

“THOU THAT REPLIEST AGAINST GOD”, #2

DISCUSSION

- I. In a previous study, we examined two areas of replying against God in our time.
 - A. 1st, we noted that some reply against GOD AND HIS POWER, as they deny His existence—making Him powerless to create heaven and earth.
 - B. 2nd, we noted that some reply against the BIBLE, THE WORD OF GOD, for if God does not exist, His word would also be without truth.
- II. Now, this lesson deals with other areas of REPLYING AGAINST GOD.

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, some reply against GOD REGARDING HIS CHURCH.

- A. Jesus came to bring HIS church (singular) into existence. Matt. 16:18; Eph.1:22,23; 4:4; 3:10,11
 1. To start or belong to a church established by anyone else upon the basis of human doctrines, is to reply against God.
 2. Denominations have their HEADS, which reply against the authority of Jesus. Mt.28:18; Col.1:18
 - a. Catholics have their head, who is the Pope in Rome.
 - b. Episcopalians have their head, who is the Queen of England.
- B. **Any** religious body that teaches **anything** contrary to the one body of scripture in the NT is to reply against God. 1Pe.4:11; 1Co.1:10; 1Jn.4:1
 1. The one church of Christ can have NO fellowship with false religious bodies that reply against God. 2Jn.9-11
 2. Even to worship according to human doctrines is wasted. Mt.15:9

II. 2nd, some reply against GOD IN THE MATTER OF BAPTISM.

- A. By baptism, we refer to “immersion” in water, and not other actions that may be called “baptism”, which is shown in scripture to be the ONE final act that puts one into the church. Acts 2:40, 41; 1 Cor. 12:13; cf Rom. 6:3-5; Col. 2:12; Acts 8:35-38
- B. Some in the first century replied against God even under the preaching of John the Baptist.
 1. John preached the baptism of repentance. Matt. 3:1, 11
 2. Some rejected God in this matter. Matt. 22:23-26; Luke 7:29, 30
 3. If rejecting John's baptism was a rejection of God “against” those who rejected it, how much **more** is it in a reply against God **now**.
- C. Today, some still reply against God, as they say baptism is not needed for salvation, which belief represents virtually all denominations.
 1. The reply to God that “faith only” saves **apart from baptism, OR** one can just **say** the so-called “**Sinner's Prayer**” and be saved.
 2. Some agree that baptism was once necessary, but things are now “different”. (Standard Manual for Baptist Churches, p. 22)
 3. Jesus, through the scripture, says baptism **is** necessary to salvation Mark 16:15f; 1 Cor.14:37; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21

CONCLUSION

- I. Are you refusing baptism and the church of our Lord, either because you don't agree with the Bible teaching, or because you are just not ready to obey the Lord?
- II. Now, while these truths are fresh on you heart, is the best time to obey.

