Finding The Church That Jesus Built; Does It Still Exist In The World Today?

Bible Studies for those who want to know The TRUTH!!!
BIBLE STUDY: Finding The Church That Jesus Built; Does It Still Exist In The World Today?

Can the 300,000+ churches in America, with their 217 DIFFERENT Christian denominations, all teaching DIFFERENT doctrines, believing, and doing DIFFERENT things; can they really all be part of The Body of Christ, or The Church that Jesus originally founded (Matthew 16:13-19)? Is there any way to know for sure?

Bible Study Instructions: One Nation Under God Ministries (www.onug.us) publishes and distributes weekly Bible Studies, worldwide – free of charge, to anyone who requests them, in both printed and electronic formats. Our Studies are intended to be a simple and fun way to Learn The Scriptures, and are very easy to follow! We adhere to Jesus Christ’s Biblical Instructions to Teach and Feed The Flock of God (John 10:16) portions of Meat in Due Season, on weekly Sabbaths, and on The Seven annual Holy Days (Leviticus 23:1-44) throughout each calendar year (Luke 12:42 / Isaiah 28:9-10 / Matthew 13:52). Using both The Old and New Testaments, our Bible Studies are designed to present a premise, make a statement, or ask a question – followed by one or more Scriptural References. Just look up and read from your Bible The Scriptures listed. Comments following questions elaborate on The Scriptures you just read. Pray always BEFORE beginning any Study of God’s Word, Asking God to OPEN both your eyes and your mind to His Truth (Matthew 7:7-8); then Prove EVERYTHING you read, is in fact the Truth, by comparing it to The Word of God (1 Thessalonians 5:21 / 2 Timothy 3:15-17). Then use The Biblical System of Checks and Balances, and SEE if both Jesus Christ, and The First Century Church of God Apostles – also Did, Said, and Taught These SAME THINGS (Galatians 1:1-12, 5:25 / 1 Peter 2:21, 25 / 1 John 2:3-6)! That’s all there is to it! Our Bible Studies are based on the King James Version, unless otherwise stated. We will be Praying for your eyes to “SEE” (Matthew 13:11-17); and we are always available to answer any
of your questions! Be Blessed, in Jesus’ Name! - One Nation Under God Ministries, and their FREE Online College of Biblical Knowledge, are Preparing The Brides of Christ (Matthew 25:1-13), and this world (Mark 16:15-20), for The Return of Jesus (John 10:16); One Bible Study (Matthew 11:28-30) At A Time! Join Them at www.onug.us!!! JESUS IS LORD!!!

Jesus told His Followers that He would never leave them, nor forsake them (Hebrews 13:5 / Deuteronomy 31:6). That means The Son of God never abandoned His Church, or left them to their own devices so that they would have to figure things out for themselves. Jesus Personally Told us that He is The Sheppard of His church; He Says that He Personally Guides It and that His sheep Follow Him, and that they Know His Voice (John 10:1-5). God does NOT change, Neither does Jesus Christ (Malachi 3:6 / Hebrews 13:8); so we can KNOW with Absolute Certainty that Christ is still Very Much in Control of EVERYTHING that His Church is doing - Right At This Very Moment – And Up UNTIL The End of The World (Matthew 28:18-20)!!!

An All Powerful Jesus Christ would NEVER ALLOW His Body to decay, die, or even fragment into thousands of different flavors of Christianity over the last two millennia; and if Jesus Christ will not allow something to happen, then it has not happened!!! Christ’s Church then must still be Alive, Here on this earth, Ready for us to find; and still Doing what Jesus Called it to DO (1 Corinthians 1:1-31)!!!

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What The Mormons (or Latter Day Saints) Teach:

Where I live in Naples, Florida, or where I have called “Headquarters” for The Work Christ has Called me to DO - for the last quarter century; I have received many visits from young Mormon “Elders”, over those years, who have asked - if they could share The Words of Jesus Christ with me! I always invite them in, and welcome sharing God’s Word!!!
I give these bright, well dressed young men, an attentive audience; and they usually always begin, something like this:

"Once the Original Disciples died, the church Jesus founded through them, died out too (I immediately turned in my Bible to Matthew 16:13-20)!!"

"Fewer than 400 years after the death of the Savior, the Church as Jesus organized it was nowhere to be found in the whole world. This began the period known as the Great Apostasy. The New Testament Apostles and Book of Mormon disciples were gone. And gone with them was the authority to administer the Church and to hold the priesthood.

It was a time when people persecuted, tortured, and killed Christians and when the church itself became corrupt without inspired leadership. The world was in spiritual darkness.

What Is the Apostasy?

