Thoughts on the Bible College

and

Orphan Home



by
FRED KILLEBREW
Senath, Missouri.

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1950 5

PURPOSE OF THIS PAMPHLET

Having been raised in the South and never having heard of anyone that opposed human institutions to do the work of the church I went along with the digression. Finally becoming tired of the "one man minister system" a complaint was registered by me against setting up one man to feed the flock when God's word says the elders are to do it. Acts 20:28. Later learning that there are churches in various parts of the world that use only the Church of Christ through which to work it challenged my attention for nearly three years. Finally my conscience stopped me from working with people who are fostering error and building up human organizations such as Bible Colleges and orphan homes to do the work of the church.

This course has caused me much heartache but the joy accrueing from doing that which you know to be right repays abundantly.

Many ugly letters have been written me but out of them all not one of the criticizers has ventured ONE IOTA OF SCRIPTURE that would prove in any way that I am wrong.

The college faction and the Church of Christ has caused division over these very issues. Division is sinful but he who introduces something into the Church that is itself sinful is the man who "DRIVES THE WEDGE THAT SPLITS THE LOG."

Our stand in these matters is to contend for nothing else of a religious nature but THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST. It is our prayer that this pamphlet will help you to see the same.

QUOTATIONS

The Bible alone should be evidence enough for anyone in religion but since many people depend on what others say we have quoted freely from religious journals NOT OUR OWN. One would expect our own brethren to stand for the ONE BODY but when others contend for the same it should be given double consideration. The writings of opposition that agree have more force than the writings of those who are already agreed.

Paul affirms that we are saved by faith but nowhere does he say that we are saved by faith only. Those endorsing other institutions do say that the Church is "THE ONLY INSTITUTION" for doing the work given to the church. If Paul had said that faith only saves then that would have eliminated everything else. Those favoring other organizations do say that the NEW TEST-

AMENT CHURCH IS THE ONLY ORGANIZATION THROUGH WHICH WE SHOULD LABOR. Then that eliminates everything else of a religious nature. This is why we quote so many of their writings.

FRED KILLEBREW

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Fred Killebrew, Box 293, Senath, Mo. Ten cents each.

DRIFTING

Today the Church of Jesus Christ is facing a grave and dangerous situation. It is time for every soldier of the cross to cry and cry aloud against any corruption of God's divine plan and to stand for truth in opposition to any odds that may marshal themselves against the organization for which Jesus Christ died. It is too late in many places to prevent the tide that has turned from holy writ.

The Ohristian church has not only added the mechanical instrument of music, thus corrupting the worship of the church but has gone far beyond that in many places. It is too late now to redeem them as whole organizations unless some uniforseen change occurs.

In many places there is a tendency to corrupt the work of the church of Christ by using man-made institutions to do the work that has been given to the church. There may be and are many individuals who do not go along with such changes but in many places the church is so engulfed in institutionalism that the prescription given by the Great Physician won't restore the ancient order.

That there are departures from God's system by some who wear the name church of Christ we pray that you will see as we pursue this study and endeavor to point them out plainly from the word of God. We are not alone in our convictions in this matter. Read these statements from men who are going along with man-made-institutions but who disapprove many of their practices. Floyd A. Decker writes in the Bible Banner of January, 1948 on page 13, "May God help us to take the warning from the Christian Church. They have gone far astray from the word of God. Since I left them they have gone farther faster than I thought they would. There is yet hope for many individuals within that body but as a body there is no hope for recovery. Brethren, let us think now and stop the downward plunge. We are not drifting-we are PLUNGING! Back to the Bible, back to the church of the Bible, back to the organization of the Bible, back, BACK, BACK, BACK to where we started and where we must be found and where we will wish we were when the world is on fire." This writer thinks the trend is more serious than a drift. He says, "We are PLUNGING!" To stem this tide nothing short of going all the way back to the organization of the Bible" will ever get the job done. Let us then go, back, BACK, BACK, O, my friend, do you want to be found in any other organization of a religious nature when the world is on fire? Then cut loose from man-made-organizations whether Bible colleges, orphan homes or what not and get all the way back, BACK, BACK, to the Bible, to the church of the Bible, the only organization for saving the lost, II Tim. 2:10 and upholding God's word I Tim. 3:15.

In the Bible Banner May 1947 Cled E. Wallace writes on page 4. "The idea that churches cannot live and grow and carry out the Lord's will without schools is just plain rot. Churches lived and thrived before there were any schools and will continue to do so even if all the schools we now have apostatize and go to the devil." The Bible bears out that the church is an allsufficient organization for doing its work and we are inclined to believe Cled E. Wallace just at this point rather than such statements as these. The article is headed, "What would we do!" and under the heading follows, "Without our Christian colleges, who train our young men to be gospel preachers? (ACC Bulletin) Again we read in ACC Bulletin of Sept. 1946 on page 2. "By training young preachers how to preach and what to preach ACC adds strength to the cause of New Testament Christianity-. Abilene Christian college is needed by the church to train those who are to be leaders in the work of the church." If the church got along all-right and grew and did the Lord's will without Bible colleges and can still do it, why are millions and we do mean millions of dollars being poured into them annually to do the very work that has been given to the church? Somebody is drifting and anybody has the wrong idea who thinks he can build a human institution and then pour enough dollars into it to do the very work that God has told the church to do. Yes, there is a drift on or better still a PLUNGE! Read this and open your eyes. ACC bulletin Oct. 1946 page 4. "CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, IN A CHRISTIAN ENVIRONMENT. IS THE GREATEST HOPE (OR SHOULD ONE SAY THE ONLY HOPE) OF THE WORLD." This article is speaking of education in colleges and universities and the implication is that if we fail to maintain such Christian institutions which are the "GREATEST HOPE" then there is no hope for they are "THE ONLY HOPE OF THE WORLD." You may call us narrow or any other cynical appellation you choose but we want to deny that statement from beginning to end. The CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST is the GREATEST HOPE of the world. It is the ONLY HOPE OF THE WORLD. Back, BACK, BACK, to it, the organization of the Bible.

