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DID CHRIST *Reorganize* THE CHURCH?

JUST What is "The Church?" What is its object and purpose --- its real mission?

Is it AN ORGANIZATION, or a spiritual ORGANISM, composed of those saints whose names are written in heaven, and who have, and are led by, the Holy Spirit?

And, granting it is not just some one organization, ... yet should not the true Church be organized---and if so, HOW?

Just what is the true BIBLE form of organization and Church government?

A startling new truth now comes to light, thru God's precious Word!

Most of us have ASSUMED one or two central points in this important question---taken them for granted without investigation. And this careless assumption has led most of us into error. It has left us open to be deceived!

The Bible cautions us to PROVE ALL THINGS! It is profitable for CORRECTION as well as for instruction in righteousness. The true Christian must be willing at all times to be corrected and chastened---and must continually seek to GROW in knowledge as well as in grace!

It is the true remnant people of God who keep the COMMANDMENTS that the Devil is wroth with today. It is US Satan is seeking to deceive. He will deceive even the very elect IF POSSIBLE. And it is possible if we are careless, and assume things without careful study of all sides, and ample proof from the Scripture. We must be continually ON OUR GUARD, never trusting any man, or even a beard or group of men, but God alone, thru His Holy Word!

So let us SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES! Let

WHICH is the one true Church?

Here is amazing new light from the Bible, establishing the TRUTH of this important question of Church organization and government.

Let us open our minds, and without prejudice, search the Scriptures, whether these things are so!

us begin at the beginning.

The CHURCH, as we know, actually **BEGAN** at Mount Sinai, in the days of Moses. (Acts 7:35)

True, this was the Church under the OLD Covenant, not the NEW. True, there is a vast difference between the Old and the New---and part of just what constituted that difference is one of the important things we want now to in-

investigate. We want ALL the facts on the subject.

THE CHURCH WAS MARRIED TO THE LORD!

At Mt. Sinai, God set up AN ORGANIZATION. Make no mistake about that!

In our quest to learn WHETHER God's people should join themselves together in an ORGANIZATION, having CHURCH GOVERNMENT, let us begin by recognizing that in the beginning, at Sinai, God Himself formed His people into an ORGANIZATION, having GOVERNMENT.

At that time God's people---the ONLY people on earth who were the people of God---were formed into a NATION. As such, they had LAWS, and GOVERNMENT. They were A KINGDOM. First of all, they formed a civil government. But in this government, God also placed certain church governments, giving them the rituals, ceremonies, and sacrifices of the Law of Moses. Church and state were inseparable.

In any government, men are placed in AUTHORITY, with power to GOVERN and to RULE. There never was a government without man in authority, ruling over others. And, perhaps without exception, there always is, and al-

ways WAS, some ONE MAN who was in actual fact, tho not always in name or title, the real head, or ruler.

As God first organized His people, HE was their HEAD---their King. But soon the Israelites wanted a man to be their king, like the Gentile nations around them. It is IMPOSSIBLE to have ORGANIZATION, or GOVERNMENT, without having a MAN as the actual and real head, even tho we SAY Christ in heaven is the Head, and continue to try to believe it that way.

A fact that many of us have never noticed is that THE OLD COVENANT WAS A MARRIAGE COMPACT!

When God first set up AN ORGANIZATION on earth, the people who formed this organization were MARRIED to the Lord. It was this MARRIAGE that bound Him and His people together!

In Jeremiah 3:14, the Lord says: "Turn O backsliding children, saith the Lord; for I AM MARRIED UNTO YOU."

THE LORD DIVORCED HIS WIFE!

The making of the Old Covenant, as recorded in the 24th chapter of Exodus, was the MARRIAGE CEREMONY. If anyone may doubt this, let us merely ask, WHEN, if not here, did the Lord ever enter into a marriage ceremony, joining Himself and His people together as husband and wife? Where else, in all the Bible, can you find any account of a marriage ceremony?

