The Church V. Denominationalism

By

Hugh Fulford

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When talking about the Church and Denominationalism today, one must ask themselves questions.

1. Do we really know what the Church is
2. Do we know enough scripture to teach or defend the truth
3. Can we refute denominationalism

These questions are of great concern today as many of our children are facing the fact that the truth is not being taught in the Lord’s church today like it should. Also just because it may be taught, does not mean that our students are learning what the truth is and what it is not.

One thing I have seen over the years is that many of our students will allow their non-Christian friends to influence them rather than them influence their friends.

Another thing that frustrates many of our young people today is that one family may have two or three children that are really involved in church activities, but they will have classmates at church that are not involved and this depresses our young people who are trying to do right.

Also the Church will have members who will seek a church that will not put them down for things they may do or permit within their family. If you are not going to be taken to task for the life you lead then what type of influence do you have in your life.

OUR CHILDREN:

They are priceless treasures that need love, affection, encouragement, attention, discipline, and teaching about the grace of God, the love of Christ, the need to be kind and loving, the need to be servants and helpful to others, and what it means to have the spirit of Christ.

They need to be patiently yet persistently taught that there is one body (Eph. 6:4)

That the one body is the Church (Eph. 1:22-23; Col. 1:18)

That the church is not a denomination

That one church is not just as good as another

Children need to be taught that while tolerance and a non-judgmental attitude are qualities of a Christian that does not mean they are not to be used when rightly dividing the truth and error.

The lack of understanding is not just with our children, but with parents, adults, elders, deacons, teachers, preachers, Biblical Scholars, Christian colleges and universities, Christian schools, etc.

Matthew 15:8-9 Jesus states that some just honor him with their lip service.

Do our children know whether or not denominational doctrine is from Heaven or man?

Matthew 15:13—What God did not plant will be uprooted.

DO OUR YOUNG PEOPLE KNOW:

1. Just being good morally will not be sufficient—Acts 10:1-6; 11:4
2. Faith only will not save—James 2:24
3. Baptism is necessary for the remission of our sins—Acts 2:38; Gal. 3:27;
4. Sprinkling and pouring does not constitute baptism—Acts 8:39-40
5. We can only be saved under one name and that is Christ—Acts 4:11-12
6. Worship must be in spirit and truth and from the heart—John 4:24; 17:17
7. Instrumental music in worship is not authorized—Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16-17
8. The Lord’s supper is to be observed every first day of the week—Acts 20:7
9. The doctrine “once saved, always saved,” is false—Heb. 3:12; 6:4-6
10. How the church is to be organized—Phil. 1:1
11. The entire premise upon which denominationalism is formed is false—John 17:20-21; I Cor. 1:10; Eph. 4:1-6
12. That there is ONLY ONE true Lord, Spirit, Hope, Body, Faith, Baptism

IN ORDER TO SAVE OUR CHILDREN:

1. Parents must first teach their children at home
2. Next it is the responsibility of Bible Class teachers, preachers, elders, as well as other members of the congregation.
3. Elders have the greatest responsibility because they are entrusted with the souls of their congregation. (Acts 20:28-32; Heb. 13:17)
4. Preachers must not shun their responsibility either. (Acts 20:27; I Pet. 4:11)
5. All of us II Tim 4:2