

Why True Church a Little Flock

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THIS BOOKLET IS NOT TO BE SOLD. The information provided is for the benefit of former members of the congregations of the Worldwide Church of God (WCG), and of current and prospective members of God's Church.

Where is the Church that Christ says He would build and which would never die out. Is it all the many and different churches in the world calling themselves Christian? Is it just some of them or is it only one of them or is it none of them? What does your Bible say is the church that Christ would build?

Preamble

Please Note: All comments in brackets [] or in parentheses () as well as highlighted text (bolded and/or in blue) are from the author of this study. Bible quotations are in maroon.

I think it is essential to clarify the question of the “Holy Spirit” before we begin this study. If we say that who or what is the “Holy Spirit” is the question that needs to be answered, we are starting from the assumption that there exists such a being as the Holy Spirit and that it is a separate and distinct being from God and the Word. The question which should be asked is who are the beings the Bible tell us are holy, whose composition is spirit and who have existed eternally? Either the Bible plainly tells us who are the separate and distinct beings that existed from all eternity who created all things (spirit beings and the material universe) or we have no way of getting an answer to our question.

The Holy Spirits of the God Family

The Bible tells us in Gen 1:1 that:

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

The Hebrew word translated “God” is “Eloheem” which is the plural form of “Eloah which means “God”. The word “Eloheem” refers to “gods.” It is a uniplural noun like family, group, team, etc. In the beginning, there was therefore more than one God being in existence but how many were there?

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

In the beginning when God created the heaven and the earth there was God and there was another being with God who was also God, the Word. How can these two beings both be God; isn't that impossible?

The word God indicates the kind of existence of these 2 beings: their nature is to be God in the same way that all human beings have the same human nature. However, having the same nature does not mean that all human beings constitute a single being; indeed, they are all separate and distinct beings with their own personalities. God and the Word have in common the same nature or, level and type of existence, but they are separate and distinct beings just like all human beings who have the same human nature are separate and distinct beings.

God the Father

We read in the Bible that God became a father when the Word became flesh (Phi 2:5-8) by being born of woman after having been conceived in the virgin Mary by the holy spirit being called God (Luke 1:35). God from that point on became God the Father and the Word, who was born as the flesh-and-blood Jesus of Nazareth became God's Son or the Son of God. He was both fully God (his father was God and fully human (his mother was the virgin Mary).

Jesus was God the Father's only begotten son at the time when He was conceived in Mary's womb but He was not to be the only one begotten of the Father. God the Father is the holy spirit being in the Godhead that calls men to salvation.

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Joh 6:65 And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.

Joh 18:9 That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou [God the Father] gavest me have I lost none.

1Pe 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

God the Word and Spokesman

The Bible term for being called is to be spiritually begotten by God the Father (1Pe 1:3). When we are begotten, we become a spiritual embryo that can be born again as a glorified spirit being with eternal life. Those begotten of the holy spirit God the Father who follow their calling are then able to come to the holy spirit being called the Word and Spokesman (John 6:44; 65; 18:9) who then teaches them. The glorified Jesus-Christ as God the Father's Word and Spokesman is the holy spirit being that works in the minds of God the Father's called and chosen ones.

Joh 7:39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

Jesus had to first be glorified for it to be possible for Christians to have access to the holy spirit called the Word and Spokesman because the glorified Christ is the holy spirit being who works in the minds of God's saints (John 14:17) in the same way that Satan is the evil spirit that works in the minds of the children of disobedience (Eph2:2).

Joh 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he [Christ] dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. [On the day of Pentecost, it would be in them and in all true Christians.]

Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, [Satan] the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

The holy spirit God the Father calls men and those who follow their calling are then taught by the holy spirit called the Word and God the Father's Spokesman.

Joh 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

The Holy Ghost

The expression “Holy Ghost” used in the Bible is in error as there are no ghosts in the Godhead but rather 2 beings that are holy (John 17:11; Isa 6:3) and spirit (John 4:24).

Joh 17:11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.

Isa 6:3 And one cried unto another, and said, **Holy, holy, holy**, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

Joh 4:24 **God is a Spirit:** and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

These 2 God beings who are holy and spirit are the holy spirit beings of the God family who existed in the beginning at the creation of all things.

