

June 2025

The Berean



CHRISTADELPHIAN

Vol 006

**The body of Christ in Africa and the world should
be a body that focuses on enlightenment and
encouragement in the scriptures.**



...they received the word with all readiness of
mind, and searched the scriptures daily,
whether those things were so."

CHRIST IS COMING SOON AND WILL REIGN ON EARTH

What's the difference between Christians and the Berean Christadelphians?

Kimukung'i Ecclesia,
Kenya

Bro. Epa Wekati

The term "**Christian**" was first used at Antioch, in Asia Minor. It was a derogatory term. The disciples did not call themselves Christians. Those who despised the disciples and did not love Christ called them by this term. They looked at the Disciples with disdain for being believers in Christ.

We read: "*The disciples were called Christians first in Antioch*" (**Acts 11:26**).

Christ is a Greek word meaning God saves or Savior. Christian is supposed to be a follower of Christ. Christadelphian is also kind of Greek with two words that brings out the idea of Brethren in Christ. Jesus regarded his disciples as his brothers. See what he told Mary after his resurrection:

*"Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father; but go to my **brethren**, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God"*

(**John 20:17**).

To the Hebrews:

*"For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them **brethren**"*
Paul to the Colossians:

*"To the saints and faithful **brethren in Christ** which are at Colosse..."* (**Col. 1:2**).

Berean Christadelphian, Africa

The disciples never called themselves Christians as we have seen. In Acts, Luke uses quite a different word: Way.

Acts 9:2

*[2] And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of **this way**, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.*

This "Way" is repeated in **Acts 18:25**...

"the Way of the Lord";

Acts 19:9..."spake evil of the Way";

Acts 9:23..."that Way";

Acts 22:4..."this Way";

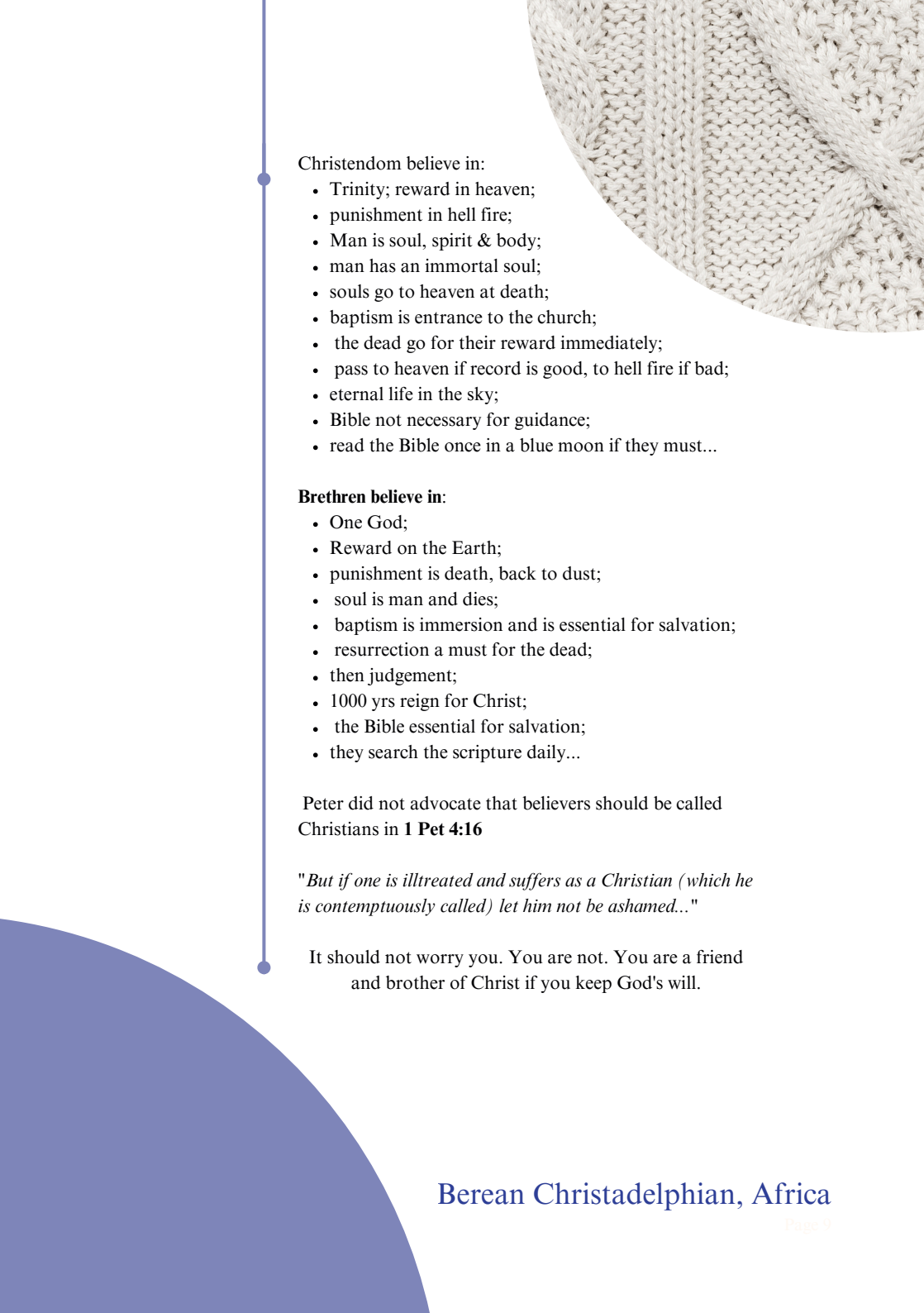
Acts 24:14,22 "the Way", "that Way".

