

Calendars are a Trap

Part III

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The Apostate Church
God's Elect People
First Come Out Of

In 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, God instructs His invisible church, His spiritual body, a body, that, *temporarily*, includes the earthly, which is contrary to the word of God:

John 6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 ¶ Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? 17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 includes how, *land*, with its buildings, and, *titles*, such as Bishop, Pastor, Elder, and Deacon, [*the outside of the cup*], too often identify with the spirit of the world (Matthew 23:25; 1Corinthians 2:12). But this is exactly why God says in 1 Corinthians 3:17:

1 Corinthians 3:17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy;

But God finishes 1 Corinthians 3:17 by declaring:

1 Corinthians 3:17 ... for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

On the sin cursed earth, and from natural mankind's point of view, 'the temple', includes the deceiving flesh, [*that is contrary to the word of God*], as well as the earthly structures [*buildings and associated titles*]. On this earth, God's people dwell in earthly tabernacles, [*the flesh*], and temples made by hands [*buildings*]. It is God's design for how sinners, [*which includes His elect*], occupy while the earth remains. The outward appearance of earthly things, [*following Adam's sin*], is also the means by which God exposes to the world the spirits whether they be of God. When the Pharisees rejected God in the flesh, they exposed themselves spiritually, [*through their behavior in the flesh*], that they were spiritually blind.

But the earthly design, [*the outside of the cup*], will never be the cause of a souls regeneration, nor will it be the cause of a soul being defiled (John 3:3-5)! Man's sinful condition had been established in the Garden of Eden before anything had been built, [*by man*], and given titles. Therefore, the temple God is ultimately referring to 'is spiritual' which on this earth includes the spirit of Christ, [*Israel*], and the spirit of the world, [*Babylon*], – the wheat and the tare.

Additionally, when, in 1 Corinthians 3:16, the Lord begins His word with the phrase, "*know ye not*"; this should be a warning to all who read, that, of themselves, and apart from the spirit of truth, [*who is God*], mankind *cannot know* the things of God (1Corinthians 2:11). With that said, Romans 6:16 is Considered exceedingly applicable to the spirits being described in this study:

Romans 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

According to 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, and while the sin cursed earth remains, the temple God must be referring to is the earthen vessel, that, by God's preordained statutes, occupies the hearts and souls of the wheat and the tare, the just and the unjust, as one integrated body, [*flesh*], soul, [*mind*], and spirit, that manifests the carnal mind, [*natural man*], and the mind of Christ, [*for those born again*] (1Corinthians 2:16; Romans 8:7). And so it is of this temple, [*Spiritual Babylon vs. Spiritual Israel in earthen vessels*], God, who is a Holy Spirit, is warning His people who will hear:

Matthew 5:45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

Matthew 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen.

The scriptures declare, that, while the sin cursed earth remains, both the wheat and the tare show to be sinners – the wheat who's soul has been regenerated, (1John 3:9), yet, who are capable of sin by the carnal flesh that has not been saved (1John 1:8-10); and the tare who's sin is in both body and soul (Ezekiel 184; John 15:22). In 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, God would warn His people not to defile the earthly body that manifests the spiritual temple of God, that would point to Christ; for the wicked, [*the anti-christ*], God will destroy – both body and soul (Matthew 10:28; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 20:14). For in this world there are two congregations revealed by a spirit that lives in the earthen vessel [*temple*]. The one is from Sarah, who is the free woman of the elect, (John 4:24), and the other is of Hagar who is the bond woman of the world, (Galatians 4:23-31). Hagar's children are of the law, (Galatians 2:16), while Sarah's children are of promise (Titus 1:2). Both have an earthly, [*sinful*], body, [*temple*], that contains the heart, and soul, [*the spiritual temple*]. One represents the spirit of Christ, while the other represents the spirit of the world. Therefore, in 1 John 4:1 God instructs His people:

1 John 4:1 ¶ Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

Additionally, 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, as all of scripture, must be seen as originating from God's word to Adam and Eve; who, despite God's warning to them chose to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Yet, from that very beginning the hope of salvation for God's elect would become known (Genesis 3:15); but not without the thorns and the thistles, [*the tare*], by the sweat of the believers face, [*the new person inside of the carnal flesh*], with fear [*Tribulation*] (Genesis 3:17-19; 2Corinthians 1:4).

