Is it necessary to be a member # of the church which Christ Purchased with His own blood?Ac.20,28..Died for,Sanctified and cleansed Eph.5,25 As Christ also loved the church,and gave Himself for it,that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,27 That He might present it to Himself a glorious church,not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing;but that it should be holy and without blemish.

A wife usually takes her husbands name after they are married.So it is with the church.Ro.7.4 Wherefore my brethren,ye also are become dead to the law(The law of Moses) by the body of Christ;that ye should be married to another even to Him who is raised from the dead,that we should bring forth fruit unto God.--A marriage brings forth fruit after the marriage cermony.The Israelites were spoken of as married to God Jer.3,14 Through the Prophet Jeremiah was pleading to the Israelites to return to backsliding children,saith the Lord :for I am married unto you. Him Turn .8 And I saw,when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adulterey I had put her away,and given her a writing of divorcement* yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not and went and played the harlot also.--They were married to God by the Law of Moses given at Mt,Sinai when they agreed to keep his laws which He commanded them and promised them all physical blessings for doing so.They left Him and worshipped Idols.Now He plead pleads with them to return to Him,For I am married to you.They were called Israelites,Now in Isaiah 62,2 He promises them a new name.And the Gentile shall see thy righteousness,and all kings thy Glory.And thou shalt be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord shall name.That new name was given them in Acts.11,26 And the disciples were called Christians first At Antioc.This new name was to be given at the time the Gentiles should be received in the kingdom,or church,which took place in the tenth chapter of Acts When the first gospel sermon was preached and accepted by the Gentiles.And Paul mentions in Ac.14,27 That God had opened the door of faith to the Gentile.Now let us notice Ac 26,28 As Paul was being tried before King Agrippa who said Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.Also 1Pe. 4,16 If any man suffer as a Christian let him not be ashamed;but let him glorify God on this behalf.Jas.2,7 Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by which we are called.?Eph.3,14-15 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,Of whom the whiole family in heaven and in earth is named.

referring back to Ro.# 6,4 That ye should be married to another even to Him who is raised from the dead.2 Cor.11,2 Paul says I am jealous over you with a Godly Jealousy,For I have espoused you to one husband.One division of the word espoused,Married to.Then we read in 1 Cor 6,17 He that is Joined to the Lord is one Spirit. HOW ARE WE JOINED TO THE LORD? Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death,That like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father,even so we also should walk in newness of Life.For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death,we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection.Ro.6,3-5..When we go through the likeness of His death and resurrection,we are raised to walk a new life,and are told in Verse 17 that we have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine,(the death, burial and resurrection)being then made free from sin,ye became servants of righteousness.--Verse 22 But now being made free from sin and become servants of righteousness,ye have your fruit unto Holiness and the end everlasting life. Now let us go to the Marriage again Rev 19,7 Let us be glad and rejoice for the marriage of the Lamb is come,and His wife hath made herself ready,And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen,clean and white:for the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints . Now to Rev.22,17 And the Spirit and the bride say,come;And let him that heareth say,come.And let him that is athirst Come and drink of the water of Life freely.-The bride the Church-- the Spirit,The words that I speak unto you they are Spirit and they are Life Jn.6,63.

We refer again to Ac.2,38 Peter convinced the Jews that they had crucified Christ the Son of God,evidently they repented,Were pricked in their hearts, Asked what to do,and were told to Repent and be baptized every one of you i in the name of Jesus Christ.verse 41 They that gladly received his word were baptized.Verse 47 The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.We read Heb.11,6 Without faith it is impossible to please God,for he that cometh to God must believe that He is,and that He is a rewarderof them that diligently seek Him.Jesus insisted,Except ye believe that I am he (the Son of God)ye shall die in your sins.Again He says Jn.6,44 No man can come unto me except the Father which hath sent me draw him:and I will raise him up at the last day.How is He drawn?verse 45 It is written in the prophets,And they shall all be taught of God,Every man therefore that hath heard and learned of the Father ,cmeth unto me.Ac.17,30 The Lord Commandeth all men every where to repent.Confess our faith in Christ And be baptized for the remission of our sins. J.H.Lackey.