

# The Scriptures Can't be Broken Concerning the One Body

**Text: Ephesians 4:1-6 (KJV)**

<sup>1</sup> I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, <sup>2</sup> With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; <sup>3</sup> Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

<sup>4</sup> There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

<sup>5</sup> One Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

## We Must Worship the Lord in His Church

The Lord is to be glorified by the worship He receives in His church. In **Ephesians 3:21** we read, "To Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus." But how many churches does the Lord have? Jesus says in Matthew 16:18, "Upon this rock I will build My church." The word "My" shows possession and that the church belongs to Jesus. How many churches did He say He was going to build? He said, "I will build My church". The word church is singular not plural. The Lord only promised to build His one church.

In **Ephesians 4:4-6** there are seven ones listed: "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Just as there is only one God and only one Lord we also see there is only one body. The Bible says there is only one body; so, what is this one body? In **Ephesians 1:21-22** we find out what this one body is, "And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be the head over all things to the church, which is His body." Here we see that the Bible says the church is the body. So if there is only one body and the one body is the church, then there can only be one church that belongs to the Lord.

In **Colossians 1:18** in speaking of Christ, we read, "And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things He may have the preeminence." Here again we see that the body (singular) is the church (singular). Again, the Bible tells us that the Lord has only one church. We also see that in all things Christ is to have the preeminence. For Christ to have the preeminence in all things, we must follow Christ in all things and not follow man. If we follow men in some things, then Christ does not have the preeminence in all things.

Since Christ only built His one church, we need to ask where did all these other churches come from? The only answer is they were built by men, so men could "attend the church of their choice", and not God's choice. We read in **Ephesians 5:23**, "Christ is the head of the church, and he is the savior of the body." Christ is only the saviour of His one body, His one church. In the Lord's scheme of redemption, He has only planned to have one church. He is going to only save His one church.

# The Scriptures Can't be Broken

## Concerning the One Body

Since we have seen in the Bible that the one body is the one church which the Lord built, and that Christ has only promised to save His one body, His one church, then what is going to happen to the hundreds of different kinds of other churches we see in existence today? Again, let us let God answer this question.

In **Matthew 15:13** Jesus said, "Every plant, which my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted." What will happen to all those churches that God did not plant?

They will be rooted up. This is what God has said He will do. This is frightening. I want to make sure I am in the Lord's church, the only one He is going to save.

In **Psalms 127:1** we read, "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it." This is a sad but serious situation; one that concerns me greatly and causes me much grief and sorrow to see honest people, who are honestly mistaken, laboring in vain. This is a tragedy.

The one church that Christ purchased with His own blood belongs to Him and the name it wears must honor Him. We read in **Romans 16:16**, "The churches of Christ greet you." This name glorifies and honors Christ, the one who built it. Other names honor and glorify John the Baptist, Martin Luther, the day of Pentecost, the apostles, Rome, Antioch, Nazareth, the Greeks, the Russians, the methodical way of doing things, Christians, the free will, being primitive, southern, missionary, general, the seventh day, science, catholic which means universal, the advent, and the list goes on and on. Even by their names they do not claim to be Christ's one church. Why can't we give the glory and honor to God and Christ where the honor belongs?

Today we hear the sincere but mistaken plea to "attend the church of your choice." Why not attend the church of God's choice, the only one that Jesus "purchased with His own blood" (**Acts 20:28**). Christ did not shed His blood to purchase any denomination.

Any church claiming to be the only church Jesus bought with His own blood should be able to prove from the Bible they are that church of the Bible. Can the church which you are a member prove that it is the one and only church the Lord built? If you can't then you will be laboring in vain if you stay in it. This may sound harsh. I say this with sincerity and sadness, but it will really be harsh if you are lost in eternity. We must wake up because this concerns the welfare of our souls and where we will spend eternity. People too long have ignored what the Lord has said in the Bible.

### Invitation:

1. **HEAR the GOSPEL ~ Romans 10:17**
2. **BELIEVE ~ Hebrews 11:6**
3. **REPENT ~ Luke 13:3**
4. **CONFESS ~ Matthew 10:32-33**
5. **BE BAPTIZED ~ Acts 22:16**