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

And, the Word who was with God is before all things i.e., *nothing* existed before He created them whether made of spirit or matter.

Col 1:15 [Christ] Who is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of every creature:

Col 1:16 For by him [the Word who became Jesus-Christ] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

Col 1:17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

In the beginning before anything either physical or spiritual was created, there was God and the Word who existed before all things and no other being is mentioned as having existed with them. There is no bib-

lical evidence that there ever existed a third, separate and distinct personage in the Godhead called the “Holy Spirit” who dwelt in eternity with God and the Word.

God is a Family

Throughout the Bible we can find many verses which clearly indicates the existence of family relations between God and the Word and God’s called, chosen and faithful.

Mat 11:27 All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

Mat 12:50 For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

Joh 20:17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

God is clearly a family in which many can be ultimately born again by a resurrection from the dead to eternal, glorified spirit life in God’s Kingdom.

Rom 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he [God’s Son] might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Col 1:18 And he [the glorified Christ] is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Christ was the first to be born again by a resurrection from the dead to be followed by many brethren.

Bible Writing Convention

The practice in the Bible has been to simply use the expression “the Holy Spirit” without indicating which God personage in the Godhead the expression represents. Over time, because of this practice, just about everybody has come to believe that the Holy Spirit is a separate and distinct God being in the Godhead but, there is no single verse or group of verses in the Bible that prove the existence of such a third being in the Godhead. The words “holy” and “spirit” are adjectives that describe the nature of

God the Father and of God the Word i.e., they are holy beings made of spirit.

Whenever we encounter the expressions the “Holy Spirit” or simply the “Holy Spirit” in the Bible we must look at the context to determine of which holy spirit being of the Godhead the Bible is talking about: the holy spirit, God the Father or the holy spirit, the Word and Spokesman.

The Word is the holy spirit being in the Godhead who carries out the instructions and wishes of the holy spirit, God. He is the faithful son who seeks to do his father’s will in all things. He is the member of the God family that did the work of creating the heaven and the earth, who ruled over ancient Israel through Moses and his human successors, He is the one who became a man who suffered and died to be God the Father’s perfect sacrifice for sin and make the salvation of mankind possible, etc. and He came to reveal the Father to those who follow the Father’s calling.

Making Things Clearer

In this study, when referring to God’s spirit who, depending on the circumstances can be the holy spirit personage called God the Father or the holy spirit personage called God the Word and Spokesman, I will not capitalize either of the adjectives “holy” and “spirit”. This is in order to not perpetuate the false impression in the minds of readers that there is a 3rd being in the Godhead called the “Holy Spirit.” Instead, I will refer to either of the holy spirits in the God family as being God’s spirit without capitalizing the word “spirit” to make it plain that we are not referring to a third God being in the God family called the “Holy Spirit” but to one of the 2 God beings in the Godhead.

God’s family is presently made up of 2 holy spirit beings to which are to be added thousands and possibly millions of other holy spirit beings when God’s plan of salvation for mankind has reached its end. The saints that endure in the faith until the end of their natural human life, will be resurrected as individual holy spirit beings in God’s Kingdom when it is established.

There are two studies which you can read regarding what is the “Holy Spirit” and decide for yourself in light of the Bible-based evidence offered if such a being exists in the Godhead. These studies are: [What is the Holy Spirit? Cliff Notes Version](#) and [Who or What is the Holy Spirit?](#)

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The Bible describes and speaks of God's true church as being the "little flock." But, isn't God desperately trying to save the world and doesn't He have the power to do so? Isn't Christianity in its many manifestations worldwide in its reach and scope? Are there not very large Christian congregations all over the world busily preaching the Gospel and leading men to salvation? Are not the several very large, wealthy and powerful Christian churches in the world positive proof that God's Church may have started off as a little flock but was destined to grow into several great and influential churches drawing men from all nations to salvation with their gospel messages?

How can we reconcile the "little flock" of the Bible with the many and often large and very wealthy Christian churches of this world who in many instances are also actively involved in the politics of this world?

There is only really one way of finding out and that is to go the source of truth, the Holy Bible and see if the matter can be clarified. If the Bible does not hold the answers we need then there is no way of correctly determining who are the members of God's Church, why it exists, where it is, its role in the world, how large and wealthy it was to become and how many of them there would be?

