

Biblical answers about the Church

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A Word and Spirit Church

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What is the Church?

“And he is the head of the body, the church”

(Colossians 1:18a)

“Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.” (1 Corinthians 12:27)

“the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth” (1 Timothy 3:15b)

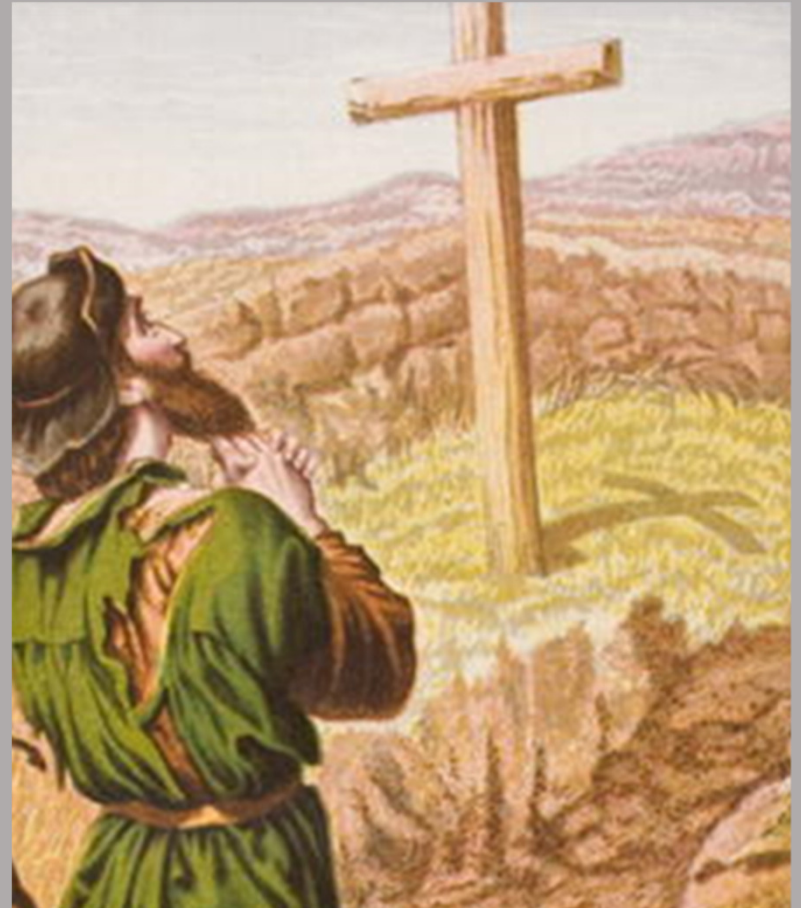


The people of God make up the Church – “gathered together”
(Matthew 18:20)

How do people become part of the Church?

“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)

“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you **the gospel** which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **By which also ye are saved**” (1 Corinthians 15:1,2a; see also “Salvation”.)



Why does the Church exist?

“the house of God, which is the church of the living God, **the pillar and ground of the truth**” (1 Timothy 3:15b)

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.” (John 17:17,18; see also Psalm 119:160)

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and **preach the gospel** to every creature” (Mark 16:15; see also Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 10:8)

What is the New Testament temple?

“... for **ye are the temple of the living God**; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.” (2 Corinthians 6:16b)

“Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God” (Revelation 3:12)

“Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God.” (Psalm 92:13)



What is the spiritual position of the Church?

The following are all interconnected and overlapping:

“But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, 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, And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.” (Hebrews 12:22-24)

Is the Church valuable to God?

“Take heed therefore unto yourselves
[Ephesian church elders], 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.” (Acts 20:28)

“Christ also loved the church, and gave
himself for it” (Ephesians 5:25b)



Is the Church valuable to God?

