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If You Establish The Church Of Christ, What Have You Built?

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IF YOU ESTABLISH THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, WHAT HAVE YOU BUILT? ①

I. To be sure for us there must be a reason for our existance as a body of believers.

A. Why the church of Christ? Must be answered to the satisfaction of one's own mind. *Parents - size - close - companions?*

1. Am I one among many? *We loose these loose our reason*

2. Am I adding to the confusion because I started something to meet my fancy?

3. Or is this thing divine and truly a work of God?

B. If this question is vital for me as a member for my own peace of mind and enthusiasm, think how much more important it is for the "campaign worker" and front line evangelist *(N.O. figures)*

1. The Wall Street Journal carries on front page its story.

2. How will I answer people--why bring the church of Christ here?

3. Could we today seek an answer?

II. Jesus often explained what the kingdom was like and men went out preaching it.

Matt. 20:1 "For the kingdom of heaven

Acts 28:30 "And Paul dwelt two whole yr. in

A. No one speech, like Matt. 20, *received - preaching - teaching* told it all.

1. Matt. 20 shows the constancy of opportunity for the willing.

a. At the 11th hour men received the same wage as the "early in the a. m." v-1 & v-6

(1) None hire vs. won't be hired--vast difference. (2)

(2) No comfort for the negligent.

(a) Quay Parker's, Page 16 mo. old shhh her sleeping grandpa in church.

2. It also shows the sovereignty of Christ-- His to do what He wills. To think otherwise is evil (v-15).

3. My main worry should be has he saved me--let all others come at anytime.

4. Are we jealous or generous?

B. Naturally there are many other things to say about the church even as Paul preached many sermons.

1. May this talk now add at least a few points

II. If I attend the church of Christ's choice, or establish it in a new community, what may I expect to find?

A. Folks fondly preaching Jesus, as: (3 things)

1. The Son of God.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that

Rom. 10:9-10 "If thou shalt confess with th

2. In Him salvation is found.

I Tim. 1:1 Paul an apostle of Jesus ^{you builders}

Acts 4:11-12 "This is the stone which was

Acts 16:30-33 "Sirs, what must I do to be

Acts 2:37 "Now when they heard this, they v

Acts 9:6 "And he trembled and aston. said

Acts 22:16 "And now why tarriest thou, ar

a. Is baptism essential? Yes, change of relationship.

Gal. 3:27 "For as many of you as have been

(1) In a wedding before me stands a (3) fiancée and fiancé. I say some words -- they are husband and wife. That ceremony changed their relationship!

3. By Him sanctification is to be obtained.

I John 2:1 My little children these things write

I Pet. 1:15 "As he which hath called you is holy

B. Secondly, you see all things of faith proven by the Word, the Bible.

1. You will find its members believe in the word's inspiration.

2 Pet. 1:21 "For the prophecy came not in

2. You will find belief in its full revelation.

2 Tim. 3:16 "All Scrip. is given by inspira

3. You'll find it the rule of faith and practice

Isa. 8:20 "To the law and to the T. ~~and~~ they

Isa. 1:18 "Come, now and let us reason toge

a. We seek to have all things authenticated by the Bible; from names to needs; from baptism to bread; from love to letters.

b. If its there we do it, if not omit.

c. You'll find a profound respect for Word that became flesh.

(1) Like little patient in hospital after repeated calls over the intercom and the last "threat" Johnny, answer, I know you are there!" did with "What do you want, Wall!"

C. Thirdly, you'll find worship in spirit and truth.

John 4:23-24 "But the hour cometh and now

1. Five authorized avenues: sermon, song, supper, supplication, and silver to get all s's. "He will! He will!" (4)

a. Another way--pray, preach, praise, pay, pause in meditation. Mrs. O'Benmion

2. You'll find folk seeking to improve in all are as of devotion.

D. You'll fourthly find preaching a safety.

1. In organizations--elders, deacons, ministers, teachers, members. Put editor, college,

2. Names--any that are Bible--and all

3. Terms of pardon--know of no raised against--"but what if you aren't" etc." preacher-voice register in place

4. I don't know which denomination is right, so I didn't join any, I never heard of one being lost doing what Jesus said do.

E. Fifth love we come preaching for:

1. God (sit still clip)

Matt. 22:37 "Jesus said. . . . thou shalt love

2. Christ.

I Cor. 2:2 "For I determined not to know an

3. Holy Spirit.

Rom. 8:14 "For as many as are led by the

4. The brethren. Sp. of God they are the Sons of God

John 13:34-35 "A new commandment I give

5. The lost.

Rom. 9:3 "For I could wish that myself were

Rom. 10:1 "Br., my heart's desire & prayer

a. We can love God, br., church, and keep

self unspotted but until we give to other
that which we've got we lack this much
of N.T. restoration. (5)

F. Lastly, we preach urgency--this 6th point
is incomplete--haven't reached you.

2 Cor. 5:11 "Knowing therefore the terror

1. Will you come--now?

- a.) Jesus - Son, Salvation, Sanctification
- b.) Word - Inspired, Full, Rule
- c.) Worship - Authorized, Regular, Improving
- d.) Society - Organization, Name, Pardon
- e.) Love - God, Christ, HS, Br, lost
- f.) Urgency - Now is the day
- g.) You - will you?

West End - 5/29/66

College - Searcy, Ark. - 6/1/66

Lawrenceburg, Tenn. 6/7/66

*.42-47 Internal Rev. called preacher
Did John Jones give \$535 as he said*

PROFITABLE DEVOTION *after a pause the*

An old Scotch woman who was alone for the greater part of the day was asked, "What do you do during the day?" *said "He will! He will!"*

"Well," she said, "I get my hymn book and I have a little hymn of praise to the Lord. "I get my Bible and let the Lord speak to me. When I get tired, I just sit still and let the Lord love me."

---selected---

Marguerite O'Banion's mother died of a heart attack. It occurred Sunday morning at Swifton, Arkansas. After the usher had seated her by the aisle, she said I am sure I am going to die--but I want the Lord's Supper. She took the bread, slumped over in death just as the cup was passed to her.

N.O. h2. Church survey goal 30,000 families
went to 6300 & set up 1245 home bible studies,
356 Bible correspondence courses. Stopped to teach.
Smallest church - 50 members - surveyed 1300 fam.
438 wanted home Bible studies, 288 were Catholics.
This church has only 7 teachers!