In the Gospel Advocate June 10, 1948, page 557, E. A. Elam

elaborates on Christian education and says, "But this education can be obtained only in CHRIST'S SCHOOL which is his CHUROH and under him as teacher and the teachers of his, and not of man's appointment. The Bible is his textbook." Regardless of E. A. Elam's position with regard to the Bible colleges and other man-made-institutions to do the work of the church he expressed the truth at this point. When we were putting the seats in the church building at Normal in Memphis, a preacher by the name of Askew who came from the Christian church to the church of Christ by R. L. Colley, baptizing him (He had never been so done scripturally) asked R. L. Colley, "Which Bible school would you attend?" Brother Colley's amswer still rings in my ears. Here it is, "None, the Lord has only one school!" At that time Brother Colley's remark seemed narrow, but it is as wide as God's word. You search the scriptures in vain for authority for the church or Christians to operate a school for the purpose of" Teaching the word of God," "saving souls," and being a "preacher factory."

Both of the above statements amount to the same and are correct. God does not have but ONE SCHOOL for Christian education and it's the best organization for that purpose on earth today. Christ gave the charge for his school, not a Bible college, to preach the gospel to the whole world Mt. 28:19-20. The Lord's school at Phillippi, not a Bible college, was to hold up the light Phil. 2:14-16. The church at Thessalonica, not a Bible college, sounded forth the word of the Lord 1 Thess. 1:8. Paul mentions something about glorifying God and Eph. 3:21 tells where it is to be done. Never have we read a Bible college or any man-made-institution into that passage. You can find the church there without much searching but the man who reads a human school, orphan home, old folks home or any other addition to the church can find the MISSIONARY SO-CIETY in the reading just the other side of the school. A little farther on in Eph. 3:21, after finding the school, one can locate the mechanical instrument of music. Brethren and friends, why cannot the scales fall from our eyes and we see that the church is God's only school for the work of saving the lost, helping the poor and preaching and teaching the gospel? Yes, there is a drift on or better still a PLUNGE! Christ's school, his church can do everything it is supposed to do without manmade-additions. E. A. Elam, in the same article just mentioned, says, "a preaching brother commending my articles on Christian education writes that in a state where he has been for several weeks he has heard ten times more talk about Christian education and degrees than about Christ and the gospel, and that a certain educated preacher stated recently in a meeting that in five years no man will be allowed in the pulpit if he does not have a university degree; or if he should try to preach anyway he will preach to empty benches." Where is the Lord's church? What is it doing? What are the elders supposed to do? What is the work of evangelists? Since when is it necessary to overemphasize secular education (which is good and certainly right if used right) and seldom mention ones knowledge of God's word or his standard of morals? We had better get away from secular degrees for which, "God never chose a man in any age" (Same article by E. A. Elam) and concerning which Paul says in I Cor. 1:26 "For behold your calling, brethren, that not many wise after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called," and get to a higher degree of consecration to God. The Catholics are educated, but we would obey God's word and disfellowship any brother in the church if we knew it, whose standard of morals is not higher than the most of the priests that we have known. No objections to education if it is used right but higher secular education leads away from Christ and the cross in many instances.

The Christian church has drifted and is still going farther. They argue that the great commission embraces the organization and use of missionary societies. Some of our brethren argue like this, "Go ye into all the world and build Bible colleges, orphan homes, old folks homes (They have not come to the hospitals yet that we know of) that we may more effectually preach the gospel." The Church preached the gospel in the first century without man-made-institutions and did its work and it can so do until the end of time. In fact we firmly believe that the Lord's method is the best, that the Lord could look to the end of time and give a system that would fit all ages, that man cannot improve in any way over the Lord's method, and that any attempt to do something through a manmade-institution that should be done through the church and argue that man's ways are better than God's ways is a denial of God's word. Isa. 55:8-9 Brethren, we just simply can't endorse anything of a religious nature to do the work of the church except the church itself, his one body, his one school. If this is wrong, then please inform us from the Bible. A missionary society, à bible college, an old folks home all fall in the same class and if not why not? They are removals from the ancient landmarks. Come on and lets go all the way back to Jerusalem, that's where they found Jesus. Back, BACK, BACK

to the organization of the Bible, the Lord's only school and where we will wish we were when the world is on fire.

Compare these if you doubt the drift.

BIBLE One Body Eph. 4:4 MAN

Speaking of David Lipscomb college S. H. Hall writes, "Do we not, who still live and claim to be friends of this INSTITUTION owe them a debt, and, above all, a greater debt to our Lord, who gave his life to make possible the thought that gave birth to such an INSTITUTION—Gospel Advocate Dec. 18, 1941 page 1208.

BIBLE

Jesus died for the church Eph, 5:25

MAN

"Gave his life to make possible the thought that gave birth to such an institution."

BIBLE

In Christ (Church) one is made full Col. 2:8-10

MAN

"Abilene Christian College is needed by the church to train those who are to be leaders in the work of the church." ACC bulletin Sept. 1946 page 2.

BIBLE

The church is able to build itself up. Eph. 4:16

MAN

"What would we do without our Christian colleges, who train our young men to be gospel preachers? ACC bulletin.

