

The Church is not a Denomination

Keith Dixon
November 27, 2022
Gray

Introduction

1. Ephesians 4:4-6
2. Some in the religious community want you to believe:
 - a. That one church is as good as another
 - b. There are different roads leading to the same place
 - c. Meetings with them are something that all ought to participate in
3. We must understand words:
 - a. Church means the called out
 - b. Denomination suggests a fraction or part of the whole
 - c. The church over which Christ is the head and for which He died is not a part or a fraction of anything.
4. Let us study and understand the undenominational character of the church of Christ

II Discussion

1. There is no denominational name Acts 4:12; Romans 16:16; 1 Corinthians 1:2
2. There is no denominational creed. There is no authority but Christ Matthew 28:18; Galatians 6:2; Colossians 3:17
3. There is no denominational organization Philippians 1:1 the local church made up of elders, deacons Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5
4. There is no denominational worship (no Sunrise services) John 4:24; Acts 2:42
 - a. There is no mechanical instruments of music Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16
 - b. There is the partaking of the Lord's Supper every first day of the week Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 11:26 (how often did they do it then?)
5. There are no entangling alliances. 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1
 - a. The church must remain free from political, economical or secular involvement Philippians 2:12
6. There is no denominational requirement for membership.
 - a. The church does not vote on anyone to come within her fellowship
 - b. The Lord add Acts 2:47
 - c. The Lord subtracts Revelation 2:5, 16; 3:19
 - d. We are only doing what they required in the first century
 - i. Believe Mark 16:15-16
 - ii. Repent Luke 13:3; 24:46-47; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30-31
 - iii. Confess Romans 10:9-10
 - iv. Baptism Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38; 8:36; 22:16; Romans 6:3-4

III Conclusion

1. The reason for denomination is:
 - a. The disrespect of the authority of Christ
 - b. The corruption of God's pattern Hebrews 8:5
2. We cannot change God's pattern Galatians 1:6-12
3. If you wish to be saved, all we can tell you is the same as was said 2,000 years ago
4. If you have been saved, but have sinned, all we can tell you is the same as 2,000 years ago Acts 8:
5. Come now

Source: New Testament church by Roy Cogdill