The MARRIAGE ceremony was the OLD COVENANT CEREMONY! They are one and the same. It was this marriage, then, that established ORGANIZATION and GOVERNMENT among God's people!

We want to repeat that! We want you to understand it---for it is of great importance---it is the KEY FACT upon which the real truth, so long hidden, really hinges! **IT WAS THE MARRIAGE THAT FORMED GOD'S PEOPLE INTO AN ORGANIZATION HAVING CHURCH GOVERNMENT!**

That being so---and it IS so, and none can deny it---then it naturally follows that THE ORGANIZATION and the GOVERNMENT of God's people, at least as ordained and sanctioned by the Lord, EXISTED ONLY AS LONG AS THE MARRIAGE UNION WHICH ESTABLISHED IT!

If the marriage was done away, the ORGANIZATION and the CHURCH GOVERNMENT was at the same time done away! For it was only this marriage relationship which established the organization---the kingdom---the government, both civil and ecclesiastical!

When God first proposed the Old Covenant marriage, (Ex. 19:5-6), He promised His people that IF---notice the IF---they would be obedient, as a wife should to her husband, they would become "a kingdom of PRIESTS, and a holy NATION." In other words, a GOVERNMENT of a religious character---a CHURCH GOVERNMENT!

This is repeated in Leviticus 26. There the blessings to accrue for obedience are enumerated, together with the PUNISHMENT for DISOBEDIENCE! And what was that

punishment to be?

Notice it! ---"they that hate you shall REIGN OVER YOU . . . SEVEN TIMES" ---or 2520 years! (Verses 14-28).

Look at it, in your own Bible: If Israel, the WIFE, married unto the Lord, proves disobedient, Israel is to LOSE her government! No longer to be AN ORGANIZATION! Enemy nations shall REIGN OVER---rule over---the Israelites. Their own government no longer will rule them. No longer will they be an organization of their own.

Thus God threatened to turn the GOVERNMENT---the ORGANIZATION, if you please, over to the GENTILES for 2520 long years, TAKING ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT AWAY FROM HIS PEOPLE!

Now let us see whether He did that! Israel, of course, disobeyed.

"And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery I HAD PUT HER AWAY, AND GIVEN HER A BILL OF DIVORCE." (Jer. 3:8).

Surely that ought to settle the matter! Israel was DIVORCED! This cut off the GOVERNMENT, the ORGANIZATION, from among God's people, and TURNED IT OVER TO THE GENTILES FOR 2520 LONG YEARS---until the very present generation! Still other Scriptures PROVE it!

GOVERNMENT AND ORGANIZATION TURNED OVER TO GENTILES

Let us follow the story thru the Scriptures. Let us see if the other Scriptures confirm this astounding truth!

Israel sinned first, and was taken captive to Assiria about 721 B.C. But the House of Judah remained, and as long as they did God's true BIBLE FORM OF ORGANIZATION and CHURCH GOVERNMENT continued with them.

But soon Judah was sinning even worse than Israel, and they, too, were taken captive. King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon captured the Jews, destroyed Jerusalem, moved the Jews to the land of the Chaldeans. Among them was Daniel, the prophet.

Soon after this captivity, Nebuchadnezzar had the dream in which he saw the great metallic image. Of course you are already familiar with this.

Only Daniel could tell the king his dream, and its meaning, as GOD had revealed it to him. But notice a point in its interpretation:

"This is the dream," Daniel said, after describing the image, "and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king. Thou, O king, are a king of kings---in other words, a WORLD RULER---"for THE GOD OF HEAVEN HATH GIVEN THEE A KINGDOM." (Verses 36-37).

Note it! GOD gave the kingdom over to him! Now God never makes covenants with GENTILES. God never did, and never will, marry a Gentile people as such, or establish them as HIS kingdom, HIS government, HIS organization, HIS Church!

Yet it plainly says, here, that GOD GAVE NEBUCHADNEZZAR A KINGDOM! How? And

WHY? Since God could not have established or set up a kingdom in Babylon, among the Gentile Chaldeans, the only way God could have GIVEN Nebuchadnezzar a KINGDOM was to have given OVER to him the Kingdom He already had set up---the one set up AT SINAI!