BIBLE

The chur h is greatest and to be placed first Mt. 6:33

MAN

"The people of Tipton and community are continually showing, individually and through various clubs and orders, how they appreciate the GREATEST INSTITUTION in their midst, Tipton orphans home and the work it is doing for homeless children." Tipton Orphans Home Messenger Feb. 1930 page 8.

BIBLE

Early church developed its own teachers and preachers. 11 Tim. 2:2

MAN

Of the colored school in Nashville this is said, "This feature of the program is known as the "PREACHER FACTORY" because of its intensive practice in intelligent reading and presenting of the Bible." Gospel Advocate Dec. 9, 1948 page 1187

BIBLE

Elders are ruling power in Christ's church 1 Tim. 5:17

MAN

Nashville Christian Institute, "Brother Keeble has the full confidence of the governing board, composed of —" Gospel Advocate Dec. 9, 1948 page 1186

BIBLE

Everything a man of God should seek for is found in Christ's Church. 11 Tim. 3:16-17. 11 Pet. 1:3, Col. 2:9-10

MAN

Nashville Christian Institute. "I found in this school everything that a real man of God should seek for, for they struggle to teach the Bible in all of its truth." Gospel Advocate Dec. 9, 1948 page 1187

BIBLE

Church is place to give 1 Cor. 16:1-2

MAN

Our Little Mountain School, S. H. Hall writes "Again I want to say that I know of no place where your help will bring greater returns," Gospel Advocate Dec. 9, 1948 page 1195

BIBLE

Give as prospered 1 Cor. 16:1-2

MAN

"\$3,000,00 required for Christian education." ACC Bulletin July 1946.

BIBLE

Church is to upheld truth 1 Tim. 3:15

MAN

David Lipscomb College, "There is just one point that we wish to make here-viz., the TEACHING OF THE BIBLE WAS THE ALL-ABSORBING THOUGHT in establishing David Lipscomb College." Gospel Advocate Dec. 18, 1941 page 1217.

If these comparisons don't show a drift, then what would we call a departure? What could a man do to commit sin? Why go along with these innovations? You may say, "I don't believe in them," then shuck out. A lady told me she didn't believe in the mechanical instrument used in the Christian Church but she is still there and as guilty as the rest. Better not be standing around watching a crap game when the law enforcement officer walks up. He will herd you off to Jail with the rest of the gang. If the law catches you with the "domino dealers" you may wind up in Jail. If you are going along with the "Glory stealers," Eph. 3:21, you may wind up in something worse than jail.

THE ALL-SUFFICIENCY OF THE CHURCH

Everything that God has given his church to do may be classed under two major heads, "Work and Worship." The Bible which makes the "man of God complete" 1 Tim. 3:16 also furnishes him completely in both items mentioned. We are safe in both work and worship when following the "perfect law of liberty." Jas. 1:25.

The arguments produced by advocates of the mechanical instrument of music must fall before the command to "sing". They argue that the instrument is an "aid" or "no part of the worship" or that "God didn't say not to have it." The book says sing and that is not playing. The command to sing includes singing and eliminates playing on an instrument. The church is an all-sufficient organization to carry on its worship and needs not the inventions of men.

Those advocating the missionary society ask such questions as this, "Is it wrong to preach the gospel? The making known of God's word is a good thing but should we choose to tell the word of God through a man-made-organization instead of the church we have violated Eph. 3:10 which says, "might be made known through the church the manifold wisdom of God." The very fact that the church has been set up to make known the manifold wisdom of God argues that it can do it without the help of any society outside or inside the church.

It is going beyond the word of God to add an instrument, missionary society, or any society or organization to do the work that has been given the church. In Mat. 28:- two teachings are mentioned. The first means that which is required "to make disciples" for such is the meaning of the greek word "matheeteuo." The American Standard Bible says "make disciples of all the nations." Mt. 28:19. In this making of disciples only one organization has been given the great work. In the Showalter-Clark discussion, page 11 brother Showalter has this to say. "In opposing humanly made missionary societies I have always

sought to magnify the church as a sufficient missionary society for doing all missionary work." Here we are agreed that the church is sufficient. It is all-sufficient to do all its missionary work. The teaching mentioned in Mt. 28:19 can and must be carried on by the church if God's word is to be obeyed.

Now we come to the second teaching, the one mentioned in Mt. 28:20. After one has been made a disciple, according to Jesus, he is to be taught the observance of all the things commanded by the Lord. A few questions are in order here. Can the church carry out its singing without the aid of a mechanical instrument? Is the church sufficient to carry on the teaching mentioned in Mt. 28:19 without any other organization? Can the church carry out the teaching mentioned in Mt. 28:20 without other organizations either without or within? Since when is it wrong to have another organization (missionary society) to make disciples and then right to have a Bible College to teach them?

It is the teaching of the Bible that Christ's church is allsufficient to save the lost, carry on its worship, do its preaching and teaching. Suppose (and it's being done) someone should argue that the church needs a school or orphan home to assist in carrying on its work. Then pray tell us is something else needed to save the lost? At what point is another organization needed to make the all-sufficient-organization more sufficient? Since when has the clay (man) become wise enough to help the Potter (God) in making Christ's church more sufficient?

We accept one hundred percent the statement made in Col. 2:8-10. "Take heed lest there shall be any one that maketh spoil of you through his philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world and not after Christ: for in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, and in him ye are made FULL." It is the philosophy of men today who are vainly deceiving the multitudes by arguing that we need any institution other than the church to assist the church. My book says we are "MADE FULL" (complete) in him." If one is in Christ or his church he is full, he is complete and no board of directors of any school or home can make the man in Christ any more complete.

