Church?*

**Luke 17:20-21**

*Faith is not  
something we can  
see, because it is in  
our hearts.*

Invisible Church =



---



only God

# *Why is God the only one who knows the members of the holy Christian Church?*

Invisible Church =  
*Holy Christian Church*  
(communion of saints)

1 Samuel 16:7

*Only God can see what is in a person's heart.*



only God



*knows its members*

*Several times Jesus surprised the Pharisees and Teachers of the Law by telling them what they were **THINKING**. He knows all, and alone reads human hearts.*





## Key Point #5

*Only God knows who  
the members of this  
Church are because He  
alone knows those who  
have faith in their  
hearts.*



## WHAT I'VE LEARNED:

*The holy Christian Church and the communion of saints are the same group of people, namely, all those who are united by sincere faith in Christ alone.*