Babylon never was the Kingdom, the Government, or the Church of GOD! But Nebuchadnezzar, under God's divine direction, TOOK CAPTIVE the people of God's kingdom and church. And so God GAVE OVER TO HIM the KINGDOM---that is, the GOVERNMENT---the AUTHORITY to RULE---which had been set up at Sinai!

Understand it! The AUTHORITY to RULE and to GOVERN was now taken away from the people of God, because of disobedience, and this AUTHORITY was transferred over to NEBUCHADNEZZAR and HIS SUCCESSORS for 2520 years!

WHEN THE KINGDOM IS RESTORED

Now notice the truth revealed in this Gentile Image a little further.

The AUTHORITY TO RULE was not only turned over to Nebuchadnezzar---not just temporarily---but it was to continue in the power of his successors 2520 years!

"And after thee shall arise another kingdom . . . and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule OVER ALL THE EARTH." (Verse 39). Note it! The RULE God had transferred over to Nebuchadnezzar was to continue in the Persian Empire, and the Grecian Empire---they were to bear RULE over ALL THE EARTH! Yes, and by God's ordination!

Then followed the fourth kingdom of iron---the ROMAN Empire. In the latter days---at the end of the 2520 years---NOW---in OUR generation today---this Roman Empire is once more to be restored by a union of ten European Dictators, as foretold in Revelation 17.

And then what shall happen, at the END of this 2520-year Gentile reign?

"A STONE (Christ) . . . smote the image, "---smashing this Gentile reign into pieces! Yes, CHRIST, at HIS SECOND COMING, is to SMITE it, and end it. What will happen then?

"The God of heaven shall set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: . . . but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and IT shall stand forever." (Verses 34,44).

Jesus' disciples understood that the KINGDOM, with all authority to GOVERN, whether civil or church government, had been taken away from His people, and turned over to Gentiles. You'll remember how they asked Him, "Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?" (Acts 1:6). But He did NOT restore it, then. He did NOT bring the government, the organization, the authority to rule, back from the Gentiles to His people! Consequently He did NOT reorganize His people, or establish any government, ecclesiastical or civil, among them! This the New Testament Scriptures, also, abundantly prove!

God had proposed to demonstrate, thru

His people, what blessings and prosperity would naturally follow a civilization based upon HIS laws. And ALL the laws hang on that great basic principle of LOVE---love to God, and love to neighbor. The principle of "GIVE" and of "SERVE", not of "GET" and "ACCUMULATE."

But, when His people Israel would not continue governing themselves according to His laws, based on this great fundamental principle, God turned authority of government over to the the Gentiles, and gave them 2520 years to DEMONSTRATE, by experience, the fruitage of the Gentile ways of lust.

The 2520 years is now up. The Times of the Gentiles have run their course. And just LOOK at the results of this Babylonish Gentile civilization! Governments are overthrown, and now arming to the teeth to destroy one another! Business and industry is bankrupt under the principle of competition and strife and self-gain, want and poverty stalk the land, and millions are in want in the midst of plenty! Society is rotten and immoral, crime, racketeering, vice, gambling, run rampant. Religion is in confusion, torn by strife and division, in the grip of the GENTILE system of injecting ORGANIZATION and GOVERNMENT into the Church! Truly, in its every phase, our modern civilization is in BABYLON today!

Praise God, JESUS IS SOON COMING! Yes, coming to RESTORE the Kingdom---the government, the organization, to the TRUE people of God! Coming to DESTROY all this "BABYLON" which has visited such unhappiness to the world! Coming to reign and RULE

THE 12, THE 70, AND THE 7

But, did not Jesus SET THE CHURCH IN ORDER? Did He not REORGANIZE it again, at His first Coming? Did He not set up a definite "BIBLE FORM OF ORGANIZATION," and establish a definite "CHURCH GOVERNMENT?"