In Matthew 10:28, God instructs His faithful of the worldly fear that exists in all flesh, and the godly fear that over comes the earthly:

Matthews 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Neither, Individually, nor collectively, can the invisible church of God, [*His spiritual body/ the elect*], be defiled, who had been purchased before the world began, (2Timothy 1:9), and who individually are the temple, [*body*], of Christ, who have yet to be resurrected a second time without sin, (Hebrews 9:28), and who are scattered throughout every nation hidden in earthly, [*defiled*], tabernacles!

Subsequently, we would not say, that, the faithful words of an elect, that come out of the defiled flesh, proves that the elect is a false prophet [*the apostate church/ temple*]! From the first Adam, the carnal mind is defiled, [*apostate*], but not the soul that has been regenerated, [*the mind of Christ*], which is the work of God (1John 3:9)! The elect, ‘of themselves’, begin defiled; but they are no longer of themselves, but of Christ according to His perfect will and good pleasure before the world began (Titus 1:2). It is His program – His purchased elect. And there is nothing they can do to become non-elect – if they are elect (Romans 8:1; Ephesians 1:4-6). Yet, they ware the same defiled earthly tabernacle, [*the flesh*], and occupy the same earthly temples, [*buildings*], as Hagar’s children [*the world*] – and always have.

The tare who represent the unbelieving world who possess the defiled temple, [*the flesh*], also possess the spirit of God, [*without which no creature can live on earth*]. Through intellect and self-deception they must seek to disguise the soul that is defiled. Individually, and collectively, they are the unregenerate who grow along side of the wheat [*the elect*] (Matthew 13:34). Collectively, and as God allows the tare can grow to choke the faithful message of Jesus Christ – corporately (Revelation 11:8). Therefore, in 2 Corinthians 6:14, God instructs His people:

2 Corinthians 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

So how is it the elect are called to judge the corporate churches who falsely typify the body of Christ which by nature all mankind do? Peter when speaking exceedingly pridefully was severely rebuked by the Lord (Mark 8:31-33)? Whether a spiritual body, [*an individual or a group*], shows to be good or evil; how is it the elect are called to judge the souls that reside in the earthly temple, [*the flesh*], or the congregation [*the church building*] (Matthew 7:1-5)? Whether we are the wheat or the tare, [*both having defiled earthly tabernacles that are very deceiving*], and whether we gather together in a

church building, a public building, or a house, *[the wood, hay, and stubble]*, and irregardless of the titles we may hold; surely we are unjust judges if we teach that there is no longer the hope of salvation for a soul because of a date in time that has passed while time continues (Ephesians 1:10). That is, for many it is an earthly time line that is providing the justification for this judgment, where a calendar date brings an end to the New Testament, *[the gospel]*, while the tare, *[who we once were]*, continue in time along side of the wheat (Genesis 8:21-22). That is, that the wheat have not been taken up, and the tare left behind as God's final judgment that salvation no longer exists. That is, such a doctrine must promote a separation of the wheat from the tare, *[by the congregation]*, which the Lord instructs His elect not to do prior to the harvest (Matthew 13:24-30). This why legions of denominational and non-denominational groups remain separated by doctrine.

