



Is Church Membership Optional? [\(Click Here\)](#)

*“He that hat an ear let him hear
what the Spirit saith unto the
churches.”
(Revelation 2:29)*

Lifting Up The STANDARD

*“When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the
LORD shall lift up a standard against him” (Isaiah 59:19).*



Challenging And Encouraging God's Remnant To Remain Faithful

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An Open Letter From An Invisible Pastor

A Word of Thanks

First, we want to thank Dr. C. I. Scofield for making our invisible church possible. Without his teaching concerning the local church and what he called our “true church” (Acts 2:47) we never would have been so popular. Thank you Dr. Scofield.

Everybody Is Welcome!

We want to invite you to our invisible church. Just call yourself a Christian and come on in! (maybe I should say out) You will love our organization (actually I mean disorganization). We don't have any source in which to get organizational rules and so that is great. We can all simply do that which is right in our own eyes. We have no rules and even better the pastor is invisible. That means no authority so you are free to make whatever decisions you want to make.

You can even start a ministry of your own if you like. You can start your own newspaper or your own Bible college. With the internet at your disposal you can have a worldwide audience in no time at all. Just get a website and promote whatever makes you feel good.

Please Be Patient

There are a few things we haven't figured out yet so please be patient with us. Some things are difficult when you are invisible.



A Problem With Missionaries

We are not sure how to obey the Lord in sending missionaries out to reach lost people. Those local church leaders are fortunate. Acts 13:1-4 is very clear that the local church sends out missionaries.

Tithes And Offerings

Again, those local church people have directions about this. In First Corinthians 16:2 it says, “Now concerning the collection God has given order to the churches.” God didn't give us any directions about money in our invisible church so just send in your money and we will do that which is right in our eyes.

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Feeding The Flock?

First Peter commands the pastor to “*Feed the flock of God which is among you.*” That’s okay for those visible pastors with visible flocks. You need to understand and be patient with us invisible pastors feeding invisible flocks. Our flock is wandering all over the world and represent all kinds of different doctrines. We need to have your understanding when we compromise to keep the crowds coming.

Pastoral Epistles?

God wrote, “Pastoral Epistles” giving details to visible pastors concerning how He wanted pastors to get things done in the local church. He gave no Epistles for us invisible pastors, invisible college presidents, etc. You will have to be patient with us. Don’t forget we have no instructions from God.

What About Communion?

We have had a few of our leaders attempt to have communion services outside of the local church; however, most of us are smarter than to attempt something that will get the local church pastors upset with us. So far, most of them have swallowed the universal church theory. We don’t want to get them upset with us. Maybe if you want to have a communion service you can sneak into one of those visible churches.

What About Baptism?

The same thing is true. Years ago Pat Boone tried baptizing people in his swimming pool and that caused an outrage. Those of us who have colleges, newspapers, and other para-church organizations have learned not to go that far.

What About Deacons In Our “True Church?”

We leave the visible churches to figure out what to do about deacons. What we have done is come up with titles we borrowed from the world. We have our *presidents, editors, professors, directors* etc., and to give them some credibility we have given the ones we really like a doctor’s degree. This is working well for us. We don’t need to worry about how to ordain invisible pastors, we have our manmade leaders.

Here’s A Plus!

Matthew 18:17 says if you cause a problem in one of those visible churches you are to be disciplined by the church membership. There is no discipline in our invisible church. That is another reason we are so popular.

Here’s Another Plus!

Hebrews 13:17 says, “*Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls.*” You can just forget that verse. Nobody is watching for your soul in our invisible church, you are on your own. If there is a time when you have some problems in your home or you need someone to officiate at a wedding or a funeral maybe you could talk one of those visible pastors into helping you.

Well, we haven’t got all the bugs out of our invisible church. There are a lot of Scriptures that actually give us no scriptural grounds to exist; however, Scofield promoted it so it must be right.

Come and visit with us on Sunday if you can find us. We are out there somewhere.

Your Invisible Pastor

Invisible Military?

Should we have invisible soldiers with invisible weapons to defend from enemy attacks or do we need the real thing?

Invisible Police Organization?

Should we have invisible police officers to protect us from thieves and murders or should we have the real thing?

Invisible Town Councils?

Should we have an invisible town council making up rules or should we just let everyone in town do that which is right in their own eyes?

Invisible Church?

Even a casual study of the Scriptures, and life itself teaches us that we are under attack as Christians. The Bible tells us the devil is seeking to devour the Christian.

