

A SOUND CHURCH IS HARD TO FIND

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More and more brethren find themselves traveling farther and farther to find a congregation with which they can work and worship. Having to drive 20-50 miles in order find a sound church is no longer out of the ordinary. In many small, midsize, and large cities, even in the previously labeled “Bible Belt,” there is not one faithful congregation to be found. Because of apostasy, our nation is rapidly become a mission field.

A reality that complicates this issue even more is that many brethren worship in congregations that are unsound. However, they are so ignorant of the Scriptures, and so untaught in the fact that authority must be found in the Scriptures for all that we do in word or deed (**Colossians 3:17**), that they do not even know their membership is with at least a backsliding, if not completely apostate congregation.

There is an assumption on the part of some that if a congregation has not abandoned the Biblical steps to salvation, the prescribed worship, and the Divinely ordained organization, it is necessarily a sound congregation. Nay, verily! Here are some things that preclude soundness in many of those congregations:

- Endorsing unsound works and liberal brethren—World Bible School, for instance.
- In any way supporting efforts that are unfaithful.
- Employing “children’s church” and/or small group meetings in lieu of Sunday evening services.
- Involvement in “Lads to Leaders” and “Leaderettes.”
- Creating “offices” that include women in leadership roles.
- Fellowshiping those who have sinned, but refuse to repent.
- Endorsing those who endorse false teachers.
- Dismissing Sunday night worship for the Super Bowl.
- Providing Scripture-starved sermons.
- Allowing agnostic presentations of the facts of the faith.

The above list is in no way complete, and despite accusations of some, these are not “legalistically” determined issues.