The term apostasy means turning away from the truth. Some people today leave the Church. But the Great Apostasy, as we call it now, was more than that. With the death of the Apostles, priesthood keys, or the presiding priesthood authority, were taken from the earth. Without these watchmen—the Apostles who had kept the doctrines of the gospel pure and who maintained the order and standard of worthiness in the Church—the members faced serious challenges. Over time doctrines were corrupted and unauthorized changes were made in Church organization and priesthood ordinances.

What Happened to the Apostles?

Following the Savior’s death, the Apostles spread the gospel, and the Church grew quickly throughout the Roman Empire. But almost immediately after the Ascension of the Savior, the Apostles began to be persecuted. James, the brother of John and one of the original Twelve Apostles, was killed by Herod (see Acts 12:1–2). Peter and Paul were also killed during New Testament
times. We don’t have records of the deaths of all the Apostles, but we do know that all but John the Beloved died and, after a time, ceased to be replaced. The keys and authority of the holy priesthood were lost with the deaths of the Church leaders. Without this authority, no new revelation, doctrine, or scripture could come. (God’s Saints KNOW Daniel 12:4 / Matthew 24:42-51. God’s TRUE Church would NEVER Die Out!!!).

What Happened to the Church?

The Apostles were killed during a time when the entire Church was being persecuted. Nero, a Roman emperor, was the first to make laws to exterminate Christians, in about A.D. 65. Under his reign, thousands were cruelly killed. A second round of persecutions began in about A.D. 93 under Emperor Domitian. Succeeding emperors continued torturing and killing Christians. As a result of these persecutions, thousands of Christians were martyred. Many others apostatized.

In about A.D. 324 Constantine became the emperor of the Roman Empire. He made Christianity a legal religion, stopping centuries of persecution. His actions linked the church to the government, and corrupt church leaders began seeking power and the honors of the world.

Teachers within the church began to adopt false religious concepts from Greek philosophy and pagan religions. False ordinances and ceremonies were also introduced. Even though the church still taught some truth, the true Church of Christ and the priesthood were no longer on the earth. And as Christianity spread to various parts of the world—including to Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas—new churches were formed and grew. None of these churches, however, was the true Church, since the Lord had already taken priesthood authority and priesthood keys from the earth.” (John 17:1-26 / 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 / 1 John 3:1-3 / 1 Corinthians 15: 50-58. These Scriptures PROVE TO US that
God’s Church will NOT ALL SLEEP or Die; and Will BE ALIVE – Continuously – throughout History – from EVERY PERIOD and EVERY CIVILIZATION [Revelation 7:9-10, 13-17 / Hebrews 11:35-40 / Matthew 28:20] UNTIL Jesus Christ’s Second Coming!!!)

The text you have just read, is a paraphrase of Official Mormon teachings, on how God’s church “died out” – in DIRECT CONTRADICTION TO THE WORDS OF JESUS CHRIST - IN MATTHEW 16:13-20)!!! www.onug.us

God’s Church CONTINUED ON After The Original Apostles Died!!!

The Apostle Paul “beseeches” us (or he asks us urgently, fervently; he begs and pleads with us) to walk worthy of our Vocation (our Profession) that God Called us Follow; but in UNITY in the bond of Peace (Ephesians 4:1-6). In Paul’s epistle to the Colossians we see that we should be giving Thanks to our Heavenly Father, because He has made us able to partake of the Inheritance of the Saints, in Light (coming up in the First Resurrection at the return of Jesus. Daniel 12:2-3 / 1 John 3:1-3)!!!

God The Father has Delivered us from the power of Satan to deceive us, by Ordaining us as Heirs to The Kingdom of God (John 15:15-16), RIGHT NOW - while we are still in the flesh, by The Blood of Christ (Colossians 1:12-14)!!! This is a Powerful Concept, WHEN and IF we can Grasp It, Understand It, and Grow in It!!! www.onug.us

But we can ONLY walk worthy of our Calling, be Unified with The Father and The Son, have Deliverance from the deceiving power of Satan, ONLY IF we recognize Jesus as "The Head of His Body, or His Church” – WHICH WILL NEVER DIE OUT (Colossians 1:15-20)!!!
You CANNOT profess to recognize Jesus as The Head of His Church; and then go out and preach, teach, and follow DIFFERENT DOCTRINES, other than those Jesus taught (John 13:15-16)!!! It cannot be done in TRUTH (John 4:23-24, 17:17)!!!

One church teaches the death of the body (dust to dust) until one of two resurrections, another does not! One church teaches baptism, another does not! One church keeps God’s original Sabbath, another does not! One church keeps God’s True Holy Days, another keeps man-made holidays instead (1 John 2:4-6)!!! You are either following EXACTLY, the Example and Teachings of Jesus Christ (What did Jesus DO, SAY, and TEACH), or you are NOT (Luke 6:46 / Galatians 1:8-12 / 1 John 2:3-6)!!!

