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"This will become a classic."—ANNE RICE, author of *Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt*

# SIMPLY CHRISTIAN

†

Why Christianity Makes Sense

N. T. WRIGHT

# Simply Christian

25 November 2012

[simplychristian.eklund.io](http://simplychristian.eklund.io)

**PICKLES** by Brian Crane



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PERSISTENCE  
IS THE KEY TO  
SUCCESS.



Dilbert.com DilbertCartoonist@gmail.com

THE OTHER KEY TO  
SUCCESS IS KNOW-  
ING WHEN TO QUIT.



YOUR  
ADVICE IS  
CONTRA-  
DICTORY  
NONSENSE.

BECAUSE  
FLEXI-  
BILITY  
IS THE  
KEY TO  
SUCCESS.



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# Quips

- If quitters never win and winners never quit; what fool came up with “Quit while you’re ahead”
- If it’s true that we’re here to help others, then what are the others here for?
- No one ever says “It’s only a game” when their team is winning.
- If you can’t be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.
- If ignorance is bliss, why aren’t more people happy?
- To vacillate or not to vacillate, that is the question...or is it?

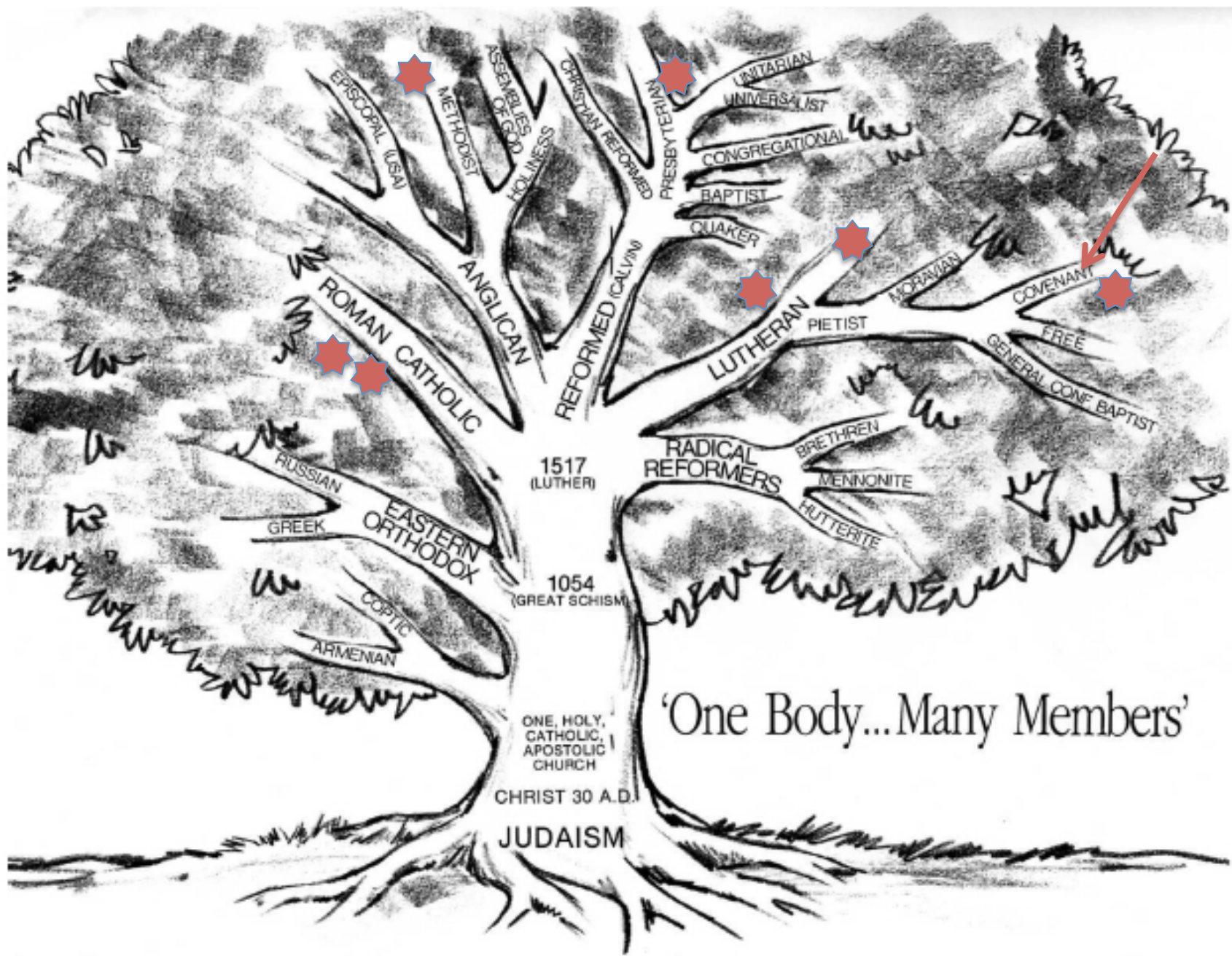
# Bulletin Bloopers

- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery down stairs.
- Thursday night: Potluck Supper - Prayer and medication will follow.
- Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 to 8:30 p.m. Please use the back door.
- Next Sunday Mrs. Vinson will be soloist for the morning service. The pastor will then speak on "It's a Terrible Experience."
- The concert held in Fellowship Hall was a great success. Special thanks are due to the minister's daughter, who labored the whole evening at the piano, which as usual fell upon her.
- On a church bulletin during the minister's illness: GOD IS GOOD - Dr. Hargreaves is better.
- Tuesday at 4:00 PM there will be an ice cream social. All ladies giving milk will please come early.
- A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.
- The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.

# Part Three: Reflecting the Image

- Worship
- Prayer