This term was used by Luke to describe the followers of Christ in the early days. Jesus said: "*I am **the way**, the truth, and the life...*"

It is not a very comfortable idea to be identified as a Christian today. What people see about Christians is the identity of a church building with large crosses over them. Doctrines are strange. They teach that God is a Trinity; God the father, God the son and God the Holy Spirit. These three are equal and have existed from eternity. They do not match what the Bible teaches. Isaiah says:

"If they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (Isaiah 8:20).





Christendom believe in:

- Trinity; reward in heaven;
- punishment in hell fire;
- Man is soul, spirit & body;
- man has an immortal soul;
- souls go to heaven at death;
- baptism is entrance to the church;
- the dead go for their reward immediately;
- pass to heaven if record is good, to hell fire if bad;
- eternal life in the sky;
- Bible not necessary for guidance;
- read the Bible once in a blue moon if they must...

Brethren believe in:

- One God;
- Reward on the Earth;
- punishment is death, back to dust;
- soul is man and dies;
- baptism is immersion and is essential for salvation;
- resurrection a must for the dead;
- then judgement;
- 1000 yrs reign for Christ;
- the Bible essential for salvation;
- they search the scripture daily...

Peter did not advocate that believers should be called Christians in **1 Pet 4:16**

"But if one is illtreated and suffers as a Christian (which he is contemptuously called) let him not be ashamed..."

It should not worry you. You are not. You are a friend and brother of Christ if you keep God's will.

About us

THE BEREAN

Christadelphian



June Readings

- Joshua,
- Judges,
- 1 Samuel,
- Isaiah,
- Hebrews,
- James,
- 1,2 Peter
- 1, 2, 3 John,
- Jude,
- Revelations



Bible study groups

Let us study the Bible online, together. We have different Bible study groups, that works best for each of us. If we study the Bible together on WhatsApp, Zoom and in our gatherings, we learn from each other.



Fellowships

What can't Christadelphians do?



Our Ecclesias in the world

Ahsante kwa Kazi to Ecclesia in Kenya, Malawi, Zambia, Uganda, Tanzania, USA, Canada, Mozambique, Australia and Papa New Guinea.

Acts 17:10

Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

James 5

Bro Bob Bent

Texas, USA Ecclesia

In the final chapter of James' letter to the Jerusalem Ecclesias we are given some stern exhortation and warnings against the times to come. While this letter was penned/penciled to the ecclesia during the first century we can see how relevant it is to us in this 21st century as we await our Lord's return to the Earth. Many may think these words don't always apply to our lives and wellbeing as we are in a different time frame. Let us not fool ourselves and be complacent about what is happening around us.

(Jas 5:1) Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you.

(Jas 5:2) Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten.

(Jas 5:3) Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days.

(Jas 5:4) Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.

(Jas 5:5) You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter.

(Jas 5:6) You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.

Here our brother exhorts us to not lay our faith on the wealth we have. That word weep comes from the Greek word, *Khalio* meaning to cry or sob. The thought that riches are to make one happy is highly misleading. This is why we must NOT place priority on gaining wealth. This is not to say we are not to work for our daily bread. It was the command given to the first human, Adam. So through this we are all to earn our daily bread. Some will be blessed in this life with wealth, of course, but it becomes a blessing when it is put in its proper place and it is used for the glory of Yahweh and to help those less fortunate. In this section of **James 5** we see the lesson of the temporary blessing.

Moth-eaten garments, corroded precious metals tells us of their temporary time with us. But the gospel and salvation is ever permanent! Oftentimes with wealth comes a sense of superiority, a sense of mastership over one another, and this should not be so, especially those who have known the things of the spirit. Verse 4 tells us of the mind of those who crave wealth, note I use the word crave. This is a stark warning against defrauding those who are most venerable.

(Deu 15:9) Beware that there be not a thought in thy wicked heart, saying, The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand; and thine eye be evil against thy poor brother, and thou givest him nought; and he cry unto the LORD against thee, and it be sin unto thee.

We turn to the other lessons of James 5. **(Jas 5:7)** Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

01

(Jas 5:8) *Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.*

02

(Jas 5:9) *Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.*

03

(Jas 5:10) *Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.*

04

(Jas 5:11) *Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.*

05

(Jas 5:12) *But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.*

Patience is to exercised by those who are called out to the gospel. We cannot be hasty as we are not on our time but on God's time. In agriculture as most of you know patience is of importance when growing crops or raising animals. Nothing is eaten before harvest or maturity, it is all to teach us patience. I remember one of my favorite meals, Ackee. This fruit should never be eaten until its mature. Its poisonous in it's growing stages, this is indicated by the closing of the pod. Once the pod is opened naturally, that it's indication that it is ready, Patience. At that time it will be a delicious meal but If you force it or cut it open you are eating poison or toxic fruit.