Surely it is not buildings all of which shall be left behind, nor their names, nor the titles they contain of their members that determines a right relationship with God! Buildings, *[earthly temples]*, nor their names, *[titles]*, demonstrate obedience to God's word where-by all are reserved unto fire as wood, hay, and stubble (1Corinthians 3:12-13). Yet, is not such a temple 'symbolic' of the individual brands such as Jacob, who, of himself, being, wood, hay, and stubble, is eternally plucked out of the fire (Zechariah 3:1-2)! Can we recall the rhetorical question Jesus presented to the Pharisee Nichodemus:

John 3:12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

In Jacob's case, God had given His dead bones, *[earthly things]*, new life, *[heavenly things in Christ]*, by a regenerated soul according to the time of life (Genesis 18:14; Ezekiel 37:3). The outside of the cup, the earthly temple, whether it be the fleshly tabernacle, or an earthly building, must be eternally destroyed by fire. These are the earthly things we should know! Only the regenerated soul that has the spirit of Christ shall pass unharmed through the fires of hell and eternal damnation *[plucked out of the fire]*. "This is the Hope of every elect, but which is not seen according to earthly things (Romans 8:24-25)."

When, contrary to Revelations 10:6, time has NOT come to an end, *[and time is represented by a calendar that has not ended]*, how then does this calendar bring an end to God's gospel proclamation program which is Spiritual and not earthly as the calendar (John 3:11)? Are we truly understanding that earthly things only point to spiritual things? Are we faithfully comparing spiritual things with spiritual, and not, rather, earthly things with spiritual? Surely, this has to be confirmed by our authority by all of scripture (1Thessalonians 5:21)!

A calendar date that becomes isolated from any part of God's word is not spiritual unto salvation, but is carnal unto death. And there are only two groups that reside in time: the elect, and those who's names that have not been written in the Lamb's book of life (Revelation 13:1-8). One is eternally

spiritual, while the other is eternally carnal [*damned*]. “And there is no other group!”

Quoting verses that have their root in Adam’s sin against the law of God, [*the beginning of the biblical time line*], does not prove the end of an age, [*the end of the biblical time line*], as much as it reveals a perpetual allegory that points to its certainty, yet, from which the elect have been removed (Hebrews 7:3; 9:28). Spiritual things MUST BE COMPARED with Spiritual! And when this is so might we begin to see, that, earthly CALENDARS ARE A TRAP; for they provide earthly measurements which are incapable of proving spiritual things that are heavenly (John 3:12; Hebrews 7:3)!

To be clear, the intent of this study is not to dismiss God’s revealing of the apostasy that exists in the corporate churches today so that no faithful Christian can be under its teaching. But this has always existed since Cain, [*spiritual Babylon*], killed his brother Abel, [*spiritual Israel*] (Ecclesiastes 1:9)! The difficulty with the ideology, that, ‘*the church age is over*’, is, that, in one sense this belief is stating a biblical truth as if it has just recently become true, [*based on a calendar date*], when, since the beginning of the biblical calendar it has always been true! Since Adam’s sin, no corporate congregation of individual souls as a group, [*Cain and Abel/ the wheat and the tare*], has ever been in perfect harmony with the living word of God unto salvation. Both the wheat and the tare have always required a Savior for the same exact sin, [*in Adam*], though only the remnant would receive the gift?

On the other hand, throughout the bible, we see how certain individual elect are recorded as being in perfect harmony with the faithful witness of Jesus Christ, as God’s instruction and warning to the New Testament church! It is these individuals, [*of writ*], who reveal the body of Christ from every nation (Acts 2). God first reveals them according to His word in its entirety. It is not the congregation, [*the fellowship in itself*], who reveals this! God, alone, reveals His New Testament saints according to His word the Bible (Philippians 2:13). And it is by Christ’s faithfulness in the Holy Ghost, not the earthly church, nor its members, that His elect come to know that they are in Christ (1Corinthians 3:6-7).

Therefore, the question might be asked: “*who is judging our gathering together as we individually congregate with-in our own fellowship, wherever that may be?*” Would God, if examining us, individually, or collectively, see us as having all things in common with the bible? I don’t mean, ‘with each other’, but with the bible! Getting along with each other is NOT a godly measurement (1John 2:15-16)! The world gets along with itself when it comes to its hatred against God’s people (Psalm 2:1-3)! But the true gospel is NOT an “us against them”! The bible says Christ is our measurement, who neither has beginning of days nor end of life (2Corinthians 10:14-15; Hebrews 7:3)! It is only when God’s word, alone, and in its entirety becomes our spiritual measurement that we come to experience His agape love, one with another.