I Will Build my Church

Mat 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

Mat 16:17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

Mat 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, [the little rock] and upon this rock [the big rock, Christ] I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Christ who was the son of God (Mat 16:16) and who as God's son was also a God being, in the same way that the son of a human being is also fully a human being, says that He would build His Church or God's Church. He also said that the "gates of hell shall not prevail against it." It was never to die out, throughout the ages; until the end of humanity there would always be a church of God that would exist on the earth.

What is a Church?

The word "church" refers to a group of people who hold a common set of beliefs which are religious in nature. In most instances, these religious beliefs are derived from the text of a book or writings which are considered to contain the instructions of a god being to mankind which if followed leads to an afterlife where all needs and wants are forever fulfilled. Christians have their sacred texts and so do other religious groups of the world and this leads to there being several different kinds of churches in the world both Christians and non-Christians.

Christians have their sacred scriptures, the Holy Bible; the Jews believe that only the Old Testament is valid as they consider Christ to have been an impostor and a false prophet who they rightly put to death; the Muslims have the Koran; the Mormons have the writings of John Smith who is said to have received special revelation from Christ; the Hindus and many others also all have their own sacred texts transmitted to them by their own deity.

There exists a great variety of Christians and non-Christian churches all over the world with many of them claiming to be the one true church that everybody would follow if they knew the truth.

We will limit ourselves to looking at the Christian churches in the world

considering we are interested in the teachings of God as found in God's Bible.

Becoming a Member of God's Church

How does one become a member of God's Church? Is it simply a matter of finding a congregation and joining it after having first spent time listening to the teachings of a great variety of churches so as to find the one that best fits our own beliefs and which has leaders which we judge to be trustworthy?

What does the Holy Bible have to say about how one becomes part of God's Church?

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Joh 6:45 It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.

The first part of the process is that the God being who begat Christ in Mary's womb and who then became God the Father must first draw the individual to Him. "No one" can come to Christ by himself all of a sudden deciding he wants to do so; the Father must draw him.

This is the calling out process which is done by God the Father who is the one who decides who He will call and when He will call them. It is not based on how men have been conducting their lives up to that point; it is solely God's decision. In time, all of mankind will be called and given a chance for salvation.

God the Father will give those He calls sufficient information for them to be able to knowingly and willingly make the decision to commit themselves or not to living a life of obedience to Him. They are entirely free to accept or not God's calling.

Deu 30:19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

Ancient Israel, individually and as a nation, was unconverted and God was giving them the same choice that every human being that has ever lived will have to make: will he obey God or not. Of significance is the fact that the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman was not yet made available

to mankind (John 7:39) and therefor Israel was not able to choose but in a physical way i.e., at that time their challenge was to follow the letter of God's law and not the spirit of the law which they could not know.

Joh 7:39 (But this spake he [Christ] of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost [spirit] was not yet given; **because** that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

Their blessing and cursing would be physical and material; not spiritual. Their calling to eternal life would come at the time of the 3rd resurrection of the Last Great Day. Please see the following study for a detailed explanation of what occurs during the Last Great Day: [When are God's Millennial Saints Resurrected?](#)

God's NT Spiritual Nation of Israel

In New Testament time, God has a spiritual nation of Israel which is made up of individuals from all nations of the world. In the book of Acts we read of how God taught Peter that salvation is not only for Israel but for also to all the other nations of the earth.

Act 10:34 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:

Act 10:35 But in every nation he that feareth him, and worsheth righteousness, is accepted with him.

Act 10:36 The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)

Act 10:37 That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;

Act 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Act 10:39 And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree:

Act 10:40 Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly;

Act 10:41 Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.

Act 10:42 And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead.

Act 10:43 To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

Act 10:44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

Act 10:45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Act 10:46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

Act 10:47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

Act 10:48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

And Paul in Rom 2:28-29 tells us that being a Jew or an Israelite it not a matter of being one outwardly i.e., having been physically born as an Israelite and being circumcised in the flesh is not what makes one a Jew or an Israelite in God's eyes.

