

WORD OF THE DAY



WORD OF THE DAY ([John 5:39](#))

"You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me."
- [John 5:39](#) (NIV)

It's Biblical, But is it **Christian**?



Written by: [Rev. Dr. Jefferson Labala](#)

Many Christians, even mature Christians usually confuse something being biblical with it being Christian. Since a position has a biblical reference in support of it, it must also be a Christian position or teaching, they assume. But is it always the case?

Something may be biblical but not Christian. By biblical we mean to be backed by the Bible, or a biblical practice. To be Christian means a position or practice is in line with the revelation of God in Christ Jesus and his teaching. There are many practices and views or positions in the Bible that are biblical, but not Christian. We will list a few here.

After Jesus' baptism, he was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. We see clearly that Satan and Jesus quoted Scriptures in support of their positions (Matthew 4:1-11). One was Christian; the other was not. They both were biblical, but only one was a Christian position. The action advocated by Satan, even though supported by Scriptures, was clearly not Christian.

Many Jewish Scribes and Pharisees rejected Jesus as the Messiah and quoted Scriptures to defend their refusal (John 7:41-43). They also denied Jesus to be the Messiah because they asserted that the arrival of Elijah the prophet was to precede the coming of the Messiah. They quoted Malachi 4:5 in support of this view. But Jesus was indeed the Messiah despite these quotations from Scriptures (Matthew 17:9-13).

One last example is the practice of slavery in the United States of America. Many Christians who supported slavery used the Scriptures to justify their support of slavery (Ephesians 6:5 Colossians 3:22). As unbelievable as it might sound, some prominent Christians today still support the institution of slavery based on these Scriptures above. For ethical reasons, we will not name them here. These Christians and others defend such a position and say it is supported by the Bible, thus Christian. What is our point here? Just because something is biblical does not necessarily make it Christian. What then makes it Christian? Stay tuned!!!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

It may be Biblical, but is it Christian?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, thank you for your Holy Scriptures which teach us about your WORD. Thank you also for your Holy Spirit that you have given us to lead us into all truth so that we may fully understand and apply the Scriptures for the purpose of being like Jesus. In Jesus name we pray, amen.

Your brother in Christ, WNL

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