

## Mark of a Real Church

The mark of a real Church from the beginning is love, hospitality, taking in strangers, travelers, the homeless poor, taking care of widows and orphans. Households are houses full of people who are living there as a part of the Church of Yahweh, not just related by blood kin, but love necessitates that all kinds of people would live together in the same household which constitutes the Church. So the Church has to be households of the faithful who live with those it encompasses lest we put the sojourner and homeless into institutions and sterile environments. There are always those who are being added to the Church: families and single men and women as well as abused and neglected children who would come knowing that they would be cared for. There was no anti-Christ system in those days where the welfare of the state took the place of the Church, for the Church had not lost its savor, its saltiness. For in those days there was the real Church, not sects made up of selfish people. The word "sect" is used today to describe any group that does not conform to the name brand denominational flavor of the accepted lukewarm condition, which Messiah describes as nauseating to the point that he has already it out of his mouth. He no longer identifies himself with a "dead body."

Who are the wise virgins today? And who is the wise steward today? Are they those who will not practice love and hospitality, taking in runaways, orphans, widows, the homeless, the lonely and detestable, the blind, lame, deaf, sick - who are comfortable in their all-white and peachy little church building on Sunday morning with their steeple pointed skyward to the demonic host of heaven they worship. Jms 2:14 condemns them to death. Even as their founder Martin Luther said, "The book of James is an epistle of straw," mainly because he gave himself to the state government, misinterpreting Romans 13, and gave himself and his followers up to the host of heaven.

What is this thing they call love in the denominational churches of today? It is certainly not the kind of stuff real love is made of. Real love is described in 1 Cor 13:1-7 and 1 Jn 3:14-16, but who cares? Who will take the effort to read it, because you sit there in the self-satisfied solitude of your comfortable living room watching your favorite TV show and call yourself a Christian. Well, that is just what you are, you're all "Christians," modern-day, that is, with no similarity to the Church Jesus founded, based upon the inner revelation of the heart and soul, from the Father and source of all life and love.

Today, the so-called "church" has sold their soul to the state, and call it obedience to the Bible, not knowing they have been lead down the comfortable road of self-destruction. The false shepherds were allowed by you to do this, because you love it so. But what will you do when the end comes? (Jer 5:30-31). You love this easy message. You love to get your ears tickled every first day of the week, so you can get through another week, living with your bad conscience. The words you hear every week help soothe the rebuke of your all-but-silenced thoughts. If you know any place to run to, the Holy Spirit says in Rev 18:4, 2 Cor 6:14 - 7:1, to come out from among them and be separate. Do not any longer touch any unclean thing. Be saved from this wicked system.

In the early Church, there were "households of the faith." There were household heads, shepherds who cared for the flock of Yahweh who lived in their households.

If the Church mentioned in Acts is any standard, you must agree that there is no resemblance today, except in what you refer to as a "sect" or a "cult." The early Church was spoken of everywhere as a "sect" or "cult" also, among the Jews especially, the accepted leveled norm of the day, those so leveled that they killed Jesus, their Savior, and thought they were doing God a favor (Jn 15:1 - 16:3). And when anyone persecutes the true Church, they persecute this same Jesus. They stick their finger in His eye. So, when a persecutor of the Church came around in the early days, he did not go to the building they were gathered in collectively on Lord's Days and do something to it, but he did something to the people who lived in households together. Persecutors who persecuted the Church always thought they were doing something that needed to be done. They were so out of contact with the true God of heaven and His only Son that they listened to others who were also out of contact with the living God. Proverbs 17:4 was written to them, because that is what they are. And Rev 21:8 shows their final state: all liars will have their part in

the lake of fire. Pr 17:4 makes everyone an evildoer who listens to wicked lips, and makes everyone a liar who gives heed to a false report of a false witness. One who has a destructive tongue, and a false witness, are the same. Breaking the ninth commandment, and whoever mocks the poor, reproaches his Maker, and he who is glad at calamity shall not be justified at the great judgement, and will not go unpunished. He who listens to false reports and thereby acts upon them, is just waiting to do the very thing he wanted to do anyway. A liar listens to liars: there is a fellowship of liars today. Jn 16:2-4 speaks of this fellowship of those who worship a false god, but they somehow do not know it. They would never agree that they would crucify the very Lord they say they worship, but Jn 8:44 condemns them again in these modern times for who they really are.

Of course, Governor Snelling won't admit that he raided a "Church" when he sent 150 policemen and Social Service personal into every home or household of the Church in Island Pond and threatened their lives by the guns they wore, ordering frightened children around. There was no sigh of relief in these children, but of terror of ungodly authority, as they ransacked and tore down doors of our houses and buildings, leaving everything in a shambles, without consideration for the property of others, not offering to help make up for the damages, not counting the mental torment to our children, who were not already callused by such violence on TV. Governor Snelling argued that the State did not raid a "Church." According to the Burlington Free Press article, "Snelling Says State Sought Advice." 6/27/84, "There was no raid on any Church." All the people who are the Church, live in all the households that were raided. They all belong to the Church in Island Pond, Vermont, which was plundered and taken by surprise in the very early morning before everyone had awakened. The Church is the people, not the building with a steeple.

