

## WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?

“...And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.” Acts 11:26

Whatever a Christian is, he first has to be a disciple. According to this simple statement in Acts, it was the disciples who were called Christians first.

It is my opinion which I believe is enforced by Holy Writ that in our churches today there are many who profess to be Christians that will upon death find themselves in horror when they awake in hell. So then who is a Christian? What is a Christian?

The dictionary meaning of the word Christian, actually, is not complete enough because it says: "one who professes to believe in Christ or the religion of Christ." I believe you will see, as you continue this post, that there are many people who profess to believe in Christ, who are not actually disciples of Christ. In many cases, they are actually disciples of some other false god. So, instead, let's study the meaning of discipleship; which will be an easier way for us to understand who the disciples of these false gods are, and who are the Disciples of Christ. In the Webster's 1828 dictionary the meaning of disciple is quite long, but I'll paraphrase it just briefly this way: "one who believes in a teacher of a doctrine and obeys his doctrine and helps in the spreading of his doctrine."

There are, obviously, three parts to discipleship in being a Christian. It is not just a case of professing believers but, also, actual obedience to the doctrine of whatever teacher the disciple follows. The disciple must also be one who spreads the doctrine. Some of you may be a little confused by watching professing Christians who say they believe in the doctrines of Christ, but they don't obey those doctrines, and they don't help spread them. The reason for this may be because they are actually spreading some other doctrine of some other teacher or some other god.

Jesus warned that in “the last days” the “very elect,” the saved would possibly be being deceived and used by the devil. Yes, that even true Christians can be used by the devil is found in Scripture to further his program.