Rom 2:28 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:

Rom 2:29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

God's New Testament nation of Israel is now made up of those who are Jews inwardly i.e., whose goal is to obey God in all things as the Jews

say it is theirs also. And, their circumcision is of the heart; what counts is their attitude of obedience to God which is something that is found in the mind (heart). New Testament Christians are charged with following not only the letter of the law but the spirit also. And, they obey God not out of a desire to obtain the praise of men, but that of God; this is what is most important to them.

He who is a Jew or an Israelite since the First Coming of Christ are all those from all nations of the world including Israelites whose goal in life is to obey God to the best of their abilities. God's nation of Israel is a nation of spirit-begotten individuals from all the nations of the world. It is not a physical nation though made up of flesh-and-blood individuals but one where physical-material men have made the commitment to obey God after having been called and chosen by the holy spirit God the Father.

To be chosen they must make the decision to abandon their former life in the world. They have to commit to walk in newness of life accepting that from now on God will define good and evil for them rather than themselves doing it and they will try to the best of their abilities to obey God's law.

Ancient Israel was God's carnal-minded nation. It was never a converted nation as the holy spirit God the Word who is God the Father's Spokesman to His called and chosen ones was not available because Christ had not then yet been glorified (See John 7:39 quoted below).

Joh 7:37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, **If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.**

Joh 7:38 **He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.**

Joh 7:39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; **because** that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

The Salvation Process

God the Word who is the holy spirit of the Godhead who is God's the Father's Spokesman to His chosen ones has not been available from the beginning of man's creation or with the coming into being of the OT physical nation of Israel.

The Word as the holy spirit being that works in the minds of God the Father's called and chosen ones only became available after Christ was glorified after His death on the stake and glorification (John 7:39). There was first needed a sacrifice that would really forgive sin (Heb 9:14) which would make it possible for the holy spirit beings called God and the Word (John 1:1) to begin putting into practice God's plan of salvation for mankind.

Heb 10:4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

Heb 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

The holy spirit God the Father calls men to salvation (John 6:44; 65; John 6:39; 17:8) and the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman then teaches them all things (John 14:26).

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Joh 6:65 And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.

Joh 6:39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

Joh 17:8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

Joh 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, [spirit] whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

They are the holy spirit beings of the Godhead (John 1:1) that work in the minds of those being called and of those who have been chosen in the same way that Satan is the evil spirit that works in the minds of the children of disobedience.

Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

In OT times, Christ's sacrifice and glorification were far in their future. This is why the holy spirits of the Godhead which would have made conversion possible for those Israelites that would follow their calling was not and could not be part of the Old Covenant.

In NT times, God's nation is spiritual Israel who is also God's Church and those who can become part of it are those called by God the Father and who have been chosen because they have committed themselves to obey God in all things. It is a spiritual organism; not a physical-material organization which men can choose to join as they see fit.

God's Church for most of its existence has been invisible to the world as it is first and foremost a spiritual organism. It is something that resides in men's mind, an attitude of obedience to God in all things; it is not something outwardly visible to other men. God's Church is not a visible organization of men owning expensive buildings of great architectural beauty on large beautifully landscaped properties with the main and most opulent building being "the" church. In Old Testament times God had a physical temple; in New Testament times, God does not dwell in temples made by men's hands but in truly converted Christians who are the living stones of God's temple.

Psa 11:4 The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

Act 7:48 Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet,

1Pe 2:4 To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,

1Pe 2:5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable

to God by Jesus Christ.

1Co 3:16 Know ye not that ye [true and faithful Christians] are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

The only ones who can become members of God's spiritual nation of Israel are those who are called and chosen the holy spirit God the Father. Without being called God's truth is foolishness to men which they always reject and to which they will not submit to God.

Rom 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

God's spiritual truth can only be known by revelation from God.

1Co 2:10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

Committing to God and not Compromising

In order to inherit salvation one must first be called and chosen (John 6:44-45) but this is only the first step and one which the many refuse to take as Christ very plainly tells us.

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

They are not chosen because they decide to remain in the world rather than set off on a new life of obeying God in accordance with the truth He is giving them. These individuals are like Lot's wife; they don't think that this present evil world is as bad as God tells them it is and they choose to remain in it.

And then, the few who follow their calling and are coming into God's Church are given a very serious warning by Christ.

Mat 7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

Mat 7:14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

They are told to not come into God's Church with an attitude of compromise with the world which is the broad way that leads to destruction.

