

THE RESTORATION PLEA

(Part 2)

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)

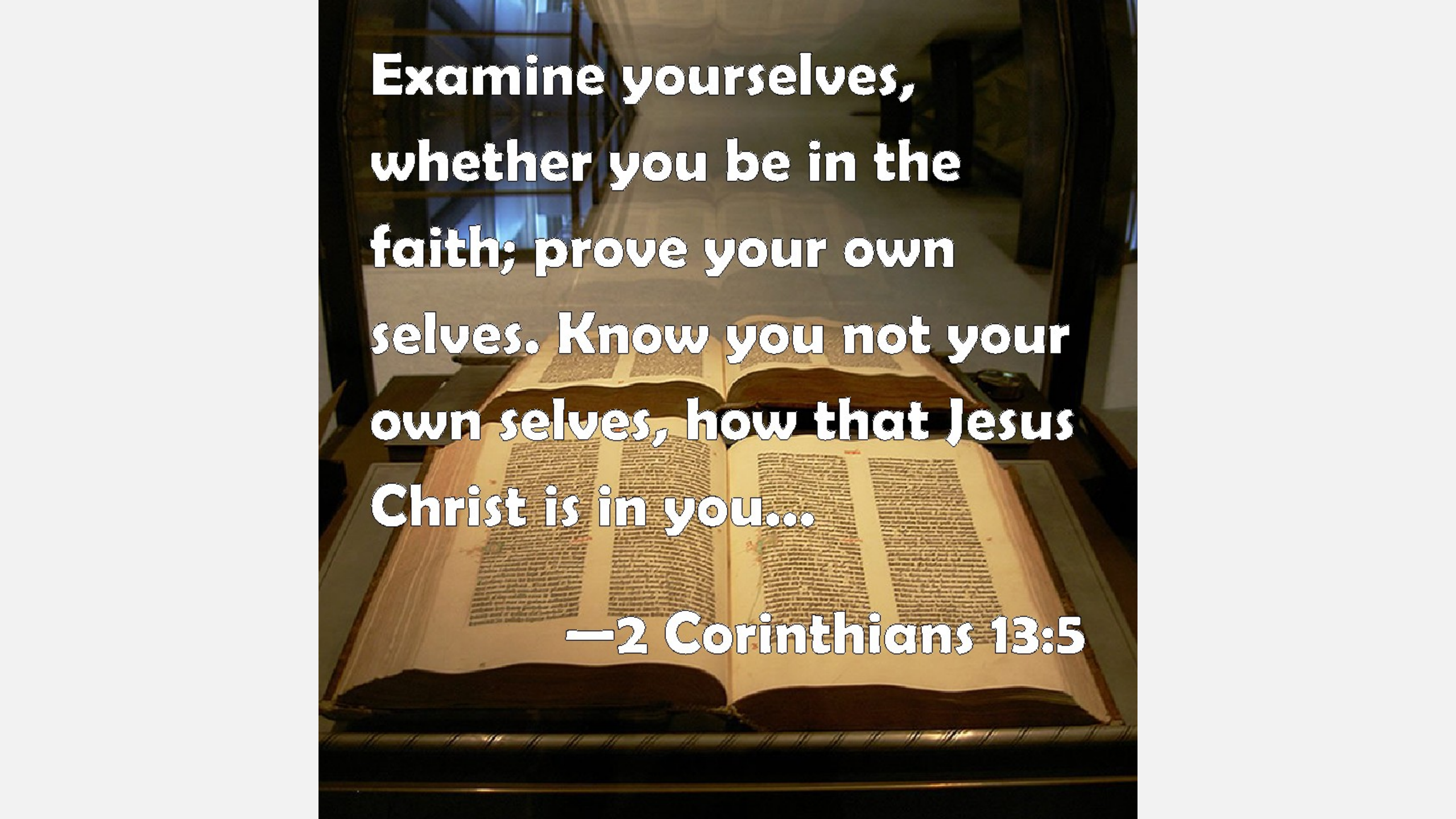
HISTORY OF THE GREAT APOSTASY:

- 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.

THE CATHOLIC DOCTRINE AND PRACTICE IS CHALLENGED:

- On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany kicking off the Reformation Movement.
- The Reformation Movement sought to reform the mistakes of the Roman Catholic Church.
- The Restoration Movement began in the USA during the Second Great Awakening of the 19th Century (1790 – 1840).
- The Restoration Movement sought to restore the ancient order of the church of the bible.

**WHERE DO WE GO FROM
HERE?**

An open Bible is the central focus, lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The pages are yellowed with age and contain dense, small text. In the background, a person is visible, standing in a room with large windows and a wooden floor. 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

RETURN TO THE ANCIENT ORDER OF THE CHURCH

- A Warning to those who go outside of the ancient order:
 - Leviticus 10:1 – 2
 - 1 Corinthians 4:6
 - 2 John 1:9
 - Romans 16:17 – 18

THE RESTORATION PLEA:

“Let us speak where the Bible speaks and be silent where the Bible is silent. Let us call Bible things by Bible names and do Bible things in Bible ways. Let’s restore the church as it was in the days of the apostles.”

RETURN TO THE ANCIENT ORDER OF THE CHURCH

- John 4:23 – 24
- John 17:17
- 2 Peter 1:19 – 21
- Exodus 25:9
- Exodus 25:40
- 2 Timothy 1:13

HAVE YOU BEEN REBORN ACCORDING
THE ANCIENT ORDER?