We have always ASSUMED that He did! Yes, we have taken this carelessly for granted! But let us prove THIS point---let us prove ALL THINGS! Let us search the Scriptures whether this assumption be so!

First, did Christ ever set up an ORGANIZATION, with its boards of HEAD MEN, with authority to GOVERN over the "spiritual affairs," or the "FINANCIAL AFFAIRS" of the Church?

Let us see if we can find such boards, or Scriptures giving them such authority.

True, Jesus did call out TWELVE disciples, who afterward were called "apostles." But WHERE in the Scripture are they called "THE BOARD OF THE TWELVE"---a term we hear freely used today, under claim of having "the BIBLE form of organization".

WHERE do we read of one of them being appointed as the "CHAIRMAN OF THE TWELVE" or another as the "SECRETARY OF THE TWELVE"? Is THIS Biblical and scriptural? If so, where is the fact?

When Jesus called them, and ordained them, did He give them AUTHORITY TO RULE? Just what did He give them POWER and AU-

THORITY to do?

Notice it, in Luke 9:1-2:

"Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority" ---for what? To GOVERN? To RULE the Church? Notice carefully! Let us have a BIBLE REASON for all we accept and do! ...
 "...and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. And he SENT THEM to" ---He sent them to WHAT? To rule and govern? To have supervision over the spiritual affairs of an organization? Notice it, IN THE BIBLE! "He sent them to preach the Kingdom of God, and to heal the sick."

The word "apostle" means "one sent." The definition in Cruden's Concordance is "One sent forth. Used as referring (1) chiefly to one of the 12 disciples of Christ; or (2) to any of various other followers of Christ who did evangelistic work."

An apostle does not mean one IN authority, but one UNDER authority---one SENT by the authority of another! The only power and authority Jesus ever gave even His original twelve was to heal the sick, and cast out demons. And He SENT them, not to rule, but to PREACH---not to BEAR authority, but to MINISTER, to serve!

Nowhere in the Scripture do we find the slightest hint that the twelve constituted a higher-up church board, and nowhere were they ever given power to to rule, or govern, or decide what doctrines the other disciples must believe.

WERE THE 12 CONTINUED ON?

Is there any Scripture giving plain instruction that the TWELVE were to continue on perpetually as a Church board? There is none!

Yet many have been led honestly to suppose that the apostles were to be continued exactly twelve in number, because a successor was ordained to replace Judas Iscariot. So let us SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES on this point, whether this is so.

What was Jesus' PURPOSE in ordaining twelve disciples? Let the Scripture say:

"And He ordained twelve, THAT THEY SHOULD BE WITH HIM, and that He might send them forth to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils." (Mark 3:14.)

Not that they should rule the spiritual affairs of an organization. Jesus ordained the twelve in order "that they should BE WITH HIM!"

Now notice WHY He wanted them to be with Him---and WHY a successor was appointed for Judas!

Judas' successor had to be a man possessing a certain qualification---because he was "ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection." (Acts 1:22).

Notice the necessary qualification. Not ability to govern, nor talent to discern and vote on right doctrine. Look at it in your Bible: "Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, Beginning from the baptism of

John, unto the same day that He was taken up from us, must one be ordained TO BE A WITNESS WITH US OF HIS RESURRECTION." (Acts 1:21-22).

Do you grasp it? Do you see plainly revealed here the PURPOSE of the twelve?

First, Jesus ordained twelve "that they should be with Him." Later, after His ascension, one of these was replaced. And it had to be ONE WHO HAD BEEN WITH HIM, along with the others, thruout His entire ministry, beginning with the baptism of John!

Why?

"TO BE A WITNESS WITH THEM OF HIS RESURRECTION!"

Search the Scriptures as we may, we cannot find any other purpose for the twelve apostles, except to go out and preach, and heal, and to be WITH Jesus thruout His ministry, in order that they might forever PROVE the TRUTH OF THE RESURRECTION!

That was the only reason for the definite number of TWELVE! To suppose that this definite number of twelve was to be continued and perpetuated AFTER THEIR MISSION WAS FULFILLED is absurd!