Jesus said, “I will build **my church**” (see Matthew 16:18)

“**According to the grace of God** which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.” (1

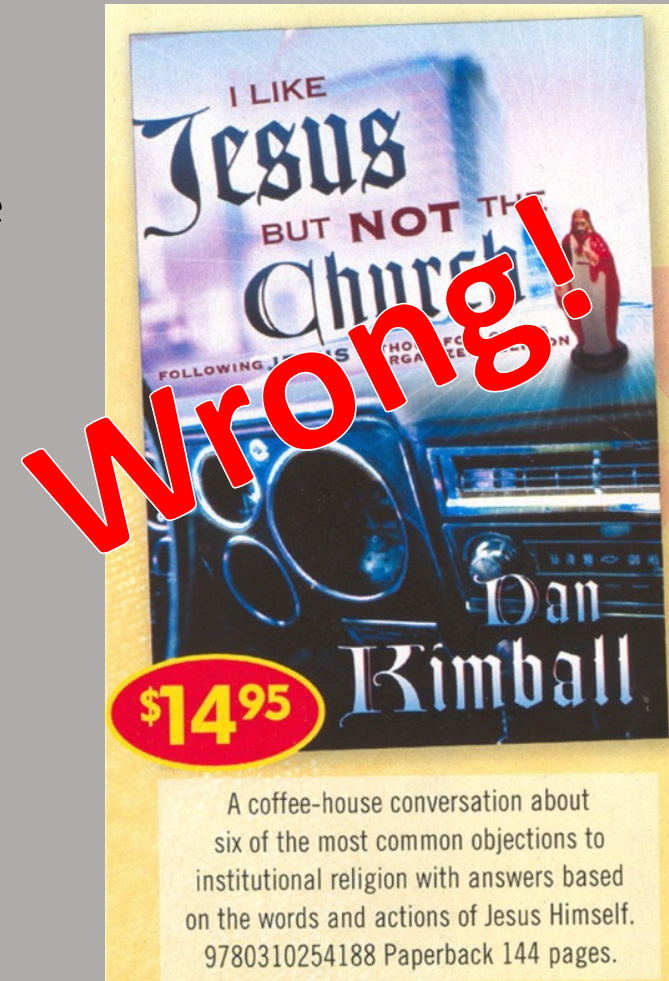
Corinthians 3:10)



Can I love God but hate/dislike the Church?

The modernists of today claim that they are not 'religious'. If so, then they cannot be of the following:

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.” (James 1:27)



How is the Church present on the Earth?

Christ is the Head and Saviour: “Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body” (Ephesians 5:23b)

He is in the midst of His ‘gathered’ people: “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” (Matthew 18:20)

The Church universal is made up of **many local churches**. (See 1 Corinthians 16:19 & Ephesians 3:8-12)

The Spirit works in the Body: “Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 12:4; see also **Ephesians 2:22**)

Why is the Church likened to a candle?

“... the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches” (Revelation 1:20b)