God is not the author of confusion!!!

In 2015, the Ice Cream vendor, Baskin Robbins, celebrated their 70th anniversary of making 31 different flavors of ice cream. They even have a bubble gum flavor of ice cream to appeal more to little children. God DOES NOT do the same thing with His Worship and with His Obedience!!! You cannot “Do Jesus Your Way!” We must Grow Up, and LEARN TO DO, SAY, AND TEACH THINGS HIS WAY!!!
“Whom shall He (God) Teach Knowledge? And whom shall He make to Understand Doctrine? Them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts!!! For precept (or concept) must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line (or Scripture) upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little (Old Testament and New Testament)!!!” (Isaiah 28:9-10).

God doesn’t Teach “The Meat of The Word” to Spiritual babies in His Church!!! God allows them to mature for years, before they really start to get the deep stuff of God!!! Not to think so - is naïve!!!

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My Ways Higher than your ways, and My Thoughts than your thoughts!!!” (Isaiah 55:9).

I have seen grown men, accomplished in the world, Called into God’s Church, only to see them leave after just a few years (still spiritual babies); because they couldn’t grasp God’s concepts yet, and they wanted to fill in their gaps in understanding of God’s Ways, with human reasoning and with secular wisdom. They wanted to inflict human standards and criteria on God’s Church or His Ministers, instead of adopting God’s Ways and God’s Scriptural Reasoning!

Be Warned! When we don’t adopt God’s Culture in His Church, and don’t produce fruit on Christ’s Vine; The Father will cut us loose!!!

“I Am The True Vine, and My Father is the Husbandman (Vineyard Owner). Every branch in Me that beareth not fruit, He (God The Father) taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, He (God The Father) purgeth it (or prunes), that it may bring forth more fruit!!! Now ye are clean through The Word which I have spoken unto you!!! Abide in Me, and I in you! As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in The Vine; no more can ye, except ye Abide in Me!!! I Am The Vine, ye are the branches: He that Abideth in Me, and I in him, the same
bringeth forth Much Fruit: for without Me ye can do NOTHING!!!

If a man Abide NOT in Me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned!!!” (John 15:1-6).  www.onug.us

God ONLY Calls Sinners and the Detestable into His Church! And Yes; THIS MEANS YOU!!!

But then God Washes us Clean in the Blood of His Son; Gives us His Holy Spirit, and REQUIRES US TO CHANGE – TO BECOME MORE LIKE CHRIST; AND LESS LIKE OURSELVES – DAY BY DAY, SABBATH BY SABBATH!!! Those who refuse to change, those who refuse to grow in Grace and in Knowledge of God, His Ways, His Plan; those who REFUSE to carry their Cross Piece and give up SELF; they will be DRIVEN BY GOD TO LEAVE HIS CHURCH!!! www.onug.us

“Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist (the man of perdition) shall come, even now are there many antichrists (those who insist on doing things their way and NOT Christ’s Way); whereby we know that it is the last time (or we are living in the Last Days before the Return of Christ). They went out from us, but they were NOT of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us!!! But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things! I have not written unto you because ye know not The Truth, but because ye KNOW IT, and that no lie is of The Truth!!! (1 John 2:18-21).

The Church of God, is where The High Priest of God (Jesus The Christ), Calls and Teaches Sinners to also become Kings and Priests of God, starting at The First Resurrection; at The Return of Jesus Christ to This Earth!!!

A Priest of God MUST FIRST LEARN to Worship God The Father in Spirit and in Truth, just as Jesus Did; so that he
can then TEACH OTHERS TO CORRECTLY WORSHIP THE FATHER DURING THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST ON EARTH (Revelation 5:10, 20:6)!!!

A Teacher of God’s Ways must first be a student, under Christ, of God’s Ways! A King who is Appointed to Rule Under Christ, must FIRST LEARN to Submit to Christ’s TEACHING AUTHORITY!!!

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SABBATH:
"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls!" (Matthew 11:29)

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Do YOU Understand The Honor It Is, To Be Called Into God’s True Church? Do YOU Understand that The Church, and God’s Sabbaths, are designed to Fashion YOU, and Teach YOU, HOW To Become A God Family Member With AUTHORITY in the World To Come! God’s Church exists NOW TO Train The Ruling World Government of The Kingdom of God WHEN it Comes to this very Earth at the Return of Jesus Christ!!!