Is there any statement that others later called "apostles"---ones SENT to preach---merely evangelists---such as Paul, Barnabus, etc., were "one of the twelve?" There is no such statement in the Bible! Rather Paul and Barnabus, after they were called apostles (as in Acts 14:14), went up to Jerusalem UNTO THE APOSTLES. (Acts 15:2). And here, at this conference, the Holy Spirit revealed truth TO BE WRITTEN AS PART OF THE INSPIRED SCRIPTURES, which were not yet, at that time, complete. Surely no "12 apostles" are authorized by the Scripture to receive such special instruction from the Holy Spirit, to ~~made part of~~ the Holy Scriptures, TODAY! Such an implication is little short of blasphemous!

True, Paul and a few others are called "apostles." But an "apostle" is merely "ONE SENT." If we could find one single Scripture where Paul, or any other than the original twelve, ever were called "ONE OF THE TWELVE", as we freely hear men style themselves today, then we would know the twelve continued on.

BUT THERE IS NO SUCH SCRIPTURE!

The words "The twelve" are NEVER used except to refer to the original 12 which companied with Jesus thruout His ministry, to be witnesses of His resurrection!

There is NO SCRIPTURE even hinting that the twelve were continued. On the other hand, every Scriptural indication is that THEY WERE NOT. Even the authors of "A History of the True Church" were unable to find any continuance of THE TWELVE in the TRUE Church!

That ought to settle the matter. The Scriptures speak of FALSE apostles, and of "them which SAY they are apostles, and are not, but hast found them LIARS." (II Cor. 11:13; Rev. 2:2). Let us beware being deceived. It is the COMMANDMENT KEEPERS whom the Devil seeks, in these latter days, to deceive!

Let us be sure everything we accept is based on true BIBLE AUTHORITY, and not

unto Him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to RULE over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise AUTHORITY upon them. but so shall it NOT be among you." (Mark 10:42).

The AUTHORITY---the GOVERNMENT---the RULERSHIP---was turned over to the Gentiles for 2520 years---until Christ RESTORES the kingdom at His Second Coming!

WHERE CHURCH GOVERNMENT ORIGINATED

How, then, did ORGANIZATION, and the idea of CHURCH GOVERNMENT get into the Church?

It came out of BABYLON! Spiritual BABYLON---that is, ROME! The same as nearly all other false doctrines of Satan.

In the early 4th Century, Constantine, the Emperor, who officially started SUNDAY observance in the Western world, saw his Empire in danger of disintegrating.

At the time a great controversy was raging among the leaders of Christianity, over Dr. Arius' doctrine concerning the origin of Christ, as opposed to the Trinity doctrine.

We quote from Encyclopedia Britannica, (article, ARIUS):

"This controversy over Arius' doctrine reached even the ears of Constantine. Now sole emperor, he saw in the one catholic church the best means of counteracting the movement in his vast empire toward disintegration, and he at once realized how dangerous dogmatic strife might be to its unity. Constantine had no understanding of the questions at issue. . . He summoned a general council (the Nicene Council). . . It was finally decided against Arius. . . Constantine accepted the decision of the council, and resolved to uphold it."

Thus it was CONSTANTINE---the "BEAST"---who injected and introduced into the church the idea of a BOARD to decide doctrine, and to rule.

Thus it was that CONSTANTINE made doctrine, as decided by a higher-up BOARD, the basis of fellowship and unity in the Church!

Jesus never said "By this shall all men KNOW that ye are my disciples---if ye all speak the same thing the BOARD OF THE TWELVE vote on," That is the policy of some today---but it is NOT BIBLE POLICY! Jesus said we should be known to be in the true Church IF WE HAVE LOVE one to another! And 'doctrine has only brought STRIFE!

In the next century, came the PAPACY in full bloom, starting the idea that the CHURCH is an ORGANIZATION having CHURCH GOVERNMENT!