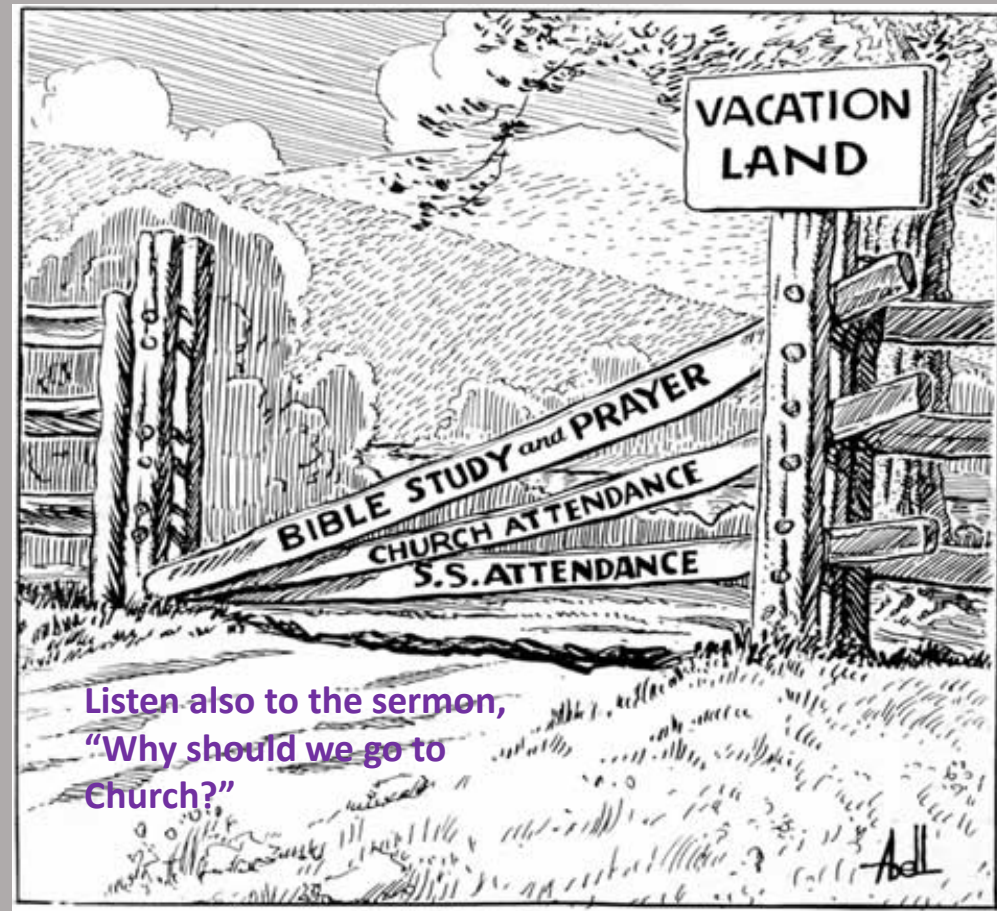
It is made up of children of light: “For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light” (Ephesians 5:8)

It preaches the Word of God: “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” (Psalm 119:105; see also Romans 10:8)



Should we neglect attending Church?

“And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: **Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together,** as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.” (Hebrews 10:24,25)



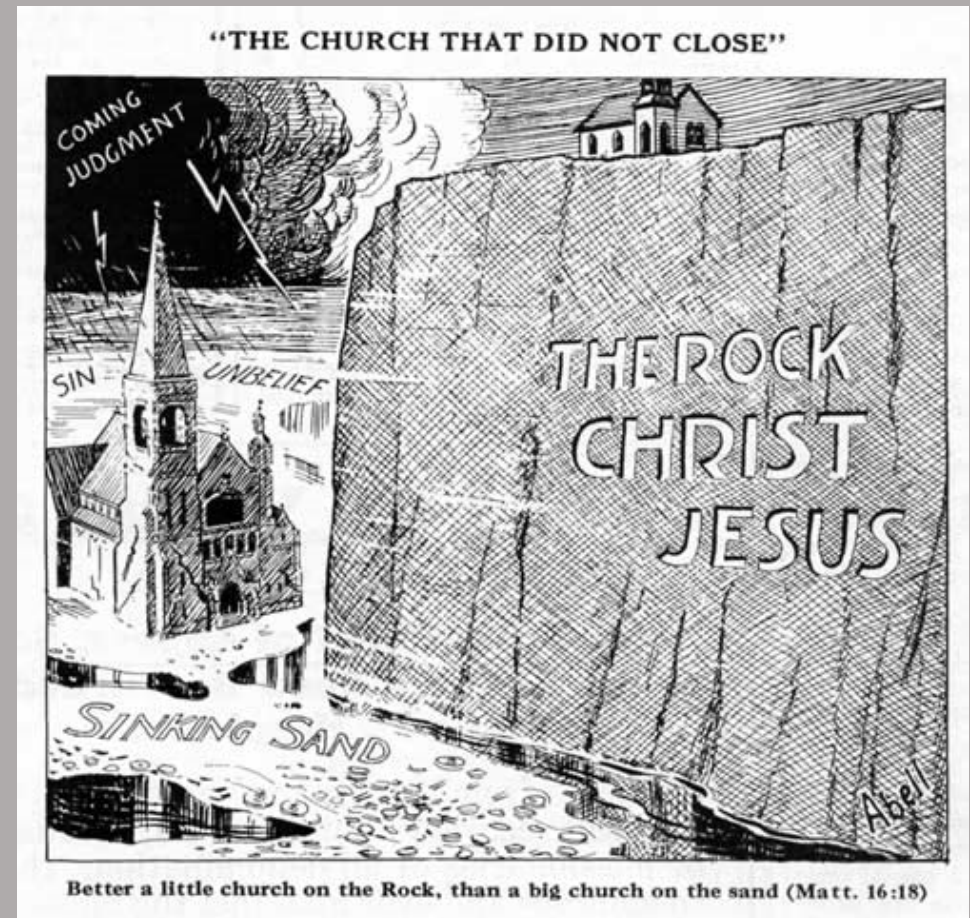
Should we neglect attending Church?

