

# **THE RESTORATION PLEA**

**(Part I)**



**WHY?**  
**ARE THERE SO MANY**  
**CHURCHES?**



# 1 Corinthians 1:10-13

Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?



**“For God is not the author of  
confusion, but of peace, as in all  
churches of the saints.”**

1 Corinthians 14:33 (KJV)

**WHERE DO WE GO FROM  
HERE?**

# THE ANCIENT ORDER OF THE CHURCH

- Matthew 16:15 – 19
- Ephesians 1:22 – 23
- Ephesians 4:1 – 6
- John 17:20 – 21
- Acts 2:40 – 42
- Romans 6:17

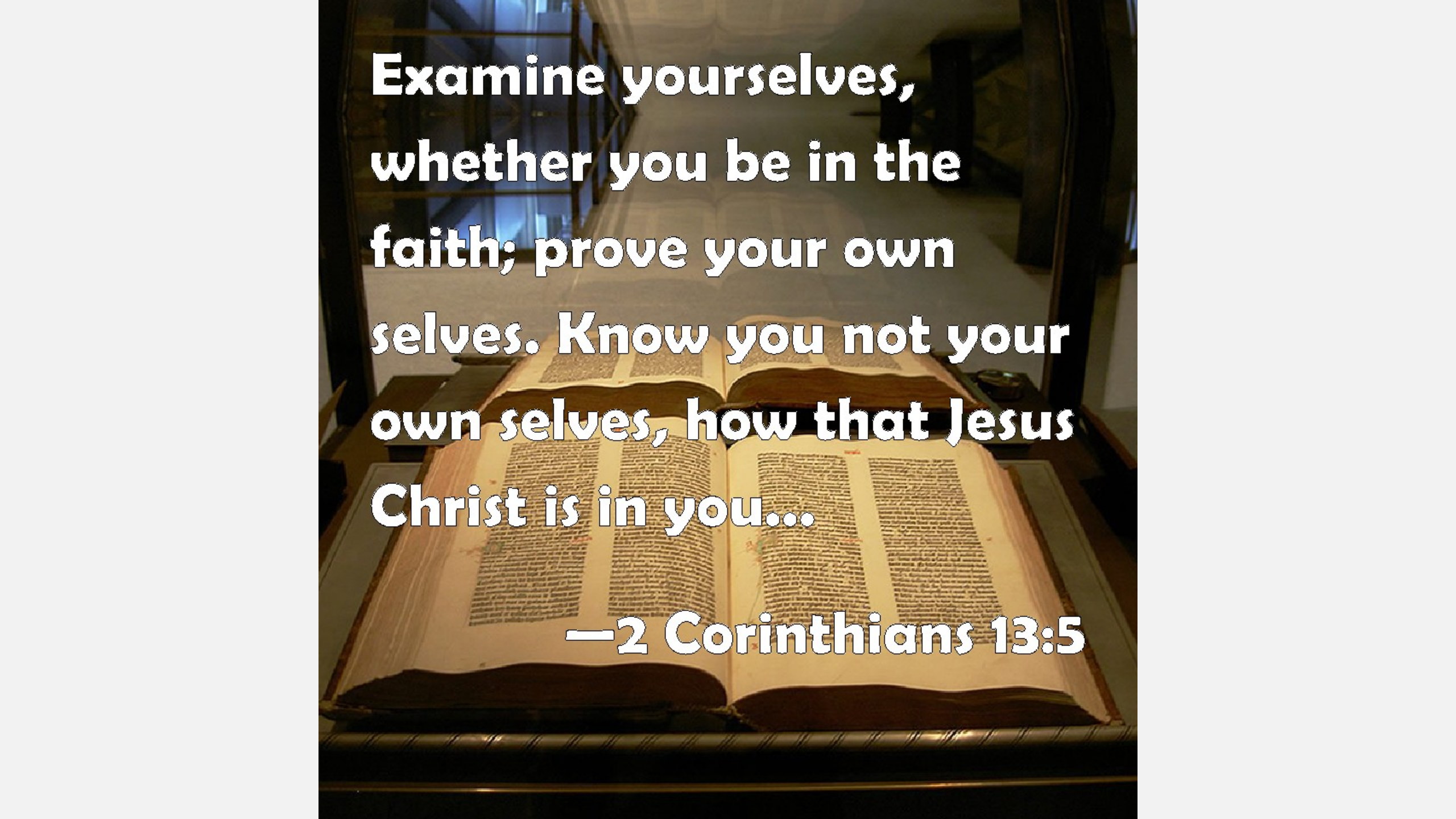
# **DIVERGENCE FROM THE ANCIENT ORDER OF THE CHURCH**

- Matthew 7:15 – 20
- Matthew 15:7 – 9
- Acts 20:28 – 30
- Galatians 1:6 – 9
- 2 Thessalonians 2:3
- 2 Timothy 4:1 – 5



# HISTORY OF THE GREAT APOSTASY:

- Apostasy of the ancient order began as early as the first and second century.
- The church suffered under great persecution from the Romans for about 200 years.
- 313 A.D. Constantine signed a law that Christians would never be persecuted again by the Roman government.
- In 175 A.D. some of the writers of the time had written that a bishop was different from an elder - one was selected to be head over the other elders.
- About 250 A.D. - They began selecting one man from each of those bishops around the country to be head of all the area “diocese”.
- By 580 - Instruments of music were added to the church worship and rejected.
- By 606 A.D. - The Catholic Church declared Boniface III to be the universal head of the church.
- By 1100 - Papal customs came in - Holy water, etc.
- By 1200 - Baptism by sprinkling.

An open Bible with two pages visible, resting on a wooden surface. The text is in a traditional serif font. In the background, a person is standing in a room with large windows, possibly a church or library. The lighting is warm and focused on the Bible.

**Examine yourselves,  
whether you be in the  
faith; prove your own  
selves. Know you not your  
own selves, how that Jesus  
Christ is in you...**

**—2 Corinthians 13:5**

HAVE YOU BEEN REBORN ACCORDING  
THE ANCIENT ORDER?