

The scriptural case against Kip McKean and/or the ICOC

#1 – Luke 18: 9-14

*9*To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: **10**"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. **11**The Pharisee stood up and prayed about^[a] himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. **12**I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

13"But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'

14"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

[Argument: The ICOC exalts themselves and looks down upon those who are not in their movement or those who left their movement.]

#2 – Luke 17: 20-21

20Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, "The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, **21**nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of God is within^[b] you."

[Argument: ICOC misinterprets "Seek first His kingdom" as a type of physical place or organization where all priority must be given.]

#3 – Matthew 7: 24-27

24"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. **25**The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. **26**But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. **27**The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

[Argument: Most post-HKL / ICOC churches still maintain the same leaders as pre-HKL. Can sand turn into rock? New wine must be poured into new wineskins.]

#4 – 1 Corinthians 1: 11-13

11My brothers, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. 12What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas^[a]"; still another, "I follow Christ." 13Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized into^[b] the name of Paul?

[Argument: I follow Kip. I follow Steve Johnson. I follow Tim Huffman. Non-denominational? I think not.]

#5 – Matthew 15: 13-14

13He replied, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be pulled up by the roots. 14Leave them; they are blind guides.^[c] If a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into a pit."

[Argument: Jesus' instructions and warnings against following Pharisaical teaching.]

#6 – Acts 17: 11

11Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

[Argument: 'Being a Berean' in the ICOC is noble, until you get baptized. After baptism, it's referred to as un-trust, criticalness, bitterness, or weak.]

#7 – 2 Corinthians 7: 10-11

10Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death. 11See what this godly sorrow has produced in you: what earnestness, what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what alarm, what longing, what concern, what readiness to see justice done. At every point you have proved yourselves to be innocent in this matter.

[Argument: Does this resemble your leader post HKL? Or was that type of display only reserved for you, not the leaders?]

#8 – Mark 7: 1-11

1The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and **2**saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were "unclean," that is, unwashed. **3**(The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. **4**When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.^[a])

5So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with 'unclean' hands?"

6He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written:

" 'These people honor me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.

7They worship me in vain;

their teachings are but rules taught by men.^[b] **8**You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men."

9And he said to them: "You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe^[c] your own traditions! **10**For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother,^[d] and, 'Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death.^[e] **11**But you say that if a man says to his father or mother: 'Whatever help you might otherwise have received from me is Corban' (that is, a gift devoted to God), **12**then you no longer let him do anything for his father or mother. **13**Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that."

[Argument: Special Mission Contributions. Midweek Services. Yearly Seminars. Discipling Partners. Leader's Meetings.]

#9 – Matthew 23: 13-32

13"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the kingdom of heaven in men's faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to.^[c]

15"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as you are.

16"Woe to you, blind guides! You say, 'If anyone swears by the temple, it means nothing; but if anyone swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.'

17You blind fools! Which is greater: the gold, or the temple that makes the gold sacred? **18**You also say, 'If anyone swears by the altar, it means nothing; but if anyone swears by the gift on it, he is bound by his oath.' **19**You blind men! Which is greater: the gift, or the altar that makes the gift sacred? **20**Therefore, he who swears by the altar swears by it and by everything on it. **21**And he who swears by the temple swears by it and by the one who dwells in it. **22**And he who swears by heaven swears by God's throne and by the one who sits on it.

23"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cummin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. **24**You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel.

25"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. **26**Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.

27"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. **28**In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.

29"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You build tombs for the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous. **30**And you say, 'If we had lived in the days of our forefathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.' **31**So you testify against yourselves that you are the descendants of those who murdered the prophets. **32**Fill up, then, the measure of the sin of your forefathers!

[Argument: Is Jesus 'bitter' or 'critical' because He speaks out against ungodliness? Or is He righteously indignant?]

#10 – Romans 14: 1-4

1Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters. 2One man's faith allows him to eat everything, but another man, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. 3The man who eats everything must not look down on him who does not, and the man who does not eat everything must not condemn the man who does, for God has accepted him. 4Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

[Argument: It's nearly impossible for a member of the ICOC to have their 'own convictions' without being labeled as divided, weak or struggling.]

#11 – Matthew 11: 28-30

28"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

[Argument: For the most part, signing up to be a Christian shouldn't mean physical exhaustion given to a 'physical' kingdom which leads to family neglect.]

#12 – 2 Corinthians 9:7

7Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

[Argument: The standard for giving under the New Covenant is not tithing, which is a term of the Old Covenant law. And no where in this scripture does it state you should give MORE than a tenth to be considered righteous.]

#13 – Hebrews 12: 28-29

28Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, 29for our "God is a consuming fire."^[1]

[Argument: If the ICOC is the biblical, physical kingdom, then why was it shaken? That would contradict the bible.]

#14 – Matthew 28: 18-20

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. *19* Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in^[a] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, *20* and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

[Argument: ICOC teaches one must be a disciple before they can be a disciple, which is impossible given that baptism and indwelling of the Holy Spirit are involved. Also, the ICOC falsely assume that THEY can make judgments regarding who is and who isn't a disciple.]

#15 – Acts 8: 30 -39

30 Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked.
31 "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.
32 The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture:
"He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,
and as a lamb before the shearer is silent,
so he did not open his mouth."
33 In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.
Who can speak of his descendants?
For his life was taken from the earth.^[e]
34 The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" *35* Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.
36 As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?"^[f] *38* And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. *39* When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.

[Argument: The Ethiopian eunuch did not go through an eight part 'study series' in order for Philip to make a judgment on whether he was ready or not. Rather, Philip 'told him the good news about Jesus' and the EUNUCH decided that he was ready to be baptized. And no, there were no 'follow-up studies' either. The Spirit suddenly took Philip away.]

#16 – Hebrews 10: 25

*25*Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

[Argument: Should Christians be criticized for missing time with each other? Doesn't the term 'give up' imply a total stoppage? To give up means exactly what it says, 'give up'.]

#17 – Ephesians 2:8-9

*8*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— *9*not by works, so that no one can boast.

[Argument: “Look at what we’ve done.””See how many disciples we have baptized today””We are so awesome.” We merely plant the seeds. God makes them grow, not us. He is the potter. We are the clay.]

#18 – John 13: 12-17

*12*When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them.

13"You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. *14*Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. *15*I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. *16*I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. *17*Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

[Argument: Jesus, our Lord and Savior, tends to his disciples as an example of servitude and humility. Is this the attitude and action of your leaders on and off the pulpit? Or do they feel they should be the ones being served?]

#19 – Galatians 5: 1-6

1It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

2Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all. **3**Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law. **4**You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. **5**But by faith we eagerly await through the Spirit the righteousness for which we hope. **6**For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

[Argument: No matter how you slice it, no matter what spin the ICOC will place on this scripture, they continue to be a works-oriented church, and are in danger of falling away from grace. This passage is not an excuse to sin, true. It also very clearly spells out that placing your hopes in being justified by law is dangerous.]

#20 – Galatians 5: 22-23

22But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23**gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

[Argument: ‘Bearing fruit’ does not mean ‘making disciples’.]

#21 – Matthew 7: 15-20

15*"Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. 16*By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? **17***Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18*A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. **19***Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20*Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

[Argument: Recognizing a false prophet is easy, not hard. Examine the ‘fruits’ of their Spirit as found in Galatians 5: 22-23. Do they possess these? If not, you may be following a false prophet.]