

ALL THE MANY AND VARIOUS CHURCHES? WHAT AND HOW?

- I. THE MANY AND VARIOUS CHURCHES DO NOT PLEASE GOD.**
 - A. THE SITUATION RUNS AGAINST THE SINGULARITY OF THE CHURCH. JOHN 10:16; EPH.1:22.23; 4:4-6; EPH.2:16; ETC.**
 - 1. ONE SHEPHERD/ONE FLOCK; ONE HEAD/ONE BODY; ONE RECONCILER/ONE BODY; ONE LORD/ONE FAITH, ETC.**
 - B. THE SITUATION RUNS AGAINST THE UNITY WHICH THE LORD FOR WHICH THE LORD STOOD. JOHN 17:20-23; ACTS 2:44; 4:32; ROMANS 16:17; I COR.1:10; I COR.12:13; EPHESIANS 4:4-6**
 - C. THE SITUATION RUNS AGAINST THE NATURE OF GOD. GOD IS TRUTH, JOHN 14:6; TRUTH IS CONSISTENT, PSA.119:160; GOD IS NOT THE AUTHOR OF CONFUSION, I COR.14:33. TO CLAIM THAT EVERYONE CLAIMING TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH JESUS WHO ARE TEACHING DIFFERENT AND CONTRARY DOCTRINES WHICH ARE AGAINST SCRIPTURE, ARE ALL EQUALLY ACCEPTABLE TO GOD, IS ABSURD. * ONE DENOMINATIONAL TEACHER SAID ALL THREE MODES OF BAPTISM – SPRINKLING, POURING, AND IMMERSION ARE MERELY PARTS OF THE WHOLE AND ARE ACCPETABLE TO GOD.**
 - D. THE SITUATION RUNS AGAINST THE AUTHORITY OF GOD. THE LORD’S CHURCH IS NOT A DEMOCRACY...MATT.23:8. WE DO NOT SEND OUT SURVEYS TO SEE WHAT KIND OF CHURCH THE COMMUNITY WANTS, ETC. MATTHEW 28:18. WE LISTEN TO THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND HE DIRECTS US, AND WE BECOME PART OF HIS ONE FLOCK, JOHN 10:16.**
- II. THE MANY AND VARIOUS CHURCHES ARE DUE TO THE FAILURE OF MANKIND.**
 - A. MAN’S FAILURE TO BE TRUTH-DRIVEN.**

1. WE REPLACE TRUTH WITH PEOPLE. FOLKS LISTEN MORE TO WHAT THEIR NEIGHBORS, FRIENDS, OR FAMILIES ARE DOING RATHER THAN WHAT CHRIST SAYS, MATT.10:34-37.
2. WE REPLACE TRUTH WITH CLICHES, CATCHY SAYINGS.
 - a. SAYINGS LIKE – “ONE CHURCH IS AS GOOD AS ANOTHER” – IF ONE CHURCH IS AS GOOD AS ANOTHER, WHY MATT.15:7-14? ETC.
 - b. SAYINGS LIKE – “WE ARE ON DIFFERENT ROADS YET GOING TO THE SAME DESTINATION;” PROBLEM WITH THAT IS MANY ROADS ARE DEAD ENDS, PROV.14:12; REV.3:1-2.
 - c. SAYINGS LIKE – “WELL, WE’RE ALL SINNERS. I MAY BE WRONG IN WORSHIP, BUT YOU’RE NOT PERFECT EITHER.” THERE’S A DIFFERENCE IN SINNING IN WEAKNESS TO THE FLESH AND “WILLFUL SINS” HEBREWS 10:26. TO SIN WILLFULLY IS TO HEAR WHAT GOD SAYS YET TRANSGRESS IT ANYWAY.
3. WE REPLACE TRUTH WITH PERSONAL PREFERENCE. THIS IS A MAJOR PROBLEM. SEE ROMANS 10:2,3

B. MAN’S FAILURE TO CORRECTLY HANDLE THE WORD OF TRUTH. 2 TIMOTHY 2:15

1. SUCH HAS CREATED MASS CONFUSION, 1 TIMOTHY 1:7.
2. SUCH HAS CREATED THE INABILITY TO KNOW EVEN FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTS OF THE GOSPEL, I.E., MANY CANNOT NAME THE PROMINENT FEATURES OF THE N.T. CHURCH – LIKE ENTRANCE INTO, TRUTHFUL WORSHIP, PURITY OF LIFE, GOD’S DESIGN FOR MARRIAGE/HOME, ORGANIZATION, PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH, ETC.

C. MAN’S FAILURE TO EXPOSE FALSE TEACHING. 2 TIM.2:16-18; EPH.5:11; MATT.7:16,16; ACTS 20:29-31; 1 JOHN 4:1-3.

- 1. OUR SOCIETY SAYS THE ONLY SIN IS INTOLERANCE. THAT IS, THAT LOVE MEANS APPROVING OF AND TOLERATING EVERYONE'S BELIEF, EVEN IF IT STANDS IN OPPOSITION TO PLAIN BIBLE TEACHING.**