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“YOU And I HAVE Been Selected By God The Father, And By Jesus Christ, To Be Kings, Priests, and Pillars In God’s Dwelling Place When It Comes To The Earth (Revelation 21:1-7, 3:12)!!! There is NO GREATER HONOR, in Heaven, or upon the earth; with which God The Father can bestow upon men, than This!!!”—Pastor Bob Brown

“And no man taketh this Honour unto himself, but (or except for) he that is Called of God, as was Aaron!!

So also Christ Glorified not Himself to be made an High Priest; but He that Said unto Him, ‘Thou Art My Son, today have I Begotten Thee!!’”

“As He Saith also in another place, ‘Thou Art A Priest For Ever After The Order Of Melchisedec!!’

Who in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto Him that was able to Save Him from death, and was heard in that He Feared; Though He were a Son, yet learned He Obedience by the things which He suffered!!! And being made Perfect, He became The Author of Eternal Salvation unto ALL them that OBEY Him; Called of God An High Priest After The Order Of Melchisedec!!”

A Warning Against Drifting Away!!!

“Of Whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing!!! For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one Teach you again which be The First Principles of The Oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat! For every one that useth milk is unskilful in The Word of Righteousness: for he is a babe!!! But Strong Meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil!!!” (Hebrews 5:4-14). www.onug.us
You CANNOT Have It “Your Way“ In God’s Church!

This is a rather unbelievable concept to many in today’s “Modern Churchianity”, because society, religion, and Satan have conditioned us to have ANYTHING and EVERYTHING, WHENEVER WE WANT IT – OUR WAY!!!

Go into any Ford Car Dealership today; and you can order almost any model car or truck, in almost any color! Imagine Ford only selling black cars and trucks today! Insane right?
Well, Not Really! Henry Ford at one time, ONLY offered customers the option of Black!!! He was very much like Jesus Christ has ALWAYS BEEN! In The Church of God, YOU can only Have It, Do It, Jesus Christ’s Way – or You Don’t Get It!!!

Jesus Tells Us PLAINLY And With AUTHORITY:

“Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into The Kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth The Will of My Father which is in Heaven! Many will say to Me in That Day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy Name? And in Thy Name have cast out devils? And in Thy Name done many wonderful works?’ And then will I Profess unto them, ‘I Never Knew YOU: Depart from Me, ye that work Iniquity (Lawlessness)!!!”

“Therefore whosoever Heareth these Sayings of Mine, and Doeth Them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a Rock (Christ): And the rain descended, and the
floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a Rock (Christ). And every one that heareth these Sayings of Mine, and **Doeth Them NOT**, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand (the world’s way): And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and Great was the fall of it!!!”

“And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended These Sayings, the people were astonished at **His Doctrine**: For He Taught them as One Having Authority, and NOT as the scribes (or bible teachers)!!” (Matthew 7:21-29).

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**Stay Obedient To Christ, And Stay On Track!!!**

God WILL keep His church on track (1 Corinthians 14:33)! This same God, who does not change, will also NOT accept people worshipping HIM in man-made churches, with man-made religions (Matthew 15:7-9 / Mark 7:7-13 / Isaiah 29:13). The Real Jesus Christ calls His Church to **Hear, Listen, and Understand what God the Father is saying to us!!!** (Matthew
So, to summarize; if God is NOT the author of confusion, but Satan is... If God does NOT accept vain and useless, man-made or pagan practices, as forms of worship; but ONLY Those who Worship Him in Spirit and in Truth, and who Carefully Observe and DO What He Commands... **If God Says that MOST, many, the majority of “Christians” will have it WRONG in the end times...** then we had better go back, and look at Scripture a lot more carefully, in order to find out EVERYTHING we can about The Church that Jesus Built (Matthew 16:18-19)!!!

**Back To Basics And To The Bible:**

When Jesus Said in Matthew 16:18, "...And I Say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this Rock I will build my church", the Greek word ekklesia was used. This word "ekklesia," is used 113 times in the New Testament, with most bibles translating is as "church". Even in the Septauginta (LXXII) the word, sometimes spelled “ecclesia” is used synonymous with “Synagogue”. Only in Acts 19:32, 39, 41, do we see the word translated as "assembly", which is far more proper. Ekklesia means an assembly, a congregation, a group, even a mob – with no purpose of why the group is assembled being ascribed to the word (see John 18:38-40). For most of the early New Testament Church, they understood clearly that God’s church in the Old Testament was the Nation of Israel; and that now in the New Testament, God’s Church was the Body of Believers, Baptized with God’s Holy Spirit, and Obedient to the Words and Deeds of Christ Himself (Hosea 4:6)! **We must Learn to Know WHO The “Church” Really Is today, as Christ Himself Defines it (Matthew 7:21-23)!!!**
The first complete English language bible was the Tyndale bible, published around 1524. That bible did not use the word "church" anywhere in its pages, instead using the word "congregation." In subsequent editions and translations of the bible, we can see a trend developing of replacing assembly or congregation words with the word "church." Church is an old English or German word; Swedish uses the word, “kyrka” (pronounced “Sher-kah” in English). Here we can see the “Sher” sound evolving into the “Chur” sound we use today in modern English. The historical meaning of “Church” in ancient German, Swedish, or very old English, was just “a building”, and not even one used for any particular purpose either! By changing the word, assembly or congregation, to the word church, the way was set to change their meanings - and our understanding, and our beliefs!