This is how God tells us to be patient.

(Jas 5:13) *Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.*

(Jas 5:14) *Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:*

(Jas 5:15) *And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.*

(Jas 5:16) *Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*

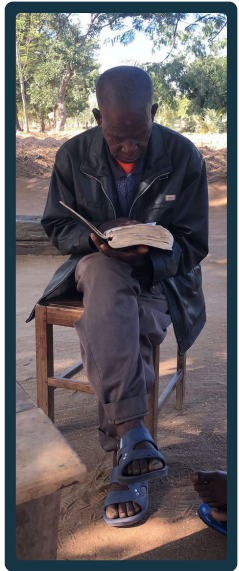
In our afflictions we should seek God and when we are merry to sing psalms of praises unto our God. David has given us quite a catalog of songs to choose from. 150 chapters are there for our learning and singing. Use them, Brothers and sisters! We are told to pray for those who are sick, both in body and mind, Let us do so continually. In verse 14 it talks about anointing with oil. Let us not confuse this with anointing oil like the churches around like to think it means. Anointing WITH oil is different from anointing oil. In the middle east and the parts of the Mediterranean Olive oil, due in part to it's abundance, was often used for both cooking and medicinal purposes. It was the dominant fruit, much like palm fruit in west Africa is common and the oil is used for many things. We pray to God in faith not doubting, knowing that all things are done by God's will and not our own. Confessing our faults one to another is not as easy as it sounds but nevertheless it should be done. But know that confession does not give us the ok to gossip about each other. This is a sin in God's eyes. This is the reason he exhorts through the Apostle Paul that young widows should marry and bear children, be keepers of homes and to not go about being busybodies. This holds true for ALL members of the body. Gossiping is not a character of a brother or sister of Christ. We pray for healing and we pray in faith. Let us remember these things. Elias is given as a great example of the effectiveness of prayer. It is powerful! **(Jas 5:17)** Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.

The final two verse gives us comfort in knowing that we are to help our brothers and sisters return to the fold. The strength that we must share with each other will not only benefit our erring brother but also hide a multitude of sins. How is this? We know that most sins are caused by selfishness and greed and trying to please ourselves more than please God, therefore if we look beyond our own selves we are not easily taken by our fleshly needs and desires. We look at the temptation of Eve in the garden all what the serpent told her was to benefit HER if she partook of the forbidden fruit. So with our minds on helping and praying for our brother and sister we are refocusing our minds from our own fleshly desires and turning them our brethren and sisters much like Christ did when walked the earth.

Let us be imitators of Christ daily!



JUN
2025



Berean Christadelphian, Africa



We have two sides of a coin

-we have heads, and we have tails.

When you toss a coin, the probability is that it will fall head up or tail up. Mathematicians come around: is the probability half or one in this exercise?

Whichever the case, probability and statistics are interconnected branches of Mathematics that deal with uncertainty and data analysis.

Probability focuses on the likelihood of events occurring, while statistics involves collecting, analyzing, interpreting and presenting data. In essence, probability predicts the future whereas statistics helps (us) understand the past.

I look at **Deuteronomy 28** to act as a coin since it has two sides:

- vs 1-13 speaks in detail, of **blessings for obedience**;
- vs 14 encourages us not to deviate from any of the commandments or serve other gods.

Vs 15 warns:

*"if you will not listen to the voice of Yahweh your God" ...then the other side of the coin comes into play from vs 16-45 (and beyond): **curses of disobedience** in greater detail.*

The curses seem to outweigh the blessings, why not choose obedience and be blessed (carry a lighter load)!

Statistics will help us understand the past and indeed we read about the consequences of those who disobeyed or obeyed the voice of Yahweh; probability helps us predict the future though it is very clear the future is brighter when you (and I) make the right choice - obedience.

Brothers and sisters, let us make the right choice through His commandments and receive the promises made (in the past) for a bright future.

Deuteronomy Chapter 28.



African Berean Ecclesia

News & Events

The Berean Christadelphian
December gathering will take place
in Kamukuywa, Bungoma Kenya

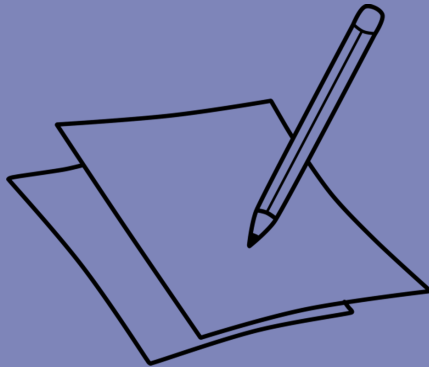
The dates are **December 11-14, 2025.**

Topic: Book of Daniel

Please send African ecclesial communication to:

Bro Arthur Wekati,
aw@bereanchristadelphian.africa
P.O Box 552 Bungoma 50200

Assisted by
Bro Bob Bent;
bob@bereanchristadelphian.africa



Continue next month should the Lord will.