In the Adult Gospel Quarterly published by the Gospel Advocate Co. for the first quarter of 1946 there appears this reading on page 42. The lesson is on the "All-sufficiency of the church." "In this lesson we are to see no other institution is needed, that the church is sufficient for all that God intended it to do, as Christ is an all sufficient saviour, and the Bible is all-sufficient as a book of instruction, so the church is the all-sufficient institution. One just as well doubt Christ and the Bible as to doubt the all-sufficiency of the church. To doubt the church is to doubt the head of the church, which is Christ. The mission of the church is broad enough and thorough enough to accomplish the redemption of man; the church is the only institution that God has established since the coming of Christ for the salvation of souls.

The church of the Lord is not wanting in anything-. There is not a good work that God wants his children to do that they cannot do as a member of his church. Sometimes people will say that the church will not look after orphans, the sick, and the aged and infirmed; hence, they organize or join some other institution to do the work of the Lord. There is no excuse for a Christian to join anything else to do the Lord's work." This article sets forth the truth in no uncertain terms. Notice, "church is sufficient for all that God intended it to do," and "no other institution is needed." It is also true that when one doubts the all-sufficiency of the church he is doubting the head of the church which is Christ. "They organize or join some other institution to do the work of the Lord. There is no excuse for a Christian to join anything else to do the Lord's work." Truer words were never spoken so we had better take heed if we have organized or joined anything else to do the Lord's work.

Homer A. Daniel writes in the Gospel Advocate of Feb. 12, 1942 on page 158, "We need no organization through which to teach other than the church" and he gives Eph. 3:21.

Notwithstanding statements found both in and out of the Bible that say the church is able to do its work, the Gospel Advocate Dec. 9, 1948 page 1187 speaks of the colored school at Nashville, Tenn. with this term, "PREACHER FACTORY." Now, there you have it. The church of Christ is able to do all it has been charged to do but here comes along somebody and starts a "PREACHER FACTORY." Don't anybody else deny that these human institutions are doing the work of God's divine institution the church. Whose job is it to make preachers? Christ's church is complete but men try to help it along by establishing a "PREACHER FACTORY." No argument about education here, no quibbling about the colored people. We are for education and colored people, but stand opposed to this human institution to turn out preachers.

Remember we have been stressing the all-sufficiency of the

church. According to statements just read and especially Col. 2:9-10, everything that a man needs of a religious nature, he can find in the church and in the church he is made FULL or complete. Now read this from the same article just mentioned. "I found in this school everything that a real man of God should seek for, for they struggle to teach the Bible in all of its truth." Really, this is a new discovery and should if true be heralded to the four quarters. If true we can forget the church because according to this article, "In this school everything that a real man of God should seek for." What claims will be made next for these human institutions? In the church is everything that the man of God should seek for, but this writer finds it all in the school at Nashville. Who made the change? Will God accept the change? Will God accept any man-made "PREACHER FACTORY"? There was a time when claims like these would have caused Godly men everywhere to rush to their guns and blast at such usurpations but today they are accepted. Imagine telling Paul or Peter that we now have a PREACHER FACTORY and in it is found "everything that a real man of God should seek for."

ACC bulletin of August 1946 carries one of the most brazen attempts to degrade the church and relegate it to the background of which we have ever read. The question is asked, "but who will TRAIN the missionairies?" Here is the answer, "only a Christian school, where the Bible is taught and New Testament religion is emphasized, can prepare men and women to become missionaries of the New Testament church." Wonder how Timothy, Titus and others received their education and training before these human institutions were ever born?

We wrote Brother N. B. Hardeman, president of Free-Hardeman college at Henderson. Tenn. to give his permission for us to print some of his statements found in volume two of Hardeman's Tabernacle Sermons. For fear they would be moved from their setting he refused but did give permission for us to print any whole sermon. Of course, that would be too much matter for our purpose. Let us urge you to read the sermon, "The Church-Its work" found in volume two and particularly pages 209 and 210. Brother Hardeman expressed truths on these pages that no living man can deny and we highly commend it to you. His being president of a Bible school does not alter the things he said in any way.

We also wrote Brother Roy Cogdill to print from his book, "The New Testament Church." As time draws near to go to

press with this, we have not heard from him. Let us urge you to check carefully lesson 19 on "The organization of the church." The facts set forth by him are true and will stand the test. Regardless of Brother Cogdill's position with reference to these man-made-institutions, he prints the truth here.

A quotation from the Firm Foundation page 4, Sept. 28, 1943 by Willis G. Jernigan is in order here and expresses our belief as good as we could do it ourselves. "The church that Jesus built is a church triumphant, all human houses are doomed to fall. (Heb. 12:27-29) It is our prayer, and it is our exalted privilege to hope that the time is not far in the future when, from the utter failure or wordly wise organizations for spiritual labor, the Church just as it was erected by the Lord will shine forth 'fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners.' Then will the true mission of the church of the Lord and Saviour be acknowledged—and only then (Eph. 3:10-11.)."

Wallace W. Thompson writes in the Bible Banner Feb. 1949 page 16. "There is nothing lacking in the church that a school can supply. If so, the church is imperfect."

The answer to the "College question" and any other institutional query that might be pondered is this; "Do all we can and all we do, do it as the Bible directs." Col. 3:17.

Money, Money and More Money

We hear it said, "Just look at the good the Bible Colleges are doing." They should make some show for themselves considering the vast amount of Christians' money they consume and in many cases it comes right out of the church treasury and they will beg all they can. We preach in the church to give as we have been prospered, 1 Cor. 16:1-2. Bible colleges can beg all they desire and little is said about it.