Words are very important according to the Word of God. One of the responsibilities of all followers of Jesus Christ is to diligently look at the “words” which describe His Body (Deuteronomy 8:3 / Matthew 4:4, Luke 4:4 / 12:36-37 / Proverbs 6:2, 30:5-6).

There are many Churches out there; the Church of Wicka, the Church of Humanity, the Church of Satan..., you name it, and there is a Church for it! Today, many night clubs and bars are like Churches; people go there to worship the bottles, alcohol, drugs, whoredom, and fellowship with many ungodly things! They play music that praises Satan, death, sex, violence, and the things of the flesh - because they love the creation more than their Creator (Romans 1:25). I remember a newspaper advertisement I saw several years ago; it was promoting big, wide screen television sets. The ad said, “Football is a religion! Worship at a new altar!” How true that ad was, and still is today; but we can just as easily include racing, golf, rock and roll, and pornography into the categories of “Home Worship” that many have created both public and private altars with which to worship THEIR gods!!!

When man changed God’s Assembly, His Congregations (John 10:1-16) into churches, MAN took control and jurisdiction away from CHRIST! That’s why churches don’t resemble Christ’s Sheep, His Fold; and that is precisely why the State and the government
have received jurisdiction over the “churches” today! We must carefully discern, and differentiate because, CHRIST’S EKKLESIA IS NOT WITHIN THE MAINSTREAM RELIGIOUS CHURCHES YOU SEE IN THE WORLD TODAY! In this we agree, with our young Mormon friends of which we spoke earlier. However, God’s TRUE Church has ALWAYS been here; although NOT recognized by MOST who, by chanced, happened upon It!!! www.onug.us

“‘It is when a people forget God, that tyrants forge their chains’ – Founding Father, Patrick Henry. www.onug.us

Most dictionaries define the word “Church”, as "a PLACE of worship of ANY RELIGION, as a Jewish or a heathen temple.” When people in the world say "Church," they are thinking of a building or a structure, which as we showed you earlier is actually the original meaning of Church. Many ask me, “Where do you go to church?” Today we associate both where we meet, and the Body of Christ, with the word “church”.

The Bible tells us that God does NOT dwell in temples made by hands (Acts 17:24, 48 / 2 Corinthians 5:1 / Hebrews 9:24). Man and his ways have jurisdiction over the churches, because man
and his ways have created them! God and His Ways have jurisdiction over the Body of Christ, its many thousands of small assemblies throughout the world (Revelation 5:9-10, 7:9-10, 14:6), because God the Father and Jesus the Christ have made them!!!

God never leaves His church (Matthew 28:20 / Mark 16:20) and God will remove the disobedient from His Church; those who will not yield to His Gospel, His Word, His Spirit and His Authority (1 John 2:18-29)!!!

In Vincent’s Word Studies, we see Vincent commenting on 1 Corinthians 11:18, "For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it." Concerning the phrase "in the church," he says, "not the Church edifice, a meaning which the word NEVER has in the New Testament and which appears first in patristic writings."

These "patristic writings" would be the “Church fathers” after the apostles and Christ. So that's where the word "church" popped up, and it's not in The Word of God, so obviously it's a creation of man!!!

In 325 AD, "The Church" joined the State under Constantine, and it was carried through the Reformation. The Reformers, were all involved in civil government, such as John Calvin who set up the civil government in Geneva. The pope was the head of the Catholic Church, and he was kicked out of England, when King Henry VIII took jurisdiction over the Church.

When the King James Version was finished, it was very important for them to retain the word "church" because they (human kings) had jurisdiction over it! King James made fifteen specific edicts, as far as the translation went, and one of those edicts (edict number three) stated that this bible was to retain the word "church" in the translation and it was not to be replaced with the word "congregation." That was his specific edict!!! Why? Because the human king had no jurisdiction over the congregation (people), but he did, and still does over the church (physical
buildings). King James never wanted the word "assembly" associated with the original meaning of the Old Testament which meant "congregation." He obviously knew the correct translation, but didn't want it in there, as to muck up his control over "the church"!!! Let's look at a great example: Hebrews 2:12, quotes the Old Testament Psalms 22:22, word for word! The word "congregation" in the Greek is "ekklesia." But since King James forbade replacing this Greek word with "congregation" (the true interpretation), it was replaced with a word which has a totally different meaning!!![www.onug.us]

"I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee" (Psalm 22:22).

"Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee" (Hebrews 2:12).

And when we see what Vincent said about Patristic writings, we can see that "from the beginning it was not so," and it is a tradition of the elders that the word "church" has been retained. When you look in all of the word studies on the word "church", they have put "the assembly," as though they were one and the same; but they are not![www.onug.us]

When you go to their own definitions, such as Elwell's Evangelical Dictionary, it says the English word church "derives from the late Greek word kurioton, which means "the lord's house," a Church building. In the King James New Testament, the word translates from the Greek word ekklesia". This is NOT true!

Notice they say "Church" is from a "late Greek word," so it's not a word that's used in the original Koine Greek, it's a modern word!!! BEWARE OF BIBLE TRANSLATIONS (PERVERSIONS) WITH THE WORD “NEW” OR “REVISED” IN THEIR TITLES (Deuteronomy 12:32 [The Beginning of the Bible / Revelation 22:18-20 [The end of the Bible] / Revelation 1:8, 11)!!!

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Also, kuriōton, means "the lord's house." In the Old Testament, the phrase "the lord's house" is used three times, and it has to do with a SECULAR LORD every time (Genesis 40:7; 44:8, Isaiah 22:18)!!! So, who is the lord we're talking about? The secular lord always had jurisdiction over the Church because it was their realm to begin with (Daniel 2:21 / Psalm 75:7)! Human kings and human authority should bend a knee and yield authority to the God Who Gave Them THAT authority (Psalm 119:172-176)!!!

All this should really change your view of “Pulpit Freedom Sunday”!!!
A State Church is a Church that is recognized by the State, serves the State, provides revenue for the State, and serves a public purpose that is not contrary to established public policy. State Churches are registered with the State, with tax identification numbers. State Churches are producers of revenue for the State by paying taxes to assure the alleged solvency of the tax system. Taxable organizations are answerable to the government, open to the inspection and dictates of the government. State Churches are agents of the State by confiscating and remitting to the State taxes that the State has ordered the Church to confiscate. State Churches are servants of the State by keeping records for and remitting records to the State. Most Churches today, whether incorporated or not, are State Churches.

Acts 7:44-52 is what Stephen preached just before being stoned to death. He said that God "dwelleth not in temples made with hands" (Acts 7:48). In other words, God does not dwell in "Churches" or any other buildings, our body is now the temple of God, and the Spirit of God dwells within us (Romans 8:9-11 / 1 Corinthians 3:16,17; 6:19-20 / 2 Corinthians 6:16 / Revelation 21:3). Believers are now "God's building" (1 Corinthians 3:9 / 1 Peter 2:5 / Ephesians 2:19-22). We are to glorify God in our body in spirit and truth (John 4:23-24 / 1 Corinthians 6:20), not in buildings made with man's hands (Hosea 8:6 / Isaiah 17:7-8).

We should not localize God (Acts 7:49 / 1 Kings 8:27). The Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service has available to the public Publication 1828, entitled "Tax Guide for Churches and Other Religious Organizations." The following excerpts are from page three of this publication. In this publication, it explains why and how the IRS acquires jurisdiction over Churches, whether they are incorporated or not.

Church: The term "church" is not specifically defined in the Internal Revenue Code. However, because special tax rules apply to churches, it is important to distinguish churches from other religious organizations.
Christ did not start a "religious organization." He did not start a religion. There is only one religion that His followers are to engage in. James 1:27, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit orphans and widows in their tribulation, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world." What Christ taught was from the "beginning," it did not start 2,000 years ago!!! He IS The Alpha and The Omega; and He DOES NOT Change!!!