Listen to authentic history! In the Cyclopedia of Biblical, Theological, and Ecclesiastical Literature, Vol. 7, page 629, we read:

"The first pope, in the real sense of the word, was Leo I. (440-461 A.D.)" To him the plan of government of the Roman Empire was an obsession. He applied and adapted that form of government to the church, forming the PAPACY.

The Church (under Leo I,) set up, "within the Roman Empire, an ecclesiastical STATE (government) which, in its constitution and its administrative system, was shaping itself upon the IMPERIAL MODEL."

Truly, an IMAGE OF THE BEAST!

Thus was CHURCH GOVERNMENT introduced into the Western world a century after Constantine (the "BEAST" injected the idea of church BOARDS to decide what doctrines the rest of the church must believe. And thus the very PRINCIPLE of CHURCH GOVERNMENT becomes THE IMAGE TO THE BEAST!

The whole thing is FALSE! It is NOT ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE! It is part of BABYLON! Those who are IN, and MEMBERS of such an organized church government, submitting to doctrines declared by unscriptural boards as a fellowship test, are IN BABYLON, and actually worshippers of THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST! And God is calling us, HIS people OUT of BABYLON today, before it is too late---before the PLAGUES fall!

Brethren, let us have the courage to accept the TRUTH, and to COME OUT!

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

Finally, what is the very PURPOSE of the New Testament Church? Is it to BUILD AN ORGANIZATION?

Let us, now, finally understand it.

The first kingdom and government was set up by Nimrod---the first ancient Babylon (Genesis 10). The Devil is the god of this world, and since Nimrod the kingdoms have built civilizations based upon the Devil's ways of SELF and of GET, contrary to God's ways of LOVE, of OBEDIENCE, and of GIVE, as defined in GOD'S LAW.

So God formed Abraham's children into A NATION, giving them HIS LAWS, to show how a nation would be blessed that would build its civilization according to His Commandments. At Mt. Sinai Israel was united to the Lord in MARRIAGE, as HIS GOVERNMENT, both state and church.

But when Israel went after the ways of other nations, breaking the Commandments, God DIVORCED Israel, and gave over the GOVERNMENT (which included CHURCH GOVERNMENT as well as state) to the Gentile kingdoms symbolized by Daniel's image and the four "beasts." He gave the GOVERNMENT into Gentile hands UNTIL THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST, when the government, church and state, shall be RESTORED to Israel!

When Jesus comes with POWER and great glory---power to RULE, and the SAINTS possess the kingdoms of this world---He will make a NEW Covenant with Israel and Judah, which NEW Covenant will be the MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB!

As the Old Covenant MARRIAGE ceremony set up Israel as a NATION, so will the new.

New TO WHOM will Christ be married, at the Marriage of the Lamb? Notice it, IN YOUR OWN BIBLE---Revelation 19:7---He shall marry HIS WIFE! Note it!!!

Yes, his WIFE whom He divorced. A wife who is divorced is not free to remarry until the death of her husband! And so Christ, Israel's husband, DIED to REDEEM ISRAEL. And now Israel IS FREE to marry AGAIN!

with? Notice Hebrews 8:8---with which wife He made the first covenant and later divorced---ISRAEL!

Then He shall RESTORE the kingdom to Israel---both Church government and state. Christ will reign not only as King of kings, but also as LORD OF LORDS---Church government, as well as state.

Christ's FIRST coming was to REDEEM---not to restore.

Jesus never set up an organization, nor did He establish any church GOVERNMENT. He did not RE-ORGANIZE the Church!

Instead, He came calling INDIVIDUAL disciples out from among the church organizations, sects, and denominations---out from among the Pharisees, the Sadducees, and the Essenes---out from among worldly Gentile organizations and contacts---He called His saints to be SEPARATE---to COME OUT!

The very word "ekklesia" from which "Church" is translated, means "called-out ones" as well as "assembly."

The New Testament Church is not a kingdom---not a church government---but an assembly of individuals CALLED OUT---Spirit-filled individuals, and therefore a SPIRITUAL ORGANISM, not an organization.

