



A just weight
and balance

are the
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

How to Identify
The One
True Church.

- If you had a job with the Treasury Department and your responsibility was to keep counterfeit money out of circulation, how would you go about it?

- Would you study counterfeit bills or would you study the real thing?
- You would study authentic bills!
- The more you know the real thing the better able you are to identify counterfeit.

- **Jesus built His church:**

- **Matthew 16:18**

**And I say also unto thee,
That thou art Peter,
and upon this rock
I will build my church;
and the gates of hell shall
not prevail against it. ■**

- **John 10: 8**

**All who came before me are thieves and robbers;
but the sheep
did not heed them.**

- **9 I am the door;**

**if any one enters by me, he
will be saved, and will go in
and out and find pasture.**

- **Matthew 24: 23-24**

23 Then if any one says to you, 'Lo, here is the Christ!' or 'There he is!' do not believe it.

- **24** For false Christs and false prophets will arise and show great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.

- **II Cor. 11:13–14**

13 **For such men are**

- **false apostles,**

- **deceitful workmen,**

- **disguising themselves**
as apostles of Christ.

- **14** **And no wonder,**

- **for even Satan disguises**
himself as an angel of light.⁸

• **The Devil
in his wisdom
decided that
to counterfeit
the Lord's church
was the best way
to combat
its success!**

- Why?
- For the same reason people don't counterfeit plastic bags?
- They are worthless!
- One only counterfeits what is valuable.

- The Lord's church is the most valuable institution on earth?

- It's the only place where one can find salvation!

- Acts 2:47

And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

- Acts 4:12

**And there is salvation in
no one else,
for there is no other name
under heaven given
among men by which
we must be saved.**

(ESV)

• **The Devil
would be a fool
not to counterfeit
the church
&
the Devil
is no FOOL**

- **Jesus prayed for unity:**

John 17:21

that they may

all be one;

even as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

- **1 Corinthians 4:17**

Therefore I sent to you Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, to remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach them everywhere in every church.

- **I Corinthians 1:10**

God has revealed to us

through the Spirit.

For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

Ephesians 4:4

There is one body,

and one Spirit,

even as also ye were called
in one hope of your calling;

4:5 one Lord, one faith,

one baptism,

(ASV)

- **Denominationalism**
praises unity in diversity,
but there can be
no unity in division.
- We **agree** to **disagree**.
- Give **one example**
of Jesus ever
agreeing to disagree.

- Remember Jesus never named His church.
- All so-called names actually show relationships.

Let's take a look
at those relationships.

We are not talking
about denominations
as the New Testament
never speaks of
denominations.

- Church of God
(Acts 20:28)

Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son.

- Churches of Christ
(Romans 16:16)

The
churches of Christ
greet you.

(This is a term
consistently used by many
denominational commentators)

- General Assembly
(Hebrews 12:22-23)

To the
general assembly
and
church of the firstborn,
which are written in heaven,
and to God the Judge of all,
and to the spirits of
just men made perfect.

- **A Glorious Church**
(Ephesians 5:27)

**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.**

- Church of the Living God
(**1 Timothy 3:15**)
church of
the living God,
the pillar and ground
of the truth.

- Peter announced the requirements for church membership:
Acts 2

- No one ever JOINED the church.

- **Believers are**
ADDED
to the church.

Acts 2:41

**Then they that gladly
received his word
were baptized:
and the same day
there were added unto them
about three thousand souls.**

• What

is

the

Lord's Church?

- The following terms are descriptions of the Lord's church and not names of the church.

• It was never
the Lord's intention
to divide His church
into numerous denominations.

“That they all may be one, as thou,
Father, art in me, and I in thee, that
they also may be one in us: that
the world may believe that thou
hast sent me.”

John 17:21

- Pentecostal

Acts 2:1

**And when the
day of Pentecost
was fully come, they
were all with one
accord in one place.**

• Methodist

1 Corinthians 14:40

Let all things
be done
decently
and in order.

• Full Gospel

Acts 20:27

For I have
not shunned
to declare unto you
all the counsel of God.

- Church of God

Acts 20:28

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

- **Assemblies of God**

Hebrews 12:23

To the

general assembly

**and church of the firstborn,
which are written in heaven,
and to God the Judge of all,
and to the spirits of
just men made perfect**

• Catholic

(Universal church)

Matthew 28:19

Go ye therefore,

and teach

all nations,

baptizing them in the name of
the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Ghost:

- Presbyterian
“*presbytery*.”

- Greek
for
body of elders,
presbytery,
senate,
council

- Acts 14:23

Presbyterian

And when they had
ordained them

elders (*presbytery*)

in every church,

and had prayed with fasting,

they commended them to the Lord,
on whom they believed.

• Holiness

I Peter 1:16

*Be ye holy;
for I am holy.* ■

• Salvation Army

2 Timothy 2:3

Thou therefore
endure hardness,
as a good soldier
of Jesus Christ.

- Latter Day Saints

Hebrews 1:2

Hath in these

last days

**spoken unto us by his Son,
whom he hath appointed
heir of all things, by whom
also he made the worlds**

• Adventist
(believing in the
second coming of Jesus)

Acts 1:11

Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye
gazing up into heaven? this
same Jesus, which is taken up
from you into heaven, shall so
come in like manner
as ye have seen him
go into heaven.

• Baptist

Mark 16:16

He that believeth
and is baptized
shall be saved;
but he that believeth not
shall be damned.

- Free Will Baptist

Mark 8:34

He said unto them,
Whosoever will
come after me,
let him deny himself,
and take up his cross,
and follow me.

- Missionary Baptist

Matthew 28:19

Go ye therefore,
and teach all nations,
baptizing them in the
name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the
Holy Ghost:

- Independent Baptist

**New Testament recognizes
no authority
except God to be higher than
the local congregation.**

- Acts 14:23

**And when they had
ordained them elders
in every church,
and had prayed with fasting,
they commended them
to the Lord,
on whom they believed.**

- Charismatic

(having a magnetic personality)

John 13:34

A new commandment

I give unto you,

That ye love one another;

as I have loved you,

that ye also love one another.

- The Rock

Matthew 16:18

And I say also unto thee,

That thou art Peter, and

upon this rock

I will build my church;

and the gates of hell

shall not prevail against it.

- Disciples of Christ

Matthew 9:37

Then saith he unto
his disciples,
The harvest truly
is plenteous,
but the labourers
are few

- **Church of God In Christ**
Galatians 1:13

**For ye have heard of my
conversation in time past in
the Jews' religion,
how that beyond measure
I persecuted the
church of God,
and wasted it:**

- United Church of Christ

- 1 Corinthians 1:10

that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

- **All roads lead to heaven!
Or do they?**

Matthew 7: 21- 23

Not every one

that saith unto me,

Lord, Lord,

shall enter into the

kingdom of heaven;

but he that does the will of my

Father which is in heaven.

- **22** 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?
- **23** And then will I profess unto
them, I never knew you: depart
from me, ye that work iniquity.

• **Hebrews 8:5**
as Moses was
admonished of God
when he was about to
make the tabernacle:
for, See, saith he,
that thou make all things
according to the pattern
shewed to thee in the mount.

• In doctrine
the churches of Christ
fit the
Biblical description
of the
New Testament church.

- The True Church is the church that Jesus built?
- Are you in the Lord's church?
- It's identity is found in the New Testament.

**Think On
These Things**
(Philippians 4:8)

**Doors of the church
are open.**

**Spirit & Bride Say
“Come”.**

Revelation 22:17