Do You Attend A Church, A Synagogue, Or A Religiously Based Social Club (Exodus 12:16)? www.onug.us

One rather large church, in my community, doesn’t seem to see anything wrong with all the many different flavors of Christianity out there; just so long as you “believe” and are “faithful” to Jesus Christ, however you choose to individually define those two terms. This is what they say on their web site:

“About the Church: The church is composed of sincere believers and faithful followers of the Lord Jesus Christ. It expresses itself both universally and locally. All Christians around the world throughout the history of time compose the church universal. The local church is a contemporary community expression of this larger body. It gathers regularly for worship, instruction, fellowship and service. Every believer is uniquely gifted by the Holy Spirit helping the local church act as one body, representing Jesus Christ on earth. Acts 2:41-47; I Corinthians 12:12-13; Ephesians 4:4-6; Hebrews 10:25”. Do these scriptures really say that God will accept everyone who worships Him, sincerely and faithfully, throughout the history of time; or that we are all part of the body of Christ, the billions upon billions who compose the great church universal?
The Church (Congregation / Assembly or Ekklesia) That Christ Built: www.onug.us

- The church is the Body of Christ (Colossians 1:18)
- The church is the Bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:22-27)
- The church is the Family of God (1 Timothy 3:15)
- The church is the Pillar and Ground of Truth (1 Timothy 3:15)

Jesus Built His Church (Congregation / Assembly or Ekklesia); Never any Man! (Matthew 16:18):

- Jesus purchased the church with His blood (Acts 20:28)
- Jesus is the Head of the church (Colossians 1:18)
- The church is His Body (Colossians 1:18)

When The Church (Congregation / Assembly or Ekklesia) of God began: www.onug.us

- It was promised in the last days of Jerusalem (Isaiah 2:2-4). Jerusalem was totally destroyed in 70 A.D.
- The church was near in John’s day (Matthew 3:1-2)
- Jesus told His disciples that they should not taste of death until they would see the Kingdom of God come with power (Mark 9:1)
- They were told that they would receive that power when the Holy Spirit came upon them (Acts 1:8)
- All these things came to pass on Pentecost (Acts 2:1-47)

This Is How God Describes His Church (Congregation / Assembly or Ekklesia): www.onug.us

- The Church of the Lord (Acts 20:28)
- The Church of God (1 Corinthians 1:1-2)
- The Body of Christ (Ephesians 4:12)
- The Church of Christ (Romans 16:16)
- As Kings and Priests (Revelation 5:10, 20:6)
- A Chosen Generation, A Royal Priesthood (1 Peter 2:9-10)

**What God Offers Us Through His Church (Congregation / Assembly or Ekklesia):** [www.onug.us](http://www.onug.us)

- Forgiveness of sins is in the Church (Ephesians 1:1-2, 4-7)
- Salvation is in the Church (2 Timothy 2:10-19)
- Redemption is in the Church (Colossians 1:1-14)
- All spiritual blessings are in the Church (Ephesians 1:3)
- The saved are in the Church (Acts 2:47)

**How The Church (Congregation / Assembly or Ekklesia) Worships God:**

- The Church **Sings** (Ephesians 5:19 / Colossians 3:16)
- The Church **Prays** (I Thessalonians 5:17 / Luke 18:1)
- The Church **Gives** (I Corinthians 16:1, 2 / Acts 20:35)
- The Church **Teaches** (2 Timothy 2:2 / Acts 20:7)
- The Church **Obeys God** (Exodus 31:13-17 / Leviticus 23:1-44)
- The Church **Follows Christ’s Example** (Luke 6:46 / Malachi 1:6 / Matthew 7:21 / James 1:22 / Revelation 3:5-6, 10-13, 22:14)!!! [www.onug.us](http://www.onug.us)

Are You “Called Out” of the world - or “Called In” to a building each week; or maybe both? Those whom God calls know what the Body of Christ is – and what it is not! They learn to follow Christ’s instructions and personal example (John 13:15-17), and do what Jesus physically, in the flesh, commanded His Disciples and His Church to do! They start by getting into The Word, then into God’s Truth - and actually observe the seven annual Biblical Feasts – so the pattern of God’s overall Plan for mankind becomes very clear! The church must understand The Will of God.
and His Plan to save this world – it is not a mystery to those God calls (Matthew 13:11-17 / John 15:15-16)! Those who reject God’s Feast days (which, unfortunately, is most of modern “Christianity”) will struggle to understand the purpose of human life, and God’s timetable of Salvation for the whole human race (Psalm 111:10). Modern Christianity has not only rejected God’s Holy Days; they have now for the most part substituted man-made, and even worse, “pagan” holidays for the things of God (Isaiah 5:20-21, 23-24 / Deuteronomy 12:28-32). Satan has deceived the WHOLE world about the Truth of God (Revelation 12:9)!

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This is precisely why, in America today, we have over 300,000 different churches, 217 different Christian denominations; all teaching, believing, and doing different things (Matthew 5:17-20)! They are not, and cannot be, aligned with the very specific personal actions, and the Very Powerful Words of our Savior: “Jesus saith unto him, I am the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6). Most who profess Christ as their Savior today, have lost the knowledge of God’s Plan for this world and humanity, when they stopped observing God’s Commanded Holy Days (John 14:21 / Deuteronomy 5:29 / Psalm 111:10)!

