



# CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

***I Chose To Be A Member of the Church of Christ because...  
It's not a denomination!***

There are many people who say that one church is as good as another. They say that people in all churches are going to be saved. One denominational church is actually as good as any other denomination. But no denomination is as good as the one church the Lord established for Himself. Jesus did not promise to build even one denomination. The word "denomination" means a part of the whole. The Lord's church is not a part of any thing else, but is a complete entity within itself. There were no denominations during the time of the apostles. The Lord did not establish any of the denominations, but man did.

The Lord has only one church. This is an unpopular doctrine with many people who belong to the many differing denominations. But the Bible says, "*There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all*" (Ephesians 4:4-6). We might ask, is one God as good as another? No. Is one Lord as good as another? No. Is one body as good as another? No. What is the Lord's one body? Jesus is the "*head over all things to the church, which is His body*" (Ephesians 1: 22-23). We see that the Lord has only one body and that one spiritual body is His church, the church of Christ. Jesus only promised to build His one church. He said, "*Upon this rock I will build My church*" (Matthew 16:18). "My" is a possessive pronoun and the word "church" is singular. Ephesians 5:23 says that Jesus "is the Savior of the body", the church. Jesus has only promised to save those in His "one body", His one church. But the sad and tragic thing is that all others in the many differing denominations will be lost.

Each of the differing denominations cannot be a branch of the Lord's one true church since each one claims to be a distinct church within itself. Jesus says, "*Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted*" (Matthew 15:13). And "*Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain that build it*" (Psalms 127:1). It does one no good to belong to a denominational church and worship there. He is wasting his time and will lose his soul. Jesus says, "*And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men*" (Mark 7:7). Vain worship is useless.

The church does not save us, but the Lord has placed only those who are saved in His one church. "*Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body*" (Ephesians 5:23). If one expects to be saved, he must be in the Lord's one body, His church, and not in a man-made denominational church. So, we have seen that each of the denominational churches are as good as the others since they are all worthless and will only cause one to lose his soul in the eternal fires of Hell. But the Lord's one true church is far, far superior to any denominational church. There is no comparison.

**The Lord has only one church. This belief is unpopular among denominations.**



Bro. R. Webster

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remember to silence your cell phones. 



**Today is our Fellowship Meal.** We will be "*snacking and yakking*" with each other as we continue to build the social and spiritual fabric of our congregation. Please stay behind to help clean up. Thank You!

Remember to check the Birthday/ Anniversary list at the back.

**Sis. Lydia Chaff's father Funeral schedule:** Monday, Dec. 2nd @ 175 W 159th St. at W W Holt Funeral Home.

**Wake:** 11 am

**Funeral:** 12 pm

**Burial:** Mt. Hope Cemetery

**Repast:** 19825 S Stony Island, Lynwood, IL.



**Only monetary donations** will be accepted next Sunday, December 8, as Sis. Ruthie Gamble and her family head to Chicago to distribute these items to the poor and homeless. Thank you once again for your support.

**For Prayers for members who have lost loved ones:**

Bro. Simmons, his eldest sister (He will be out of town this weekend)

Bro. Arthur Davis, his nephew

Sis. Lydia Chaff, her father and uncle

**Also,** Ursula Ware, Diane Kensey-Bridges, Erika Dockens, Clarence Harley, Ken Ware III, Nadia Hawks, Robert Davis, Rob Hardy's son, Robert. Sis. Serena Webster



Bro. D.J. Chaff who is preparing to graduate next month from Illinois State University.

**Out of town this weekend:** Sis. Helen McGee and the Simmons

**For Our College Students: Paris Mickles:** SIU, **Darren Jackson:** SIU, **Bria Gamble:** Illinois State

Please submit **your announcements** to Bro. Webster by Thursday evening each week.



## Order of Service

Song

Announcement

Song

Opening Prayer

Song

Scripture Reading

Song

Sermon

Song

**Lord's Supper**

**Offering**

Song

Closing Prayer

## Last Week's Record



Sun. AM Class 29

Sun. AM Worship 56

Wed. Bible Class (cancelled)