Jesus laid down a law in Mt. 6:21 that is always true, "where they TREASURE is there will the HEART be also." Anytime an individual goes investing a great amount of his treasure in something it's more than likely that his heart will be there or else we misunderstand Jesus. Quoting again from the Gospel Advocate Nov. 7, 1946 page 1048, "Futhermore we have not seen how it is possible for human institutions to engross our time, energy and MONEY without our losing sight of the church and her agencies." All that's necessary to prove where the hearts of a lot of men are is to show where they have been putting their money.

Firm Foundation Nov. 16, 1943 page 13, "One ex-student, when

asked for help had no money but gave his class ring." Wonder if he would have done that for the church of Jesus Christ? "A little boy whose mother is a widow mowed lawns and gave the president twenty-five cents to help." This article is headed "Sacrifices for ACC." I'd be ashamed to take twenty-five cents from any little fellow like that for anything short of the church of Jesus Christ. They are not all small "Since 1906 many have really sacrificed to make contributions of \$250, \$500 and \$1000. In many cases these contributions from the same individuals have continued throughout the years. A half dozen single donations ranging from \$10,000 to \$160,000 have sometimes saved the life of the school or been essential factors in the material growth of the institution.

This school is only starting when receiving all these donations just mentioned. Watch her next month, Dec. 7, 1943 when she moves up a notch. Firm Foundation page 16, "AN URGENT CALL FOR \$325,000 TO BE INVESTED IN THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OF YOUTH AT ABILENE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE AND IN THE GOOD WAY OF LIFE THEY IN TURN WILL CARRY WITH THEM THROUGHOUT THE WORLD,"

Watch this same school when she moves up another notch. ACC bulletin July 1946. "\$3,000,000 REQUIRED FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION." Do you know that that much money will support 100 preachers at \$150 per month for almost 18 years. It will build 150 church houses at \$20,000 each. Think of what the church could do with \$3,000,000. Just suppose some church, local congregation, asked for a small portion of that amount. Everybody would cry "nonsense" and they would be crying the truth, yet this school can do it and have the backing of some of the biggest financial men. Remember, "where thy TREAS-URE is there will thy Heart be also." What will Abilene ask for next? Just keep feeding her and watch the results if you wish but we are not that interested and prefer to invest what little we have in the church of Christ. After giving all we can there we don't have any left over to give to human institutions such as Abilene.

David Lipscomb should be ranking high before long. In the Gospel Advocate Oct. 21, 1948 page 1029, we see that she is putting on a \$1,000,000 drive. Jesus said, "where thy TREASURE is there will thy HEART be also."

The Union Ave. Church of Christ in Memphis, Tenn. is now operating institutions in Japan that are not the church such

as orphan homes and schools. Besides money already poured into Japan for these human institutions, Brother E. W. McMillan in the Gospel Advocate July 29, 1948 page 727 is asking for \$100,000 "to erect physical equipment to accomodate three hundred students well." In course of time the Japanese situation may and no doubt will demand as much money as Abilene and Lipscomb; to say nothing of the other man-made-institutions all over the land that need feeding in order to do the very work that the church should be doing.

Don't forget that the New Testament mentions something about the "Simplicity and the purity that is toward Christ." 2 Cor. 11:3. God's way is the simplest and costs less. The same dollars that are poured into hungry and ever devouring manmade-organizations could do wonders if used in the New Testament Church.

One Body

There is ONE BODY Eph. 4:4. In this connection Paul mentions six other things of which there is one of each. He names as one of them, "one faith." Men may have many creeds and systems but God only recognizes one. Paul mentions one baptism. Men may have dippings for the wrong purpose but God recognizes only one. More than one of any of the seven things stated in Eph. 4: is contrary to New Testament scriptures.

What is the ONE BODY mentioned? Col. 1:18 and other passages bear out that it is the church. The word body in Eph. 4 will take this definition. "A number of religious individuals united by some common tie." The book affirms that there is only one "number of religious individuals united by some common tie," and that number is the church whether locally, regionally or universally.

To have more than one body is as wrong as using more than one system of faith. The denominations are all in the same class because they are other bodies. Anytime we have two bodies or two numbers of religious individuals united by some common tie there is one too many.

The bible colleges and orphan homes are other bodies. The very fact that some of them (all maybe, I don't know) are incorporated means that they are bodies. The corporation does not make them a body but they have to be a body to be incorporated. The word corporation is from a latin word "corpus" which means body. If incorporated they are bodies. They are

RELIGIOUS BODIES. They are a "number of religious individuals united by some common tie." They are not the church but are other bodies.

Man has a body but his body will not take the same definition as the church. The bible college and orphan home will. Brother G. C. Brewer made a wonderful argument (?) against Brother Carl Ketcherside at Henderson, Tenn. Carl was emphasizing the ONE BODY. Brother Brewer found in the Bible that man has a body so he says, "uh huh two bodies and you Carl say there is only one," but such is the logic some will pursue when trying to uphold another body other than the church of Jesus Christ.

We rejoice to be members of Christ BODY his church and nothing more of a religious nature. We have no Saviour but Jesus, no book to guide us but the Bible, no BODY of a religious nature but Christ's. This is safe, infallibly so and could you ask or hint that we support other bodies? Are you safe when so doing?

Glorify God In The Church

"Unto him be glory in the church." Eph. 3:21. This states ment is made by the apostle Paul and no man nor set of men, no matter how learned they may be can change it. The place to glorify God is in the church. The sinner on the outside cannot obey this command because he is not in the church. The man in the church is not obeying this command if he does his religious work through some outside organization. The place to glorify God is in the church and will ever be. We quote from the Gospel Guardian May 12, 1949 page 4 by William Thompson. Jr., "God is to be glorified in the church throughout the ages, Eph. 3:21. The place to give God glory is in the church, and it shall be so, until the end of the world. The world will end before the glory ceases to be given to God in the Church."