The OBJECT of the Church is not to build up an organization, or a movement. Let us see this great purpose clearly.

The CHURCH is Israelitish. Not a Gentile Church just called "Israel." It IS Israel. But those who do not come by faith, and who are disobedient, are CUT OFF, the Israelitish-born, while Gentile converts, thru Christ, are ADOPTED into Israel. Thus, spiritually speaking, Israel IS the CHURCH.

And it is the CHURCH who shall be married to Christ---Israel REDEEMED by the blood of the Lamb of God!

The CHURCH is God's instrumentality thru which, and in which, He is selecting a people for His name---gathering OUT of "Babylon" ---OUT of worldly ways, worldly organizations, various individuals,---one here, and one there---to repentance, faith in Christ, receiving of and being led by the Holy Spirit, thus having HIS LAWS written in their minds and hearts---living, individually, a life of trial and test, of OVERCOMING, that they may be thus fitted and trained for positions as kings or priests in the KINGDOM OF GOD, after Christ's second coming!

The CHURCH of God shall then become the KINGDOM of God. It is the CHURCH which shall be married to the Lamb, establishing God's GOVERNMENT on earth---restoring the KINGDOM to Israel!

So THE CHURCH is God's instrumentality for overcoming the FAULT of the Old Covenant. That FAULT was disobedience. The NEW will be made with those in whose minds and hearts GOD'S LAW has been written, by His Holy Spirit! (Heb. 8:10),

And this MARRIAGE will not be made with some one organization. It is THE INDIVIDUAL SAINTS---not some organization---which shall possess the government, and rule (Dan. 7:18; Rev. 2:26-27; 3:21, etc.)

His WIFE shall have made herself READY! but how? By a "re-organization"

Ephesians 5:25-27. The CHURCH is the Elective body of individual saints who are sanctified and CLEANSED by Christ! Let us stop speaking of some organization as "the Church," or "our Church."

Jesus said, "Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be ROOTED UP;" Our heavenly Father never planted any super-organization, or established any church GOVERNMENT, or set men IN AUTHORITY over either spiritual or financial affairs, in the New Testament Church

Any such "plan" was never planted of GOD---and therefore IT SHALL BE ROOTED UP!

Our fellowship is first with God, and with Christ---then with each other, in LOVE! The saints, so far as they know one another, are not to forsake assembling together for their mutual edification. For this purpose---and that all things may be done decently and in order---the Scriptures give us instructions for ordaining local elders and deacons, in every city---every local congregation, or Church. But there is no super-organization over and above local congregations IN THE NEW TESTAMENT! And any such "plant" is certain to be ROOTED UP!

All such organizations and governments came out of BABYLON---and are today a part of BABYLON!

Brethren, let us have the kind of co-operative FELLOWSHIP, based on LOVE, that was practised by the early saints, as recorded in the Book of Acts. Let us work together, in unselfish effort to GIVE of the Gospel truth to the world---to GIVE of the "waters of life" to as many precious souls as we can reach---to GIVE out the last warning message with great POWER!

But let us drop all effort to BUILD UP A MOVEMENT OR AN ORGANIZATION. Let us quit working FOR organizations, and work FOR THE LORD---and the salvation of souls!

What has split and divided up the saints in the Church of God? Nothing but ORGANIZATION---which has led to politics, ministers lusting for rule and for power---striving against each other, lining up the brethren on THEIR side, against the other! It is SUCH PREACHERS who have split up and divided our brethren!

God's Word commands us to COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM, and be separate, God's last warning is, "COME OUT OF BABYLON!"

Organization and church GOVERNMENT has brought us only strife, jealousies, divisions, bitterness! It is not of God, and it can bear no other fruit.

The CHURCH OF GOD needs more of the POWER OF GOD---more of HIS LOVE---of HIS HOLY SPIRIT, that the work may now begin to go forth IN MIGHTY POWER! We ought to be ASHAMED of the pitiful, puny, weak, feeble work that has split up and divided brethren, reached but so very few with the message, with almost no real conversions! All this, while leaders desiring power to RULE send out misleading, exaggerated, deceiving statements designed to convince tithe-payers that "the work is progressing." What a mookery! What a tragedy! What a pity!