Naturally the world cannot know this. And so neither should we expect the world to look or act as if it does – which includes the corporate church! When Jesus came to His own congregation, the Jews, what did He find! The bible shows us, that, in obedience to their Lord’s word, the Apostles did NOT have respect for persons over God’s word; “So why do we!”

If we’re honest the answer must be ‘no’; ‘we’, ‘individually’, nor, ‘collectively’, have all things in common in any gathering we might attend. There’s none righteous; no, not one; there’s none in themselves who seek after God (Psalm 14:2-3). Psalm 14:2-3 speaks to every individual in every group that will ever exist. In one sense all fellowships on this earth are corporate church’s where a remnant of wheat may exist, but not without the tare (Matthew 13:34-39)! Otherwise, we do not believe what God says to us in Matthew 13:24-30. “No one knew who Judas Iscariot was until his betrayal”:

Matthew 13:24-30 ¶ Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: 25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. 26 But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. 27 So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? 28 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? 29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest: ... 39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

From a strict structural, [earthly], order, that, incorporates finance, musical worship, and statements of faith; all earthly temples, whether Buddha, Muslim, or Christian, operate similarly to the natural man – who has the spirit of God, but not necessarily the Spirit of Christ. It is God, alone, and in His entirety, [circumscribed by the scriptures], who ordains what should be in the hearts and souls of the body of Christ – not the congregation, [Buddha, Muslim, or Christian]. Truths that are eternal are found only in God’s word the Bible, according to the Spirit of truth that abides in His elect, which is NOT of the spirit of the world (1Corinthians 2:12-14). That is, there is the spirit of man which is of the world, and there is the Spirit of God, [Christ], (Job 32:8; Romans 8:9):

1 Corinthians 2:11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

This is why it is so important, that, as professing Christians who would be faithful to God’s word; our authority must be the Bible, Alone, and in its Entirety! And this cannot be emphasized enough! His authority alone is what

truly separates us from the world, if we are truly not of it, but of Christ. On the other hand, is it possible, that, as a collective body of professing Christians, [*individuals*], our authority is actually based on our own gathering together [*as a group consensus*]? Are the doctrines of the bible according to our own understanding and authority? This is a fair question considering the spiritual circumstance we claim surrounds us, [*the apostate church*]!

Where does God ever authorize us through doctrine to declare, that, as a fellowship, [*of individuals*], we may look at ‘ourselves’ as being more faithful than the corporate church? In 1 Corinthians 4:7, though indirectly, God’s word would make a distinction between the spirit of the world, and the Spirit of Christ:

1 Corinthians 4:7 ¶ For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?

As professing Christians in a sin cursed world, what exactly is it we have received? We remember how in, Ezekiel 36:24-27, it is God who does all of the work, who, alone, comforts His people by giving them a NEW HEART and a NEW SPIRIT when they are born again, (John 3:3-5), by the ‘living’ word of God, [*sprinkled clean water that removes all sin*]:

Ezekiel 36:24-27 For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. 25 ¶ Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. 26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Who’s Spirit is it, then, that is doing all of the work and judgment of God with respect to mankind? The bible declares that mankind of themselves are idol worshippers of earthly things, until God begins to dwell in them as His chosen elect, where-by they worship God, only, according to His word:

2 Corinthians 6:16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Subsequently, we may remember, how, in 1 John 4:1, God’s word would instruct His people who are now without respect of persons (Deuteronomy 1:17):

1 John 4:1 ¶ Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

But what if an individual in our fellowship is not saved? Are they not, spiritually, individually, the same as the unsaved in the corporate church? Or is there another category of believers we must come to understand? No. There is no other category. There is the wheat, and there is the tare. And so the unsaved, whether we like it or not, is the corporate church in our fellowship – the tare that grows along side of the wheat (Matthew 13:24-30). So if we conclude that the corporate church are the tare where there are no wheat, *[which in some cases might be true]*; still, what about our own body of professing believers in Christ, ‘where all are not saved’? Calendar dates by default can create an ‘us against them syndrome’ where many on both sides witness as though they know the spiritual condition of the other side which is contrary to God’s word:

Matthew 7:1-5 ¶ Judge not, that ye be not judged. 2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. 3 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? 4 Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? 5 Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

Are we not a corporate body, *who profess Christ*, who operate similarly as other earthly temples of souls that gather together *[congregate]*, with respect to preferred doctrine, music, finance, etc.? “Who is it, truly, that is making us to differ?” If we say, ‘*we’re not of the apostate church*’, we are also called to prove it from the bible, alone, and in its entirety (1Thessalonians 5:21)! However, if our spiritual proofs are based on a calendar, how is this not idol worship no different than those who worship, *[put their trust in]*, statues, and titles, that do not breath – neither can they speak? The Bible declares it is the LORD who makes us to differ from those who are of the spirit of the world (1Corinthians 4:7)? And because this is so, will it not also be so that God’s children will desire that their enemies might become saved (Matthew 5:44-48)? “Is this not why Christ suffered, and died, and rose again? According to the scriptures, then, by what calendar date are we no longer to follow His example (1Peter 2:21)?”

Because many have come out of the apostate church, spiritually, first, and not physically, first, *[ei., the flesh shouldn’t have moved them out]*; do we not desire that our loved ones might also come out, spiritually, wherever they are found in the world? Is it land, *[buildings]*, and titles, *[man’s authority]*, that prevents God’s hope of salvation; or is it God’s election program from before the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4-6)? “It cannot be both!” One may say, “*but their teaching a false gospel that cannot bring salvation!*” But this has always been the case regarding temples, *[fellowships]*, that are built by mankind; or is the proof of our faithfulness seen by how we gather together as

a ‘fellowship’, or, ‘as a group’, or whatever title we think is more religiously correct:

John 17:15-16 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

Jesus Christ, ALONE, is the True Spiritual Preacher who never sinned in His earthly body, nor in His spirit. From everlasting to everlasting, He, ALONE, is The True Judge and Deliverer (Isaiah 43:10-11). And it is His Spiritual Temple we must be made one with as one body while the earthly body must perish [die]:

2 Corinthians 5:6-9 Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: 7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight.) 8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord. 9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.

If we have truly been called to come out of the *apostate* body, [the world], physically, because we have been changed spiritually, ultimately, this must happen when we are born again, (John 3:3-5), and, then, resurrected a second time without sin on the last day, (Hebrews 9:28), when God’s elect are changed into a new spiritual body to be one with Christ forevermore (1Thessalonians 4:17). Yet, before that day arrives who will God use to preach to those who are of the world – spiritually (Romans 10:15; 1John 4:1)? If we are thrown out, [rejected], then we run to the hills, [the kingdom of God]. But this is what a child of God does every day irregardless of where they are! It is not something of themselves they are trying to do, as much as it is how God has re-created them (John 3:3-5; 2Corinthians 5:17). Leaving a fellowship, physically, because spiritually we don’t want to fellowship with adulterers and drunkards, and murderers, [those who Jesus sat with, and who we once were]: isn’t this how the Pharisee’s behaved, *spiritually*, though *the Old Testament* had told them, that, apart from God’s mercy and love neither circumcision, nor uncircumcision, [in the flesh], profited anything (Romans 2:25-29).

While this may seem like an exceedingly impossible situation; but it is exactly why we need a Savior, who, ALONE, faithfully performs His work in us! “We walk by His faithfulness, not by our sight!” Perhaps we’re afraid that we will return to our old ways if the tare are included in our fellowship, because of who we once were! But this can’t happen if we are truly born again! If we are in doubt of our salvation; now is the time to seek first the kingdom of God (Matthew 6:33)! If, however, our assurance is based on doctrine, according to earthly things such as calendars; how is this any different than the apostate church? Further, if the hope of salvation doesn’t exist any longer because of a calendar God has not brought to an end; then it must also be true that God’s command to us to love our enemies, [those not

born again], is also no longer applicable! But then no scripture in the bible would be applicable any longer (Revelations 22:18-19)! Could it be that by God's longsuffering and mercy that is new every morning we are coming to see how CALENDARS ARE A TRAP!