By not attending Church, people will:

- Be unable to love or provoke the brethren they do not see.
- Fail to avail of the ministries that Christ has given.
- Show that they disregard Christ's love for the Church.
- Be in disobedience to God's direct command.
- Show that they do not care for the House of God.
- Be open to devilish attacks and ideas.
- Be prone to fall away, backslide or be cut out of the vine.

What is the foundation of the Church?

“Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone**” (Ephesians 2:19,20)



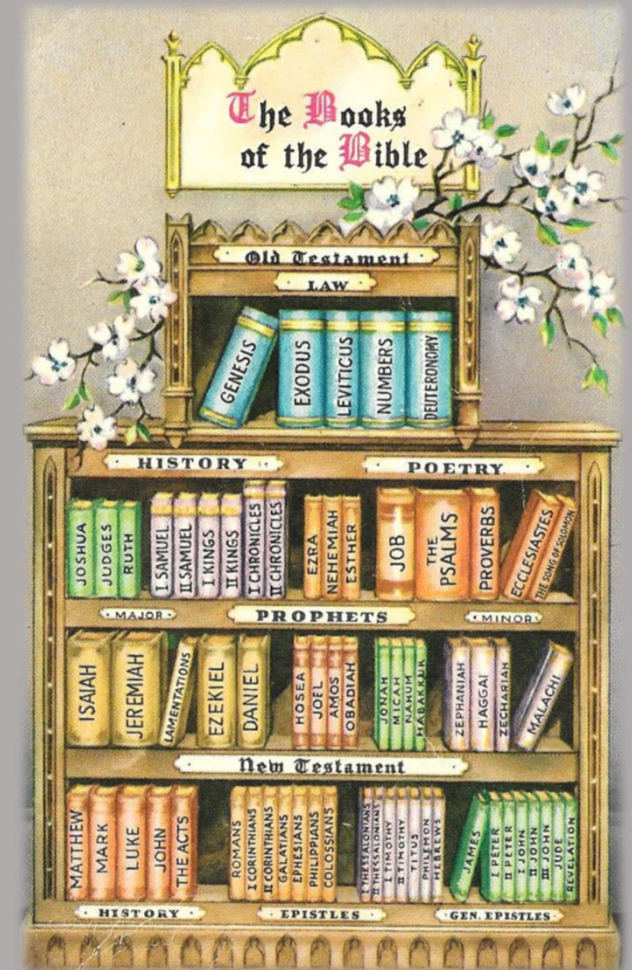
What should the Church emphasise?

The Word of God, as it is written:

“... the word of faith, which we preach”

(Romans 10:8b)

“... Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word” (Ephesians 5:25b,26; see also John 17:17)



What should the Church emphasise?

“Go ye therefore, and **teach all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” (Matthew 28:19,20)



What are offices in the Church?