WHAT MANY OF THE MOKE
We praise God that many of the more

How God works in saving a single *Soul!*

SEE How heaven's machinery is set in motion for the conversion of a single soul.

"An angel of the Lord spake unto Philip" (Acts 8:26).

This conversion began by directing the efforts of an evangelist whom God could USE.

But God used AN ANGEL in the direction of this effort. The angels are our colleagues, carrying forward GOD'S work, not ours.

This heavenly visitor saw a dusky face seventy miles away, dimly rolling thru the dust-clouds of the desert; and that angel planned the intersecting of two remotely disconnected lives, suddenly uniting them, and then as suddenly parting them forever.

Dramatic was this intersection of lives! The one man was white, the other black; the one a Jew, the other a Gentile; the one poor, the other rich; the one a commoner, the other a nobleman; the one a Christian, the other a heathen.

Heaven's machinery, set in motion for the conversion of a single soul, can bring face to face utter strangers in rank, religion, nation, race.

Notice, the angel "spake unto PHILIP." The angel could not speak this sacred instruction to just ANY preacher or evangelist. It had to be a man yielded to God, full of the Holy Spirit.

Philip went, as the Spirit led. "And behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority . . . was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Isaiah the prophet. Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot."

The exact chariot in which the God-sought soul was sitting was indicated to Philip; for no evangelist knows, but only the Spirit of God, the names that are written in the Lamb's Book of Life!

"Join thyself to THIS chariot." The next chariot would, in all probability, have held a soul for whom the machinery of heaven would have been perfectly motionless. The wise worker finds out where GOD IS WORKING, and works there! This saves us from discouragement, and even despair, over souls who never yield; it delivers us from selfishness in seeking souls we want saved, rather than souls God-indicated; it prevents our sharp criticism of ministers for not converting souls WE brought to them, but God did not!

HAVE You ever stopped to investigate just HOW God works, in bringing a single sinner to repentance and conversion?

Here is a REAL DRAMA, from the bible, revealing one definite experience of soul-saving.

This article was written, with editing, interpolations, and some altering by the editor, by D. M. PANTON.

So Philip finds the Spirit already in the chariot. For who put the Bible into the eunuch's hands? Who brought him praying from the Temple? Who opened the Book at the passage of a slaughtered Messiah? The divine machinery works at both ends; and so the prepared soul---the CALLED soul---falls like a ripe pear at the lightest touch of God's

messenger. It is God-chosen, God-sought, and God-revealed souls whom alone we shall ever win.

More wonderful still is the third act in the drama: the long-laid train for the winning of a single soul now emerges from the unseen into the visible.

"And Philip ran thither to him,"--- straight to the soul God would call. What inconceivable honor God puts on a man or a woman! God has the angel direct the journey, single out the soul; but the angel now disappears into the background, and God pushes a man into the forefront of saving the lost. But not ANY man! When God has something to be done, He whispers it into the ear of the man He can use! In the wake of the efforts of a God-called minister is a steady stream of conversions.

Others may labor, send in reports of their activities, but souls are not saved, because heaven's machinery cannot work thru them! Or a whole organization of them!

Most wonderful of all is the final act in the drama. The God-called sinner, faithfully guided into a right understanding of God's Word; and, because God has CALLED the one, and GRANTED repentance unto him, and has SENT the other as His servant and minister, ---"they came unto a certain water;" the eunuch answered "I BELIEVE!"; ---"and he baptised him."

"And the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, . . . and the eunuch went on his way REJOICING!"

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What a wonderful truth is brought out by this mighty little drama from God's Word. Not all are called, during this age. "Not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called." (I Cor. 1:23).

None CAN repent and be converted, unless God GRANTS repentance unto life. See Acts 11:18 and 5:31.

And again, Not ALL ministers and evangelists are really called of God. And our tithe should work where GOD WORKS.