
ORDINARY WORDS / CHURCH WORDS

**JESUS TOOK COMMON WORDS AND GAVE THEM A NEW
SPECIFIC SPIRITUAL MEANING**



GREEK – 3 LANGUAGES

- **At the time of Christ and the writing of the New Testament – there were 3 different Greek languages**
- **1 – Classical – Aristotle, Plato, etc.**
- **2 – Legal – Used in legal documents, writing laws, contracts**
- **3 – Koine – Common language of people**
- **Jesus and apostles wrote and spoke Koine Greek**

ORDINARY WORDS / CHURCH WORDS

- **Many words we use in a spiritual sense have their origin in the common language of the people.**
- **By inspiration, God chose common words, and gave them a special meaning and usage for Christians**

MARK 12:35-37

- ³⁵ Then Jesus answered and said, while He taught in the temple, "How *is it* that the scribes say that the Christ is the Son of David? ³⁶ For David himself said by the Holy Spirit: '*The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool."*' ³⁷ Therefore David himself calls Him '*Lord*'; how is He *then* his Son?" And the common people heard Him gladly.

CHURCH

ORDINARY

- This word was in common usage as any announced or planned meeting.
- A city council meeting, a school board meeting, a meeting of the Rotary Club
- But if you have any other inquiry to make, it shall be determined in the lawful assembly. Acts 19:39

SPIRITUAL

- And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. Matthew 16:18
- praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved. Acts 2:47

HELL

ORDINARY

- This word was used to identify the location of the garbage dump (landfill) in the valley of Hinnom at Jerusalem.
- And he defiled Topheth, which *is* in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, that no man might make his son or his daughter pass through the fire to Molech. 2 Kings 23:10

SPIRITUAL

- By the time of Christ this place was the garbage dump with continual burning.
- And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name." Revelation 14:11

DEACON

ORDINARY

- This word means one who serves.
- One who serves your meal at a restaurant, one who works under a boss or supervisor
- Also used of slaves and hired workers in the fields of a farmer

SPIRITUAL

- Preachers, ministers
- Office of Deacon
- Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Jesus Christ, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: Philippians 1:1
- Qualifications – 1 Timothy 3:8

ELDER

ORDINARY

- This word refers to any older person.
- In the OT a group of men who served as advisors to Moses
- Later to men who guided a city
- Then Joshua rose up early in the morning and mustered the people, and went up, he and the elders of Israel, before the people to Ai. Joshua 8:10

SPIRITUAL

- Qualifications for the “office” of elder are in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1
- This *is* a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. 1 Timothy 3:1
- For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you-- Titus 1:5

PASTOR

ORDINARY

- This word was the common word for a shepherd (one who watched, cared for and fed a herd of sheep).
- David My servant *shall be* king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd; they shall also walk in My judgments and observe My statutes, and do them. Ezekiel 37:24

SPIRITUAL

- Pastor is used to describe the work of elders, bishops in the church.
- And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, Ephesians 4:11

BAPTISM

ORDINARY

- This word described the process of dying cloth, washing hands, and the “mikvah” of proselyte conversion.
- Mark 7:4 washing of pots
- Luke 16:24 dip his finger in water to cool rich man’s tongue

SPIRITUAL

- In the NT – the spiritual cleansing of the heart
- 1 Peter 3:21 – not cleansing of body
- Acts 22:16 And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

CONCLUSION

- **There are many other words that have taken on special and spiritual meaning in the NT, which were common words used at the time of Christ.**
- **Repent, Confess, Worship, Pray, Bishop, Resurrection – and many others.**
- **As you study the NT – apply the words as Jesus used them.**