Again, if a groups gathering becomes such, that, there is virtually no fellowship that is according to the spirit of truth as circumscribed by the scriptures; then God's spiritual people may be moved to depart, 'physically?'; no!, 'but spiritually!'; less they be unequally yoked together with unbelievers 'spiritually'! In the flesh there is no difference between unbelievers and believers, especially if there is no difference spiritually! Neither for the wheat, nor for the tare does the flesh profit anything with respect to eternal life! The flesh can only reveal a works gospel! Still, God will not fail to remove us from where we ought not to be. For it is not our program, it is His gospel; but it may be ours if it is according to the bible, alone, and in it's entirety (2Timothy 3:16; Revelation 22:18-19).

Individually, in our prayers and supplications with thanksgiving we will not follow man's wisdom, [*another voice*]; but we will follow the Spirit of Truth which is authored by God, and is not of ourselves (Ephesians 2:8-9; 2Peter 1:20-21)!

Our mission as God's born again elect, if we are His elect, is not to merely find a comfortable fellowship to belong to; but to do the work of an evangelist wherever we find ourselves according to the wisdom of God. Perhaps our fellowship, [*church*], is not always open to God's word! If this is so, might it also be true that we are seeking to bless and not curse? The bible says if an unbelieving wife or husband is willing to abide with a believing husband or wife, the believing spouse is not to depart from the unbelieving partner (1Corinthians 7:12-13)!

Because the true gospel is not in word only, but in action, [*God's action*], this shows us individually, and collectively, how we truly think about the Lord Jesus Christ and His gospel program as it applies to all of us. If on the other hand we could tell God, "*but where not a church!*" Then according to His judgment, in 1 Corinthians 3:16-17; and 7:12-13; we may need to humbly turn to the bible which is God's word to His people, and not, rather, His peoples word to themselves [*ei., the apostate church speaking their own words*]:

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 ¶ Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? 17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

1 Corinthians 7:12 ... If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away. 13 And the woman

which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him.

1 Timothy 3:5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

When we compare 1 Timothy 3:5 with verses like Psalm 14:2-3, Isaiah 59, and Romans 3:10, we may come to understand by God's word alone how we, of ourselves, are incapable of ruling our own houses faithfully apart from the Spirit of Christ who abides in us unto salvation (John 3:3-5).

Wherever God's elect are in the world is where Christ's church resides as the body of Christ. And if by 'His faithfulness' God should bring two or three together as an earthly congregation, [*group*], it must be according to the scriptures only (1 Timothy 3; Revelations 22:18-19). When a fellowships gathering together is according to a calendar that is isolated from any part of God's word, then, it is according to another gospel. It is another *authority* that is NOT of the bible, alone, and in its entirety. Surely, we must rather, that, it is God's authority, alone, we are yielding to:

Romans 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Otherwise, how would we know it was God who is doing the work in us, individually, or as a group; or are 'we' the authors of how Christ's fellowship is to be set up? Is Jesus Christ our friend, but not our Lord? Surely, He must be our Lord in every aspect of our lives, not only as a group, but individually?

If the bible, alone, and in its entirety is not a congregations ultimate authority, irregardless of the biblical doctrines it may faithfully hold; it can still be on its way to total apostasy, [*violating the sabbath*], as those churches that had forgotten their first love, and who had begun preaching their own words (Isaiah 58:13; Romans 16:18). However, that does not prove for a second that there is not an elect, [*true believer*], in the midst! And if that's even so; then, in the first instance God will be the one calling them out when it is His perfect time for them to come out. Ultimately, they are called to come out of themselves when they are born again, and, then on the last day when they are resurrected a second time without sin as Christ's Heavenly Bride forevermore (Hebrews 9:28).

Oh Lord that thou would turn us again and cause thy face to shine that we might be saved who call unto thee according to thy word, because thou hast first loved us and called us as one body in Christ. Amen.