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Free Christians for the Christ of the Sermon on the Mount in All Cultures Worldwide  
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*Press Release*

## **Notice: Bishops should no longer call themselves “Christian”!**

A campaign of the “Free Christians for the Christ of the Sermon on the Mount in All Cultures Worldwide” began with a bang. As if drawing up a balance, a theologian, a physician, two journalists and two jurists categorically deny the Roman-Catholic Church the right to use the name “Christian.” The Catholic bishops of Germany, above all Robert Zollitsch of Freiburg, the Chairman of the German Bishop’s Conference, are thus called on to officially abstain from this designation (“Call Yourselves Catholic, no one will contest that!) - otherwise a complaint will be filed. For “Jesus, the Christ, is a concern of our heart, because He is our heavenly friend and our divine brother, the Redeemer of all men and souls, we will no longer accept that His name be constantly abused by you and your institutional church doctrine for something totally different.”

In a **five-page letter** and extensive **documentation**, ([www.christ-or-church.de](http://www.christ-or-church.de)) the six accusers list the grounds for why, from their point of view, the Church has forfeited the right to call itself “Christian”: In a clearly identifiable contrast to the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, there is an accumulation of power and wealth (“while millions of people are unemployed and pinched by poverty”); despite immense wealth, it is “fattened” by the state with subsidies amounting to billions (“including your salaries as bishops”); it justifies wars and violence, and causes fear in the people with the threat of an alleged “eternal hell.” Forced celibacy, baptism of babies, hostility toward women and sexuality, sexual crimes committed by priests, the “betrayal of animals” – the list of church transgressions right up to the present day is long, and the consequence of this, literally, “fraudulent labeling,” inevitable:

“It is enough! It is high time that the name of Jesus, the Christ, finally be rehabilitated, the greatest prophet of all time, who became our Redeemer on the cross, who resurrected and comes again in the spirit, but who is still kept on the cross by you ... It is more than enough! We do not contest your faith! But we call on you to no longer use the designation ‘Christian.’”

This is not meant to merely be an appeal. If by September 20, 2009, the bishops do not pledge to cease and desist from their “spiritual legacy hunting and counterfeiting,” as it were, the authors of this letter want to bring the abuse of Christ’s name before the German courts.

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