United Methodist Religion

Name

[Name of the Institution]

United Methodist religion, also known as Methodist movement or Methodism is derived from the belief and practices learned by the John Wesley teachings. 1968 was the year of the United Methodist religion origin. John Wesley was born in1703 and received his early education from London. Wesley joined work for the colony of Georgia to be a pastor to the missionaries and colonists. However, the failure of the work resulted in a lack of genuine Christian faith in him. He started feeling that he had faith in Christ and only Christ. It means Christ can take away sin, can save him, and Christ has complete authority on the law of sin and death. Later, Wesley started work with his friend Whitefield after he invited him to preach the colliers of Kingwood Chase. John Wesley explained that God’s love is universal through enormous doctrine after he felt the difference of opinion with his partner Whitefield. Whitefield had belief on double predestination that was God decides who will be saved on Day of Judgment that is determined from eternity.

During the 18th Century, the church of England Wesley's beliefs and teaching of Wesley originated as a revival movement. After his death, this movement spread all over England, America and various other regions. Wesley preaching set an imperative pattern for the Methodist church, however, in 1795 that is four years after his death a certain disruption with the Church of England came1. Afterwards, English Methodism, with strong outposts in Wales, Scotland and Ireland, quickly established as a church, irrespective of averse to perpetuate the separation from the Church of England. A whole nation was divided into districts which further divided into circuits of congregations. Power was in the hand of trainees but to increase the impact, ministers were appointed to the circuits.

By the end of the 19th Century, around 450000 members became part of the Wesleyan Methodist church. In modern times, around 83000 ministers are linked to the religion along with 32000 congregations. The main reason for the rapid expansion was the teaching of Wesley that was beneficial for ordinary people in industrial areas. Methodist faith became the motivation for working men and women to tolerate economic hardship if they want to fight with issues like poverty. In addition, Wesleyan Methodism became a middle-class church that was not resistant to the unnecessary strain on people in spiritual and worldly troubles, which was noticeable during the Victorian age.

In America, Methodism was introduced by Irish immigrants. Wesley also sent preachers to America in the 1770s who spread his teachings to the native people. Initially, Methodists used to wear a simple dress as they were against laces, expensive headdresses and the use of gold. They wake up before dawn for prayer and remain on their knees without drinking and eating for a few hours. However, with time, various strict practices were changed. In contemporary times, there are millions of Methodists in America and Britain. This religion is also expanding to other nations like South Korea and France. Reports indicate that there are around 12 million Methodists in the world2.

Preaching that started from one church, today there is the number of associations that are spreading the teaching of the religion. These associations include the national council of churches, world council of churches, world Methodist council, Christian churches together and churches unity in Christ. The aid organization of Methodist is the "united Methodist committee on relief." Started working with 450000 members, today they have around 12000000 members where more than 6800000 are only in America3. In addition, these members are traveling to different nations to spread the teachings and beliefs of Wesley to make their religion acceptable by more people.

**Reference List**

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3. NW 1615 L. St, Washington S 800, Inquiries D 20036 U-419-4300 | M-419-4349 | F-419-4372 | M. Members of the United Methodist Church - Religion in America: U.S. Religious Data, Demographics and Statistics. *Pew Research Center’s Religion & Public Life Project*. https://www.pewforum.org/religious-landscape-study/. Accessed November 9, 2019.