“My people are destroyed for lack of Knowledge: because thou hast rejected Knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast Forgotten The Law of Thy God, I will also Forget thy children!!!” (Hosea 4:6).
Where is The Church (Congregation / Assembly or Ekklesia) That Jesus Built? Does It Still Exist In The World Today?

Yes, it still exists; and it is right here!!! Today, you were part of The Fellowship of The Body of Christ (Acts 2:41-47). You have been Called into one of The many folds of God’s Flock (John 10:16)!

Can you hear The Sheppard’s Voice Calling YOU to COME and FOLLOW HIM in ALL Things that He Came to Teach Us to DO (Matthew 19:21 / Luke 18:22 / Mark 10:21)?

The Authority Of The Bible
How Sure Are YOU?

With Billions & Billions of books out there; is it really the inspired, inerrant, Word of a Holy God?

Bible Studies for those who want to know The TRUTH!!!
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To Learn MORE about How We CAN STILL TRUST The Bible, as God’s Word, and which of the many versions we should Read, Study, Learn, and Grown from; READ our Study: “The Authority of The Bible: How Sure Are YOU?”, always available at www.onug.us. Get Into THE WORD!!!
I CAN HEAR The LORD’S Voice, and I am going to FOLLOW His Instructions! I hope you can Hear Him, and will decide to Follow Him too!!!

The First Century Church of God is still alive and well; and we are still about our Father’s Business! We would like to Thank You for joining One Nation Under God Ministries (www.onug.us) today in the Study of God’s Word, and hope that you will continue on with us next week! We so enjoyed having you study and fellowship with us!!! Please stay in touch!

In Jesus Christ’s Mighty Name, Peace!

- submitted by Pastor R. C. Brown III

One Nation Under God Ministries, and their FREE Online College of Biblical Knowledge, are Preparing The Brides of Christ (Matthew 25:1-13), and this world (Mark 16:15-20), for The Return of Jesus (John 10:16); One Bible Study At A Time (Matthew 11:28-30)! Join Them!

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PRINT yourself a FREE Holy Day Calendar (below) and Never Again MISS One of God’s Holy Feast Days!!!

"But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one” (John 10:26-30).

Christians must learn to read the Bible, interpret the scriptures according to Biblical principles (Isaiah 28:10, 13), and begin to apply the precepts they learn in their walk with God. Individual study is essential; coupled with fellowship times of group study, worship, and discussions of personal insights and observations.
We strive, each Saturday, to foster an open and welcoming atmosphere where Spirit led confirmation, clarification, questions, and correction can be made in the fellowship of other students of God’s Word.

One Nation Under God Ministries (www.onug.us) is working to unify the body of Christ in the worship of God the Father, in the way Jesus showed us to - in Spirit and in Truth! We strive to promote rediscovery of American History, and renew in current generations the Vision and the Covenant of our Founding Fathers.

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NEVER A COST - All of our Bible Studies, are mailed FREE, worldwide to anyone that asks.

“And when He had called unto Him His twelve disciples, He gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease... And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give. Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses, Nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat” 

– Jesus Christ (Matthew 10:1, 7-10).

PRISON MINISTRY - Help us share the Good News of God’s Coming Kingdom with those who are not just physically bound, but are spiritually bound, as well!!! Do you know of an inmate in jail or prison that needs The Refreshing, Hope FULL, Word of God? Send us their name and address, and we will mail them our weekly Bible Studies to them -Free of cost or postage!!!

A Tremendous ‘Thank You’ to those of you who have partnered with us already, to help offset mailing and
printing costs; and increase our ability to reach those who are incarcerated with The Good News of God’s Coming Kingdom! (Matthew 25:31-46).

Have YOU Been BLESSED by these Studies of The Word of God? IF SO, Prayerfully consider joining us, so that we can make an EVEN GREATER IMPACT in this world, BEFORE The Return of Jesus Christ!!!

TITHES, OFFERINGS, & DONATIONS – We gratefully acknowledge every one of you, led by God, to support this ministry! We Pray Daily for all of you who continue to support this work, and for all those to whom God’s Word will be sent! Please Pray with us and for us! Thank You!!!

We now Graciously accept your Tithes, Offerings, and Donations – online; for those whom God Leads to Bless this Ministry and it’s Outreach financially!

Simply visit our website at: www.onug.us

In the United States, checks and money orders may be made payable to: One Nation Under God Ministries

From outside the U.S.A., payments may be made to:

The Church of One Nation Under God International,
P.O. Box 111960, Naples, Florida 34108, U.S.A.

To God The Father’s Very Great Glory; In Jesus Christ’s Mighty Name!

JESUS IS LORD!!!

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