

Mt 15:12-14

What is a... "Denomination"

Collective noun

"collective noun" - collects things/people

ONE person **NOT** a "denomination"

1. Churches (another lesson)

2. People (this lesson)

Based on something they have in common ...

- "class" - students
- "Steve's class"
- "Wally's class"

"Denomination" in "Christendom" ...

Christendom

Baptist

Methodist

Presbyterian

“Church
of Christ”

“Denominations”

collect - on basis of *common* doc, org, practice

distinguish - on basis of *peculiar* doc, org, practice

“Denom.” unknown in NT...

"Denomination" - unknown to NT

NT - "church" (collective noun)

- **ALL saved** **Ac 2:41,47; Eph 5:23,26**
- **Those in local fellowship** **1Co 1:2; Rev 1:11**

distinguished, NOT by doctrine, but by LOCAL fellowship

NOT a "part" of "Christendom" ... "CofC denom."

NO "Baptist Christians" "Methodist Christians"

"Presbyterian Christians" "Church of Christ Christians" (?)

Shades of?... "I'm CofC" "CofC preacher" What denom. member of? "CofC"

"sect" ...

“sect” in NT: **Ac 5:17; 15:5; 26:5** Note **Ac 24:14**

Difference in “sect” & “denom.” **TODAY** (*sociologically*):

“Sect”	“Denomination”
Believe have “the truth”	Tolerant, not dogmatic
Strict morally	Accept society standards
Believe “the church”	Social gospel emphasis
Fervent	Less active

Emer. of Ch. of Christ Denom., Edwin Harrell

Attitude toward "Denominationalism"

devotion to, acceptance of, denom. system, principles

"church of your choice"; happy for "many faiths"; satisfied with denominations; social priorities

This less. not going to change the world, but to see what OUR attitude should be...

Contrast:

- Doctrinally **Ac 17:1-3**
- Morally **1Pt 4:2-4**
- Active **Ac 8:4**
- Gospel **1Ti 3:15,16**

1Co 4:17; 7:17; 14:33; 16:1; Eph 4:3-6

Denominationalism??

Jesus: **Mk 16:15-16**
Denominationalism...???

end