Every last one of those who are identified with the Island Pond Church, called "NEKCC," was taken by surprise, raided, ransacked, and plundered. The definition of plunder is to rob systematically, to take by force, the act of robbing by force, property so obtained. The State busted down doors, while members were standing by with the key in their hand ready to open the doors, and removed the ones who would see what they were robbing (Dan 11:33; Heb 10:32,34).

So, the reason I can write this, is to show Governor Snelling and the State that they don't know what a Church is. This is just because of the press, who, by their sensationalism, brought this raid upon us, because they first had to listen to wicked lips and a destructive tongue of false witnesses. Their sensationalism sold lots of papers, and now they are selling more, because of the raid, and have accomplished their purpose of greed. Now, in order to sell more papers, the public sicks the press on the State. Tomorrow, they may sic their dog on the Church again. The system is not responsible, for they are psychopathic, i.e., psychopathic liars. It is their nature to lie, even as the system in Jesus' day (Jn 8:43). We asked the press and others, "Why do you misunderstand what we say?" "It is because you are unable to hear what we are saying, you cannot bear to listen to our message, and your ears are shut to our true witness and our message. Your ears are very keen and attentive to what liars have to say about us, not what our parents, or grandparents, who visit us, have to say. Your ears are alert to the town gossips, and tavern operators who get their customers drunk and incite them to hostility toward the Church in Island Pond. The press and others listen to those who hate the Sovereign of the Church and blaspheme His fair name. They won't listen to the truth, because the truth doesn't sell papers, unless the truth is sensational enough to interest the public who buys the papers. They may now listen to us if it will down the State and sell more papers, because that is what the public wants.

To the reporters who are a part of this wicked generation of news reporters, we say, "You must repent." We say to the State officials who are a part of this wicked and perverse generation of government-elected officials, "Repent of your selfish ambition which makes you mistreat others for your own personal gain." There is no elected official or appointed officer who did not have to sell himself for his position. There can be no born-again State or Federal government officials, nor policemen, who must, in order to keep their jobs, persecute and crucify the Messiah once more, even as the Roman soldiers did. Did they share the blame or not, when they nailed Him to the cross? Will they stand in the judgement some day and say, "I

was only my job"? Were they responsible to live by their conscience and die for it, and say, "No, I won't do this thing"? Or will they be exonerated on the day of judgement and their superiors will have to take the blame? Was the United States involved in rebellion when it went against the edict of King George III? Did those who came from England and other nations, come to America to gain freedom to worship, in freedom, their God?

Does it do any good to say we don't abuse our children, we do educate them, we do obey the government and honor those to whom honor is due? We obey laws that do not contradict the law of God, His Word. The USA is a godless nation, proven without doubt by the legislation in the federal and state governments. It is proven to be godless by what they teach in the State schools. It is proven to be godless by the very fact that they do not acknowledge the only true God in their educational development and training. It is proven to be godless by its TV's, discos, and rock concerts, supported by the politicians of the USA. It is proven to be godless by its literature and art, theatre and sports arenas. It is godless and has no room for the God of the Holy Scriptures. It is proven godless by its newspapers and magazines. It is proven godless by the flagrant disobedience to the Word of God, even in child discipline. It is proven to be godless in its continuous pursuit of pleasure, sex, money, and affluence. It is proven to be godless by its abortion laws. It passes women's liberation, gay liberation, and the mass murder of unborn, conceived human beings. It is proven to be godless by its wars and mass murder (Eze 16:48). It is proven to be godless by its porno shops and all manner of uncleanness. But, most of all, it is proven to be godless by its godless churches and seminaries (so-called Bible colleges and Christian colleges, etc.) who do not believe the Bible they teach. Jms 2:14 is scoffed at by the lives of so-called believers in the institutional churches of today. Let's look at the proven apostasy prevalent in the churches of today:

a. Where is the similarity to the early Church?

b. Where is the unity of Jn 17:27? Paul's Churches were one and were corrected by him when they swayed from this unity (1 Cor 1:10).

This is the indictment. List 96 theses of the character of the church today and how it fits in with the godless society. Peter called us out on the day of Pentecost to begin the real Church. Not only doctrine, but a life as a result of the Word of God (Jms 2:14). Flirt with *[following words or sentence omitted]*.

So, if we are not the Church, then who is the Church? Because we are doing what a Church does (so far as the commands of Yahshua go.) The church that is nowhere and by no means doing the first thing the instructions say is not the Church at all. (Jn 3:24; 13:34; 15:12). If Governor Snelling didn't raid a Church, what did he raid? The first section, third article of the Vermont State Constitution, and the first amendment of the US Constitution, are designed to keep the State out of the Church, not the Church out of the State. Don't say a Church is a steepled building full of disobedient people. But the Church is the people who the Holy Spirit has made into a temple, the Body of Messiah where His life is still lived out in the world and is still persecuted, as Jesus said they would be (Jn 15:18-21).

The precedent the State followed in the raid on the Island Pond Church was the *[several words omitted]*, House of Judah — not a Church by its own description of itself — who were living by old testament letter of punishment and controlled by one man — and not ruled by a plurality of elders — note (we must look into the house of Judah ourselves.)