Any man-made society, organization or institution is not the church. On the next page we read in an article by Thomas Allen Robertson, "Societies are not 'methods' of doing the work of God. They are organizations. They usurp the work of the church. They are unscriptural because they appropriate to themselves the duty, honor, and authority which rightfully belong to the church. They are unnecessary because the end for which they are established is far better achieved through the church itself without the help (?) that they can give. The rash

of Bible societies, missionary societies, and benevolent societies would make of the church (as they have made of the Christian Church) nothing but fodder for their mills, a servant of the societies." Neither are bible colleges and orphan homes methods, they are institutions. These institutions take the glory themselves. God does not receive it unless someone can change the Divine formula. God says "in the church," some men say, "in a man-made institution." Who is correct? By whose standard will we be judged at the last great day?

Dozens of arguments have been offered to try to prove that those rendering service through bible colleges and orphan homes are still glorifying God through the church. These institutions ARE or ARE NOT the church. If they are the church then baptism automatically makes one a member of them. A blind man at midnight knows better. Some few have taken the radical position that they are the church but have been blasted from their stand when venturing out in the open. They are NOT THE CHURCH and if not, then how under high heaven can any man glorify God "In The Church" when it is NOT THE CHURCH. Isa. 48:11 says "And my glory will I not give to another." The thing under consideration is GLORY. The person to whom it is to be given is God. The place is the CHURCH and God says, "my glory will I not give unto another."

Brother H. Leo Boles states positively who receives the glory when work is done through a human institution in the Gospel Advocate Jan. 29, 1942 on page 101. "The human organization that receives contributions and help from individual Christians or congregations of Christians gets all the HONOR and GLORY. The ones receiving the help through these organizations do not give the individual Christian or the church ANY GLORY for the help received."

Read Numbers 20:1-12 and see what happened to a man who failed to glorify God. Moses gave them water yes and the giving of drink to starving people was a good thing and you can't condemn him for that but God never let him cross Jordan into the promised land because he failed to sanctify his Maker. "Hear now, ye rebels; shall WE (taking the glory himself) bring you forth water out of this rock? And Moses lifted up his hand, and smote the rock with his rod twice: and water came forth abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their cattle. And Jehovah sald unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed not in me, to SANCTIFY me in the eyes of the children of Israel therefore ye shall not bring this assembly into

the land which I have given them." Num. 20:10-12 Moses and Aaron took the GLORY to themselves and failed to SANCTIFY God before the people and lost their right to cross Jordan into the promised land. Does this mean anything to us today? Rom. 15:4 says something about things written aforetime being for "our learning." Let us then learn that God will have the Glory or we will suffer the consequences and Eph. 3:21 says that it is "in the Church." May God hasten the day when more people will aspire to nothing more than membership in the church of Christ, to live there, labor there and die there that Christ may receive us in the end when he comes.

In His Name

"And whatsoever ye do in word on in deed do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Col. 3:17. Im this passage "the name of the Lord Jesus" means by the authority of the Lord Jesus. All authority is vested in him. Mt. 28:18.

In religious matters we can take either of these two stands; 1. Everything not expressly forbidden may be allowed. 2. To do anything we must have authority for it. The last is the only safe course to pursue. You can see where the first has carried the Christian church.

We sing by the authority of Christ, Col. 3:16. By whose do they play? We preach through the church by the authority of Christ, 1 Tim. 3:15. By whose do men use missionary societies? We teach through the church by the authority of Christ, Eph. 3:10. Where is authority found for Bible Colleges? Widows and orphans are cared for by the church by Christ's authority Eph. 3:21. By whose are orphans and widows institutions set up? The safe course is to find authority in the New Testament and then do it, not to do it and then pervert some passage to obtain authority.

We have read and heard arguments built around the school of Tyrannus in Acts 19:9 as authority for the present system of bible colleges. Call the school of Tyrannus a hall as some translations do or whatever you please; there is not one speck of authority in it for a Christian to build and maintain a bible college. Look at verse 8. Paul entered into the SYNAGOGUE, Verse 9, he entered and used the SCHOOL of Tyrannus. Provefrom verse 9 that it's right to build and maintain bible schools and we will go to verse 8 and prove it's right for Christians to

build and maintain Jewish SYNAGOGUES. This proves too much. Yes, Paul went into both places and used them but that is far from authority for Christians to build and maintain either. We are often called upon to address graduating classes but there is a vast difference between going into a school as a member of the church to teach, and in establishing a school through which to teach. We as members of the church would preach to Jews in a synagogue if opportunity afforded but are far from building such organizations through which to do it.

Jas. 1:27 is a stronghold for those who seek authority for orphan homes and old folks homes. Check the passage carefully and you will see that it is not there. Go back to 1:25 and read all the way down through verse 27. "But he (speaking of a man and no organization there) that looketh into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and so continueth, being not a hearer that forgetteth but a doer (still the man and no organization yet) that worketh, this man (still the man and no organization) shall be blessed in his (the man's) doing. If any man (still the man and no organization) thinketh himself (still the man) to be religious, while he (the man and no organization) bridleth not his (the man's) tongue but deceiveth his (the man's) heart, this man's (not an organization's) religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled (still talking of the man's religion and no organization yet) before our God and Father is this, to visit (the man's duty) the fatherless and widows and their affliction and to keep oneself (still the man's duty) unspotted from the world." It really takes a good pair of institutional spectacles to read an orphan home or old folks home into Jas. 1:27. Bryan W. Vinson says in the Bible Banner Feb. 1948 on page 14, "anyone who can read an institutional orphan home in that verse should have no difficulty in seeing the missionary society in the great commission. To aid the needy, and to care for anyone in an hour of affliction, is certainly within the providence of the church. However, to make permanent charges of the church anyone except, perhaps a certain limited and qualified class I Tim. 5:10 is without spiritual warrant."

