



## A Square Peg In A Round Hole?

Tim Canup

We all have heard the statement; “You cannot put a square peg in a round hole.” We understand the impossibility of such. We can beat that peg until the proverbial cows come

home, but it simply will not fit. With sin in our lives, we cannot fit into the kingdom of God, the church; therefore, we are hopeless, for Paul told Timothy that salvation was **in** Christ (II Timothy 2:10). What is man to do? God has given to man, at the very high cost of the blood of His only begotten Son, a means by which man can be cleansed of his sins.

Man, with unforgiven sin in his life, is represented by a square peg, and Christ or His church (where salvation is) is represented by a box. The only entrance into the box is a round hole, which represents the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For anyone to fit into the box (or the Lord’s church), they must obey the commandments of the Gospel, which has the power to change them from a square peg, which does not fit, into a round one (or a Christian). The change brought about by the Gospel is what Paul spoke of when he wrote, “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind...” (Romans 12:2).

However, too often it is the case that instead of conforming our lives to fit the Gospel, we conform the Gospel to fit our lives! When we do such, it no longer becomes the Lord’s church into which we enter, rather, a man-made denomination. Paul spoke of this very thing in Galatians 1:6-8, when he warned of those who “would pervert the gospel of Christ.” For us to enter into the Lord’s church, the one purchased by His blood which belongs to Him, we must conform to His commandments in humble obedience. Many in the religious world have altered or changed Jesus’ commands by denying the necessity of baptism. Without baptism, one cannot contact the blood of Christ, which will take away sins. It is in obedience to God’s command to be baptized, and only at that point do we contact Jesus’ blood (Romans 6:3-4). The question is,