An **office** is an **official position**, filled by someone Christ has given to the Church.

“And he [Christ] gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry*, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:11,12; see also Acts 14:23)

* **The ministry of the Word**

Other offices include bishops, elders, deacons.

What are offices in the Church?

“I [Paul] am the apostle of the
Gentiles, I magnify mine office ...
For as we have many members in
one body, and all members have
not the same office” (Romans 11:13b; 12:4)



How do local churches operate?

Spiritual elders govern the churches locally.

“Let the **elders that rule** well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.” (1 Timothy 5:17)

“... **ordain elders in every city**, as I had appointed thee” (Titus 1:5b)

“Is any sick among you? let him call for **the elders of the church**”

(James 5:14a)

“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.” (Acts 14:23)

What is a Word and Spirit Church?

“The Word and Spirit movement is growing as the churches worldwide realise the importance of preparation and seeding of the Word, in line with the Spirit, for the end time harvest of people coming into the Kingdom of God. The interest of all Biblical Christians should be in one true unity of doctrine, based on one Word by one Spirit.” (Victory

Faith Centre statement on the Word and Spirit movement, Oct 2017, p.1.)



What is a Word and Spirit Church?

“All ye inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth, see ye, when he lifteth up an ensign on the mountains; and when he bloweth a trumpet, hear ye.” (Isaiah 18:3)

Through God's Providence, His Church in the last days will be:

- Sanctified by the washing of the Word (see Ephesians 5:26,27a).
- Spirit-led in Pentecostal power with signs following (see Mark 16:15-20).
- Preach the full Gospel that Christ preached (see Mark 1:14,15 & Matthew 24:14).
- Part of the Church Restitution to restore what has been lost (see Joel 2:25,26).

Agreement with the Word

“Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 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.” (1 Corinthians 1:10)

Only through one Bible*:

“Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.” (Hebrews 10:7)

* The Authorized Version – the King James Bible

Agreement with the Spirit

The Holy Ghost – the Spirit of truth – has come and dwells in us.

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?” (1 Corinthians 3:16)

“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth” (John 16:13a)

“And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” (Acts 2:4; see also 1

Corinthians 12:3,4)

Answering the Infidel period of Church history

ANTICHRIST RELIGION	TRIGGER FOR ITS DESTRUCTION	GOD'S MOVEMENT
Paganism <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worshipping false gods• Idolatry	Constantine's conversion to Christ in 312 AD at the Battle of the Milvian Bridge.	The establishment of Bible Christianity across the Roman Empire.
Papalism <ul style="list-style-type: none">• False church• Exaltation of popes	Martin Luther's nailing of the 95 Theses in 1517 AD on the door of the Roman Catholic church at Wittenberg.	The Protestant Reformation
Infidelity <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Atheistic• Worshipping natural forces	Spiritual event/s leading to the defeat of Gog, the Eastern Antichrist.	The Word and Spirit movement

What warnings are there for the Church?

“For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. ... And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.” (Acts 20:29,30,32)



References

Found under www.victoryfaithcentre.org.au/sermons

Ps. Craig Savige, '*The victorious Church – parts 1-5*'

Ps. Craig Savige, '*Bible prophecy about the Gospel of Christ*'

Ps. Craig Savige, '*Indications of worldly conformity in churches*'

Ps. Craig Savige, '*Why should we go to Church?*'

[Notes of these are found under: <http://victoryfaithcentre.org.au/free-downloads/studies>]

Matthew W. Verschuur, '*The Great Restitution, The advance, progress and triumph of the Church prior to the return of Christ*', 2014 <http://victoryfaithcentre.org.au/books>

Victory Faith Centre, '*Victory Faith Centre statement on the Word and Spirit movement*', Oct 2017

Matthew W. Verschuur, '*Smith Wigglesworth: A basic primer for the Word and Spirit movement*', 2014 <http://victoryfaithcentre.org.au/books>