The word visit in Jas. 1:27 means just exactly what it says. It means to "go see," "look upon," "pay a personal inspection." For years preachers have been using this as authority for orphan homes but it is not right to thus misuse that passage. In the majority of cases those who support such institutions seldom or never visit them. They fail to do what Jas. 1:27 says do. By using acts, 15:36 it can be proved that VISIT means VIS-

IT and not build an institution. "And after some days Paul Said unto Barnabas, let us return now and visit (build orphan homes if that's what visit means) the brethren in every city wherein we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and seek how they fare."

Visiting is mentioned in Jas. 1:27 and so is keeping ones self unspotted from the world. Both are individual duties. It is impossible to pay a priest to keep one unspotted and equally impossible to give a few cans of beans, some old clothes and \$5.00 when the truck comes around and have it recorded that you have visited the fatherless and widows.

The Fatherless and widows occur in the same passage. Both are to be visited. If caring for either is necessary whatever is essential to provide for one might and in most cases could be used for the other. Do we have a Bible example of how either was cared for? In John 19, when Jesus was dying on the cross the record says, "When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, woman, behold thy son. Then saith he to the disciple, Behold, thy mother! And from that hour the disciple took her INTO HIS OWN HOME." This is what was done with the mother of Jesus and this could be done in many cases with orphan children.

One searches in vain for AUTHORITY for any religious institution except the church. This quotation is from the Firm Foundation Sept. 14, 1943 page 6 by W. K. Rose. The article bears this title, "Source of authority in religion." "No institution on earth of a religious nature, has any divine right to an existence, except the kingdom of Christ, his church his one body, the family of God. That the kingdom of Christ is on the earth by the divine authority vested in Christ, there is no doubt in the mind of a believer of New Testament revelation. But, that man is, in any sense, authorized by Christ, to originate, create, establish, or cause to be, any religious institution other than the CHURCH BUILT BY CHRIST, has no foundation in faith. It is impossible to believe that. Faith comes by hearing the word of God, and the silence of the word makes the belief impossible. Any effort to start a new institution of a religious character is not prophetic of faith in the heart. Rather, it smacks of presumption." Space forbids comment on this article. Read and re-read it for truer words cannot be found.

The Gospel Advocate Nov. 7, 1946 page 1048 carries an article about, the Advocates early struggles against innovations. "The Advocates position was best made known in the following:

words from Fanning: "The church of God is the only divinely-authorized missionary, Bible, Sunday-school, and temperance society, the only institution in which the heavenly Father will be honored in the salvation of the world, and in and through no other agency can man glorify his maker. It is not only the extreme of folly for Christians to talk of other benevolent institutions but we cannot see and never have seen, how it is possible for any people professing the Christian religion to attempt to DO THE WORK OF THE CHURCH THROUGH MERELY HUMAN AGENCIES, such as a missionary and Sunday school societies, etc., while we have SO FULL PROVISION FOR ALL SPIRITUAL LABOR IN THE BODY OF CHRIST, Frathermore, we have not seen how it is possible for human institutions to ENGROSS OUR TIME, ENERGY, AND MONEY without our LOSING SIGHT OF THE CHURCH and her agencies'," (Gospel Advocate 1857 page 69).

On the same page we have this. "Using very bold language the advocate set forth its position, plainly, deliberately, and firmly we declare to all whom it may concern that it is our solemn conviction that the adoption or substitution of an expedient society, or plan for Christian work besides the 'Kingdom not of this world,' is an INSULT TO GOD AND A DISGRACE TO THE CHRISTIAN PROFESSION." (Gospel Advocate, Feb. 20, 1866 pages 122,123) We have no comment to offer on these last quotations, they speak for themselves and are our position without qualification.

Orphan Homes

"God setteth the solitary in families." Psa. 68:6. This has ever been his arrangement. Furthermore it is the best that can be used. Any Christian home is better to raise a child than an orphan's institution. The argument has been made that, "most Christian homes are not FIT to raise children." We have more confidence in our brethren than that. Furthermore it is folly, to argue that a Communistic arrangement is better than God's plan, Bryan W. Vinson writes in the Bible Banner Feb. 1948 in the article, EXALTING THE CHURCH on page 15. "Among the most vehement and partisan pleadings employed in their defense is the bold assertion that they rear children better than we do in our homes. Doubtless they do a better job than some, but that is too sweeping a statement. Reduced to its final analysis, it constitutes an apology for a communistic form of society, and the superiority of the state over the individual and the home. The home is debased and the state is elevated whether it is political, or social, it matters not. The home is the oldest of all institutions and constitutes the BASIC UNIT OF SOCIETY. It is of divine origin. I am unwilling to yield to such regimentation in preference to the Christian home, where parental affection, a mother's love and a father's care constitutes a blessing while we have them and is revered in our memory, so long as we live. There is NO SUBSTITUTE FOR THIS HALLOWED INSTITUTION.

Finally, the supreme issue is WHETHER GOD WILLS SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT. Remember the Lord gave us a foresight of "that day 'when many would say they had done 'many wonderful works in his name' yet he will profess 'I never knew you,' Why? Evidently, they professed to be governed by his authority but ignored his instructions, disregarded his will and went beyond his doctrine, hence they have not the Father."

