The ONE TRUE CHURCH of GOD, part 4 quotes

1 Fellowship With God's True Church

Fellowship with God's one true church has been very misunderstood. God's one true church is made up of individual people who have joined themselves to Christ, and is not a denomination. As this is true, then is it God's will that His people fellowship together?

"And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: **Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together**, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Hebrews 10:24-25.

These verses reveal that God desires those who are personally connected with Jesus Christ to gather together with other believers in fellowship.

"For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many." 1 Corinthians 12:12-14.

All members of a church fellowship make up just one body - not different bodies! For that one body to properly function, each of the different members must be united and in harmony with one another.

"That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular." 1 Corinthians 12:25-27.

These verses reveal that for that one church body to properly function there must be no schisms or dissension among any of its members. In fact, it is through this act of fellowshipping together that the character of each person is tested, revealed, and therefore enabled to be brought to perfection. This fact plainly reveals that if you choose not to fellowship with others of like faith, then you are choosing not to become perfect!

2 Are all God's followers free to fellowship and worship together with any who might call themselves Christians?

"...if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another..." 1 John 1:7.

This verse reveals that the followers of God are only to fellowship together with those who are walking in the light as He is in the light. Since in Christ there is no darkness or error or false doctrine at all, then this Biblical test for fellowship would also prevent God's people from worshipping with any group or church who were not also following, walking, or living in all the truth.

3 What if you are currently fellowshipping in a religious group or denomination which is not walking in, and living up to, all the truth?

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 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. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." 2 Corinthians 6:14-18.

"Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord." Isaiah 52:11.

"And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, my people**, <u>that ye be not partakers of her sins</u>, <u>and that ye receive not of her plagues</u>." Revelation 18:4.

"Flee out of the midst of Babylon, and deliver every man his soul: <u>be not cut off</u> in her iniquity; for this is the time of the Lord's vengeance; he will render unto her a recompense....My people, go ye out of the midst of her, and <u>deliver every man his soul</u> from the fierce anger of the Lord." Jeremiah 51:6, 45.

These verses clearly reveal that it is salvational for you to separate from any denomination which has a mixture of truth and error in it, or you will be held corporately responsible for her sins and are in danger of being destroyed along with that denomination - no matter what name the church calls itself by, whether it be called "Roman Catholic" or "Church of God" or even "Seventh-day Adventist"!

4 As all denominations today are defiled and corrupted by error and sin, then where are God's people to fellowship together and worship Him in spirit and truth (see John 4:20-24)?

"Likewise **greet the church <u>that is in their (Priscilla and Aquila's) house</u>." Romans 16:5.**

"Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, <u>and the church which is</u> in his house." Colossians 4:15.

"And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house". Philemon 1:2.

These verses plainly reveal that believers desiring to worship God can meet together in a humble home and not just in a grand church building or sanctuary!

"And he (Paul) departed thence (from the Jewish church), and entered into a certain man's house, named Justus, one that worshipped God, whose house joined hard to the synagogue." Acts 18:7.

After Paul separated himself from the apostate Jewish church, he then began holding church worship services in a home which happened to be located right next door to the apostate church! Thus all the followers of God had a choice as to which of these two churches they would join in order to properly worship God.

5 But which of these two churches was accepted of God? It was not the great apostate temple with its thousands of members, because they had rejected Jesus, and God had set them aside (Matthew 23:37-38; Acts 13:45-47). It was instead the humble home church with its few members, because these had accepted Jesus and were worshipping God in Spirit and truth!

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matthew 18:20.

If you know of at least one other person who believes and are walking in the same Biblical truths in Jesus Christ, and you both live close to one another, then God would have you fellowship together. This fellowship is a great blessing and benefit to all - not only through mutual edification, encouragement, and growth in spiritual life and knowledge of the truth, but by knowing that there are indeed others who are going through the same struggles as you are, and in Christ you see them becoming more than conquerors (see Romans 8:37)!

6 May God help you to so fully connect yourself with Christ that you may indeed "shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9). Thus you, as well as all the other brothers and sisters making up God's one true church may reveal God's pure and spotless character to others, spread His precious gospel truth far and wide, and thereby fill this dark world with the glorious light of truth (Habakkuk 2:14; Numbers 14:21; Revelation 18:1).

"I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews (or they say they are part of God's true church and people), and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee. Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name." Revelation 3:8-12.