

## God's True Churches

The true Church is not a powerful political organization, exerting influence among world governments. Instead, we are to "Come out from among them, and be ye separate," II Corinthians 6:17, not being of the world, John 17:9-16, but as Ambassadors for Christ, doing the work of God to spread the gospel, never compromising with the world's evil ways.

The true Church was prophesied to be small, persecuted, and scattered, Daniel 11:33-35, 12:7; Mark 14:27; Luke 12:32; John 15:20, 16:32; Acts 8:1; II Timothy 3:12. The many would depart from the faith once delivered and be deceived into a false Christianity, Matthew 24:4-5, 7:13-14; Mark 7:7, 13; Revelation 12:9. "God's true Church is the collective body of individuals, called out from the ways of this present world, who have totally surrendered themselves to the rule of God, and who, through the Holy Spirit, become the begotten sons of God (Romans 8:9) . . . The true Church is not some politically organized denomination which one joins, or becomes a member of, in order to be saved' . You can't join the true Church; only God can put you into it by His Spirit," I Corinthians 12:13 (see True History of the True Church, p. 5).

The Church is the body of Christ, a spiritual organism, with the Messiah as the living active head, Ephesians 5:23, 32. Those who are called, repent, and are baptized, become part of the spiritual body of Christ when they receive His Holy Spirit, Acts 2:38. The true Church of God is continually guided into truth as God reveals it, and admits mistakes when it is proven wrong, John 16:13. When a Christian ceases to grow, the Holy Spirit ceases to live in him.

Mass Departure from Truth Predicted The New Testament is full of predictions that the first century church would largely fall away from the revealed truth, Acts 20:29-30; II Timothy 4:3, 4; II Thessalonians 2:3; Titus 1:16; II Peter 2:2; Jude 3, 19; I John 2:18-19; II John 7; III John 9-10. The messages to the seven Gentile churches of God continue to give information on these end time churches.