

## Church Ages

#246

I have been accused of being against denominations, this is not true. There are disciples in every denomination, it is not what the denomination can do for you, rather what can you do for your denomination. IF you live and practice your life as a disciple of Christ should, (Mt 5:16) check your attitude and motives. If through prayer and seeking God you still find it against what God is teaching you, go to your pastor and tell HIM what the Lord is showing you. And by all means, don't be accusing, but rather in love, share your discrepancies. The worst that can happen is they ask you to leave, (Pr 16:20) if they do, then ask God where HE wants you to fellowship. (2Ti 3:5) BUT BEWARE, take correction where correction is due yet stand fast in the convictions the Lord has given you.

In Revelation 1:20 to 3:22 it talks about the seven churches (denominations) that are in Asia. These are also seven church ages throughout the last 2000 years. 1/Ephesus or persecuted church, from 100 – 300 AD; 2/Smyrna, from 300 – 600 AD; 3/Pergamos, from 600 – 1500 AD; 4/Thyatira, from 1500 – 1700 AD; 5/Sardis, from 1700 – 1850 AD; 6/Philadelphia, from 1850 – 1950 AD; 7/Laodiceans, from 1950 to present.

This is according to the bible scholars (whoever they are) BUT I believe all these seven churches or denominations existed in every age, including ours as well as typifying each age. In other words, all seven exist in our denominations today only we call them Lutheran, Baptist, Pentecostal and so on.

The only churches Jesus did not rebuke is the church of Smyrna and the Philadelphia church.

#1 – left their first love. #2 – No Rebuke. #3 – compromised with the devil. #4 – allow false prophets to teach. #5 – denying God's power. #6 – No Rebuke. #7 – no power no nothing just a form of Godliness.

Jesus said of the elite religious system of his day;

Matthew 16:11 How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it

not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees?

And yet their were those in these groups that did believe and except Jesus as Lord. Nicodemus and Saul, just to name a couple.

And so it is today, all those that hold to the doctrine of Jesus Christ are on the straight and narrow but all those that hold to the doctrine of their denomination are on the broad highway to destruction.

Since 1946 I new my ministry was an end time message, since 1971 I have been proclaiming what God has filled my heart and soul with, and that is to proclaim it is only your faith and trust in Jesus that will keep you and carry you home.

There will be NO denominations or secular groups in heaven, they will all be in Hell. (Galatians 3:28)

So you see, it is the leading of the Holy Spirit and the word of the living God and if people convict themselves and get their nose out of joint so be it, in other words if the shoe fits, then ware it. IF IT DON'T, then don't worry about it, it's not meant for you

It never ceases to amaze me as to how the religious people are the first to say, "Oh you can't say that, you may offend them." It all boils down to them being offended, and they want to sensor what the Holy spirit has to say to others. But you never know, instead of being offended, they may actually understand.

Proverbs 15:32 He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding.

Denominations have been with us for 1000s of years, just under different names and a lot fewer, just remember, it is WHAT YOU DO WITH THE GOSPEL that counts.

Denominations are religious, and if one is religious, you are self centered and if your self centered, how can the love of Christ flow through you?

I have two other teaching on this subject, they are on our website under the answer section, #60 and #196.

Trust this sheds some light.

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