- The Book God Breathed
- The Story and the Task
- Believing and Belonging
- New Creation, Starting Now





ONE, HOLY, CATHOLIC, APOSTOLIC CHURCH  
CHRIST 30 A.D.  
JUDAISM

'One Body... Many Members'

1517 (LUTHER)

1054 (GREAT SCHISM)

ROMAN CATHOLIC

ANGELICAN

RUSSIAN  
GREEK  
EASTERN ORTHODOX

COPTIC  
ARMENIAN

REFORMED (CALVIN)

EPISCOPAL (USA)

METHODIST

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD  
HOLINESS

CHRISTIAN REFORMED  
PRESBYTERIAN

LUTHERAN

PIETIST

MORAVIAN

Covenant

FREE

GENERAL CONF BAPTIST

RADICAL REFORMERS

BRETHREN

MENNONITE

HUTTERITE





# Wright's Definition of the Church

“The church is the single, multiethnic family promised by the creator God to Abraham. It was brought into being through Israel's Messiah, Jesus; it was energized by God's Spirit; and it was call to bring the transformative news of God's rescuing justice to the whole creation.”

# Waking up

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T37GS612Ev8>
- If you want to know how obnoxious this was in real life, ask Rebekah when she is here at Christmas.

# Faith and Belief

“To believe, to love, to obey (and to repent of our failure to do those things): Faith of this kind is the mark of the Christian, the one and only badge we wear.”

# This Is My Father's World

“This is my father's world; O let me ne'er forget  
That though the wrong seem oft so strong,  
God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world; the battle is not done;  
Jesus, who died, shall be satisfied,  
And earth and heaven be one.”

# Examples of NT Rules

- Give alms in secret.
- Never sue a fellow Christian.
- Never take private vengeance.
- Be kind.
- Always show hospitality.
- Give away money cheerfully.
- Don't be anxious.
- Don't judge another Christian over a matter of conscience.
- Always forgive.

# Thanks

- I've thoroughly enjoyed teaching the class.
- I hope you have.
  - If you did, tell Pastor Naas.
  - If you didn't tell Pastor Naas.
- I'd be happy to get your feedback, positive (of course) and negative.
- Next Sunday is New Year's day in the life of the church. Come ready to explore Advent.