Christ tells us that it is the many that try to keep a foot in the world and a foot in the Church thinking everything will be fine anyway; that they will not lose their salvation.

A few very short, simple and clear Scriptures which are not subject to interpretation make it very evident that this cannot be done.

Mat 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Luk 16:13 No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

It is the many coming into God's Church that do not fully abandon their old ways which were contrary to God's law and eventually, Christ says, they go fully back to them and lose their salvation. Opposition to God in one aspect of His law will eventually expand to being in opposition to all of God's law.

So as we can see, though many are called, few are chosen and of the few who are chosen, few remain faithful. This means that it is the very few of all those called who will inherit salvation.

It also means that God's true Church which is a spiritual organism made up of only those who are trying to obey Him to the best of their abilities and who are not compromising with the ways of the world will always be small.

As we have seen with the coming into being of the Worldwide Church of God (WCG) that even though there were over 100,000 people attending services, that it was the smallest of minority that stayed with the truth after the death of Mr. Armstrong its Pastor General. Some stayed in the WCG and some joined one of the many false churches of God that arose after the destruction of the WCG and all are sitting contentedly in their comfortable pew being reassured by their ministers that all is fine and that they are all going to heaven.

True Christians from the foundation of God's Church and in the latter days have refused to compromise the truth they had to remain in a church which was no longer teaching the truth it had received from

God. They preferred to be on their own; abandon friends and family who chose to remain in these false churches and continue obeying God as they had committed themselves to do when they were first called no matter how personally inconvenient it was for them to do so and [God took notice](#).

Mal 3:16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

Those that feared the Lord after leaving their congregation which had turned from the truth, “.....spoke often one to another....” What did they talk about? Was it about how well their gardens were growing, what a good week they had, how nice a meal they were going to have, the previous night’s hockey game?

Did the Lord pay attention and notice what they were saying because God is interested in gardening, dining out or hockey?

Hmmm! Probably not.

So they must have been talking often to one another about the truth of God that they had in common. God heard them fellowshipping spiritually and He took note of it. He saw they maintained their interest in the truth and were interested in talking about it. They engaged often in spiritual fellowshipping with others who also refused to remain with a congregation of God’s Church which had departed from the truth.

These true Christians “....thought upon his name....” They talked to each other about the wonderful truth of God they had been given which is the most important things that has ever happened in their lives and which can ever happen to a human being i.e., to be part of God’s spiritual nation of Israel and be heirs of salvation.

What happened as a result?

Mal 3:16 says “....and the LORD hearkened, and heard it....” He paid attention to what they were saying AND, it caught God’s attention: “.....and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD....”

“....Them that feared the Lord....” are the ones who “....spake often to one another....” and “....thought upon His name....”

And God says about them:

Mal 3:17 And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

Mal 3:18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

They, and only they, are God's Church, the little flock spoken of by Christ. God who is their Father who will give them, His sons, the Kingdom.

Luk 12:32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Gardeners talk about gardening, architects about architecture, cooks talk about cooking, etc. They talk about these things when they get together with others who have the same interests because it is what is on their minds.

Mat 12:34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

Luk 6:45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

In other words, men speak about those things which interest them and what they speak about makes it clear what it is that interests them.

What do you talk about when you come among fellow believers of the truth? Will what you talk about get your name written in God's book of remembrance?

Conclusion

As we have seen, Christ referred to His Church as being the "little flock." We have also shown how God's Church is not something that one can choose to join after having done a survey of the many churches that exist out in the world. God's church is a spiritual organism, it is something that occurs in the minds of men when God calls them and is therefore not outwardly visible to other men. In a room full of people, it would be impossible for anyone to be able to pick out who among them are the true Christians. God makes it clear that individual Christians are the temple

in which He resides. True Christians in most instances do not know one another. They are scattered all over the world and do not constitute a humanly visible organization most of the time. True Christianity was never to become a large, wealthy organization with millions of followers with a mandate to convert the world.

God's Church will always be the "little flock" for many are called but few are chosen and of those that are chosen few remain faithful; they go back into the world out of which they had been called.

Luk 12:32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

God has made man a free moral agent who is fully free to choose life or death and, unfortunately and very sadly, it is the many that will choose death when offered life.