God has given us real pastors in real churches to guide the Christian in this life of spiritual warfare.

Ephesians 6:11-13 says, “*Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*”

Ephesians 4:11 says God gave real “pastors” in real churches to help real Christians stand true.

The Church In The Wilderness???



“This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us.”

(Acts 7:38)

The Bible tells us that Moses had a “church” in the wilderness. The verse above plainly refers to it.

Moses Had An “Assembly”

Much confusion exists today concerning the church because of a misunderstanding of the word. The Greek word translated church in the New Testament is *ekklesia* and always refers to an assembly. It is translated “assembly” three times in Acts chapter nineteen.

Acts 19:32,

“Some therefore cried one thing, and some another: for the assembly was confused; and the more part knew not wherefore they were come together.”

Acts 19:39,

“But if ye enquire any thing concerning other matters, it shall be determined in a lawful assembly.”

Acts 19:41,

“And when he had thus spoken, he dismissed the assembly.”

The assembly in Acts nineteen was actually a riot and had absolutely nothing in common with a local church in the New Testament. Moses had an assembly in the wilderness that also had nothing in common with a New Testament church.

Scofield’s Universal Church

Scofield, in his Reference Bible speaks of what he calls a “true” church and a local church. There is absolutely nothing in the Scriptures to support his position. He simply changed the meaning of the Greek word *ekklesia* whenever he wanted it to refer to his so called “true church” or universal church.

Scofield’s position is a serious misrepresentation of the Word of God. His so-called “true” church has no meeting place, no meetings, no pastors, no deacons, no discipline, no baptism, no Lord’s Supper, no responsibility, and absolutely no Scripture to support it.

First and Second Timothy and Titus are referred to as pastoral epistles. They are of no use in Scofield’s so-called “true church. The things God commanded to be done in those epistles are impossible to be obeyed in Scofield’s universal, invisible church. Revelation addresses seven letters to seven pastors in Revelation chapters two and three the commands written to these church leaders cannot possibly be obeyed in a universal church.

Things that were written to specific churches in nearly forty specific places in the New Testament cannot be obeyed in a universal church.

There was no New Testament church in the wilderness and there is no universal church in the New Testament.

Why Make A Fuss About It?

The answer is simple. We have watched what we call the evangelical movement promote many kinds of heresy through their movement. Today our fundamental movement is doing the same thing. Our leaders, operating within the framework of the universal church teaching, have even changed the plan of salvation by denying the doctrine of repentance. Multitudes of people are sitting in our fundamental churches who have prayed a little forgiveness prayer, minus repentance who are going to be in Hell for eternity. That’s why we make a fuss about it.

“Every Church”

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.”

Paul spent his life establishing churches and instructing them concerning their responsibilities. He wrote the pastor at Ephesus saying,

First Timothy 3:14,15,

“These things write I unto thee...that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”

Establishing Churches

Paul travels took him to Antioch, Jerusalem, Seleucia, Cyprus, Salamis, Paphos, Perga, Pisidia, Iconium, Lystra, Derby, Galatia, Ephesus, Caesarea, Phrygia, Macedonia, Greece, Assos, Mitylene, Chios, Samos, Togyllium, Tyre, and other places with the goal of winning people to Christ and establishing local churches.

The churches at Corinth and Ephesus were large; however, most of the assemblies Paul established remained small. In his Epistles we frequently read about the church in someone’s house. If we study his three journeys we find that the local church was always his focus.

Little wonder the command is plain,

Hebrews 10:25,

“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.”

1. God did not give any instructions for discipline of any Christians in a para-church organization.
2. All missionaries in the New Testament were sent out by the local church.
3. All offerings in the New Testament were handled through the local church.
4. There are absolutely no instruction in the Bible concerning how to raise funds for a para-church ministry.
5. The only authority structure given in the New Testament concerning for God is given in the context of the local church.

The only ministry Jesus sanctioned for the carrying on of His work was the local church.

7. The only agency given in the New Testament for the teaching of doctrine is the local church.
8. All decisions made concerning the promotion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ were made in a local church context.
9. The only place ordained of God in the New Testament for the making of disciples was the local church.
10. Christ promised the gates of Hell shall not prevail against the local church. He made no such promise for a newspaper or a missions board outside of the local church.



D. L. Moody

“Church attendance is as vital to a disciple as a transfusion of rich, healthy blood to a sick man.”

D. L. Moody



C. H. Spurgeon

“That very church which the world likes best is sure to be that which God abhors.”

C. H. Spurgeon