



[Understanding the Christ](#)

Episode 1 - Beyond the Denomination: A Journey to Uncover Truth

2025-05-09

Vodcast Website: www.scottdtgrex.podbean.com

Podcast Revelation: www.scottstanleyx.podbean.com

Website: www.theLambsLove.org

Join Scott Stanley on a deeply personal mission as he navigates the complexities of faith and the church. Raised a Baptist and later experiencing a profound conversion, Scott shares his journey through various denominational groups, driven by the unsettling feeling that something is amiss within mainstream Christianity. His quest is to connect with others who question the teachings and practices of their churches, urging them to search the Scriptures for a deeper truth about God and His Son, Jesus Christ.

In this thought-provoking episode, Scott challenges listeners to reconsider their understanding of the gospel, the doctrines they've been taught, and the true nature of Jesus, who is key to understanding God. He delves into the universal issues plaguing churches, urging a reevaluation of foundational beliefs to uncover the light of true revelation. Through a series of discussions rooted in Scripture, Scott seeks to shine a light on the underlying truths of faith that have been obscured over time.

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Modified Transcript:

Scriptures are transcribed directly with notations. Refer to KJV for verbatim wording.

Introduction to a Deeper Search

Hi. My name is Scott Stanley, and I am on a mission. I am searching for people who are churchgoers who are unsatisfied with what they see going on in their church. I say that because I, being raised a Baptist, at the age of 28, actually had a conversion experience and studied myself in and out of various denominational groups. The whole time that I was in a denomination, I just had a gut feeling this wasn't all there is to it. This can't be all there is to it. Something is off.

I've reached a place in my understanding where I turned around, looked back, and realized there have to be thousands of people like that. You're going to church every week, and you're questioning some of the things you're hearing. You're questioning maybe the way you feel about it, that you truly do want to serve God, and you do trust all these people that are in the denomination with you. But still, something doesn't seem to be right.

This is important that we come to grips with what's going on. I can't help but believe, and I think you probably believe it too, we're living in the last days. We can watch the news, and you can realize how the world is upside down, and it's getting worse. What is going to happen? What are the churches telling their congregation? You know, I had an interesting thought when I considered Jesus in the temptation in the wilderness and how Satan came to him and told him, *"All of these kingdoms are mine."*

The Challenge of Diverse Teachings

Well, remember, Jesus came preaching the kingdom of God. I realized that all the different churches are teaching a different slant on the gospel. I wonder if those slants

are not coming from the devil and somehow, people are listening to the tempter. They're listening to the whisperer. Using the Bible, they have determined that they have the truth, yet their lives don't indicate that. So you know, when that happens, you make up doctrines to make yourself feel better about your own Christianity. And then when somebody declares the truth to you, you don't even take the time to consider what they're saying.

Well, that has been the problem all along because when we were told things that were not true, we probably didn't even consider that either. When I say consider, I mean you take it to the scripture. You read the scriptures and determine if these things harmonize with what you've been taught. Again, I have done that for years. I look back on the situation I was in, and I praise God that he has delivered me out of it.

But again, I'm searching for other people. There have to be other people who realize there is a deeper truth. There's something deeper about God, deeper about the Son of God. Jesus said, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father but through me"* (John 14:6).

Understanding Jesus and the Father

Now think about those words. *I am the way, the truth, and the life. You don't come to the Father, but through me.* So I could say, well, he is the way to the Father, the truth of the Father, the life of the Father. If that is the case, then we better be accurate about how we see Jesus because he is the one revealing the Father to all the rest of us. Remember Matthew 11:27,

Mat 11:27 ... No man knows the Son, but the Father; and no one knows the Father but the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal Him.

If we don't have an accurate understanding of the Son of God, we will not have an accurate understanding of the Father. Maybe that is what brings us to that place at the end, when Jesus separates the sheep from the goats. He is told by the goats, *"Haven't we done everything in your name? Haven't we prophesied? Haven't we fed the poor? Haven't we done all of these things?"* But he will say, *"Depart from me. I never knew you."* (Mat 25:41-46; Mat 7:21-23)

Only Christians would be in that place to say, *"Haven't we done many wonderful works in your name?"* That would only be a Christian, and yet he rejects them because he says, *"I never knew you."* In Matthew 7, he says, *"Depart from me, ye workers of iniquity."* Yet, Titus 2:14 says, *"He died, He gave himself to redeem us from all iniquity."*

So what is happening in the churches... and I refer to them as the universal church because they're all in the same place. They think they're different, but there are basic things, foundational things, they all believe. It's that foundation that needs to be addressed. Remember Isaiah 28:16,

Isa 28:16 ... I lay in Zion for a foundation, a stone, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone. He that believes shall not make haste.

That stone is Jesus Christ. Again, he says, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life of the Father. You don't come to the Father but through me."* If your foundational concept of Jesus is off, *"If that light that you have is actual darkness, how great is that darkness?"* (Jhn 14:6; Mat 6:23)

The Importance of Accurate Knowledge

I am going to give a series of video podcasts. I've I have been doing the book of Revelation, for seventy-seven weeks, an audio podcast a week. The truth about Jesus just began to burst forth, and I realized people need to understand their Savior so that they can understand God. To me, at this point, that is the most important truth I could convey to somebody.

We can talk about the book of Revelation all we want, but it's the Son of God... understanding the Son of God will help Revelation make sense. It will make sense of your salvation. It will make sense of your redemption. It's simply taking the time to reconsider what we've been taught.

Again, I was raised in the Baptist church, Oklahoma. I lived in Oklahoma, was raised in the Baptist church, and I went to several different denominations. I studied with many different denominations and finally concluded that there is confusion everywhere I look.

Remember, the whisperer, the tempter, the devil, tells Jesus, *"All of these kingdoms are mine. I'll give them to you. Just worship me."* (Mat 4:8-9)

Once we begin to determine that tempter, the devil, and we begin to see what is actually happening in these verses... because think about it. When Jesus went into the wilderness, he was alone. So in the gospels, when they wrote about that temptation, where did they get that information?

Jesus' Temptation in the Wilderness

It had to come directly from Jesus himself. He had a way of teaching that we really need to look at so we can go back and look at all of the situations of Jesus in the Bible and determine the truth about who he is, determine the truth about what happened on that cross so that we can determine the truth about our heavenly Father. Jesus came to declare his heavenly Father (Mat 11:27).

I hope you're up for it. I hope that this has pricked your conscience. I hope that you will search with me to find deeper truths. I am not going to tell you you're wrong. I just simply want to read what the Bible says, the depth of it, here a little, there a little, line upon line, precept upon precept, and not let the denominational creeds get in my way (Isa 28:10). I want to look through that because every kingdom, every kingdom is ruled by the God of this world, the prince of the power of the air. When I say kingdom, I don't just mean literal countries. I mean, the nations of denominations. You cannot have all of these denominations and everybody be right.

Uniting in Truth and Faith

There is only one faith (Eph 4:5). Let's discover what that is. Let's discover who our Savior is and walk with him in harmony, and be able to put away Satan, cast down Satan, and not be governed in his kingdom anymore.