We are told that, "If you don't believe in orphan homes supported by Christians then you have got to take one or more into your home." This is not necessarily true. Every Christian is bound by the law of Christ to do what he can for his Saviour but to say every Christian must give an orphan a home covers too much territory. In the first place we are not obligated to care for all orphans in the world. Let him who so thinks quit preaching the gospel and get busy. We care for the HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH first and them others as we can. Gal. 6:10. If Christians can't care for any in their homes they can give all they can to the church and many times a widow and her family can be kept together by a little contribution now and then from the church.

Let us look again at the statement, "You must take a child into your home if you don't believe in Christians building and supporting orphan homes" and see if it will hold water. We are not trying to dodge. If taking one or more children into our home is a duty that we must do then BRING THEM ON because we don't want to fall short. Look at the "go" in the great commission. Do you believe in "going into all the world and preaching the gospel?" Have you done it? Have you gone anywhere? In fact have you even preached? If the MUST take a child argument holds good then you MUST GO! An elder in the college faction church told me that I could not make any excuse but had to take a child into my home. When telling him he had to Go he immediately excused himself by saying, "I can't remember scriptures." Don't you see what these manmade "musts" will lead into? The only must in this matter

is, "must do what we can." If we can take a child then do it, if not then give to the church so it can care for the needy. If we can preach the gospel then do it, if not, then give to the church all we can and let the "pillar and ground of the truth" do the work.

It is also argued that, "I can't take a child but can give a little and all the littles make a big contribution." Try that same argument on a missionary society and according to the orphan home argument (?) you can't stop the missionary society. Supposing one says "I can't go preach, This church can't send out a preacher but if several Christians and congregations place small amounts into a Missionary Society then we can get the job done." Does the fact that many contribute small amounts make the thing contributed to right?

"But what would we do with all the orphans if we guit using man-made institutions to care for them." That is far fetched reasoning. In fact so far that it need not concern you because unless something unforeseen occurs the orphan homes will not turn loose their children even into the homes of Christians. Try this and see if it will help. The Memphis, Tenn. Press-Scimitar carried this article Jan. 12, 1946 by Miss Georgia Tann who is superintendent of the Tennessee Children's Home Finding Society and she should know. "And this childless home is not an isolated case. It is just one of the THREE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SIX applications on file in the office of Miss Georgia Tann, superintendent of the Tennessee Children's Home Finding Society on Poplar." "We could place EVERY CHILD now in a Tennessee institution in a good home." Miss Tann said. 'There are THIRTY to FORTY approved homes that fit every child that comes to us for adoption'." In view of this why are orphan homes supported by the Church of Christ begging for more money and children?

The United States Department of Labor, Children's Bureau put out an article on adoption, Folder 18, 1948, page 9 we read, "even after the agency knows the parents and their home, it may be months and possibly a YEAR or MORE before the right child is found, because the number of persons seeking to adopt children is FAR IN EXCESS of the number of children AVAILABLE."

Capper's Weekly, published at Topeka, Kansas carried this article Jan. 1, 1949. "BABY ADOPTIONS BOOMING." "TEN families are waiting to adopt each available baby in the United

States according to informal estimates by the Children's Bureau. Baby adoptions throughout the country are booming at an unprecedented rate, government officials said. They estimated that adoptions were up 50 percent from 1944, with 75,000 petitions handed in this year, mainly by childless couples anxious for an adopted family.

The heavy demand means that would-be-foster-parents may have to wait TWO YEARS OR MORE."

Dr. J. Ralph Roberts, Christian Church pastor quits the orphans home business after 15 years. In the Memphis, Tenn. Press-Scimitar Jan. 11, 1946 he says, "Children should be raised in homes, NOT INSTITUTIONS. My 15 years experience taught me that. I wouldn't handle them any other way—. I wasn't much on adopting children. I put them in private homes, paid their board and bought their clothes. And I found this was not only better for them but it cost only HALF of what the per-child cost averaged in religious and fraternal institutions elsewhere in the state—. We learned that any child is better off IN AN ADOPTED HOME than in an institution—." Dr. Roberts was told that the proposed Baptist orphanage would have 16 to 20 children to a home and a mother over each small unit. "Whether you have ONE or ONE THOUSAND AND FIVE buildings, they are still institutionally governed" he asserted.

The family arrangement is God's plan. It costs only one half as much to raise a child in a private home. Applications for children exceed available children. The orphan homes maintained by the Church of Christ are other bodies than the church. There is not one iota of authority for them. Then to cap it off they have the arrogance to place themselves on a equal with the Church of Jesus Christ.

Boles Home News April 25, 1948 carries this reading on the front page. "What nobler work? What better place to invest your money! What greater good could be done?' Anyone with a smattering idea of Christ's Church knows that the best place in the world to invest money is the Church of Christ.

The Boles Home News Oct. 25, 1947 carries this statement by Sid L. Arnold. "We think this is one of the GREATEST IN-STITUTIONS IN THE WHOLE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA in helping those who are not able to take care of themselves. What better could anyone do, anyhow?" If we believed the Bible we would think that the church is the greatest institution and as for "what better work?", well we still prefer to work through a divine institution rather than human.

The Gospel Advocate Oct. 23, 1941 carries a picture of Tipton Orphan Home on the back and this question is asked. "Where can your missionary investment be made more economically and fruitfully"? This is a new one, we never knew before that these homes are MISSIONARY ORGANIZATIONS. We had always thought that the Church of Christ is God's ONLY missionary organization. Time does change things but it might be good just to stop and SEARCH the scriptures and try to find authority for any other missionary organization than the NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH. In the second place even if Tipton is a missionary effort it would be hard to believe that it is better to invest money there than the Church of Christ. We still prefer to place all we can in the church, do all we can in the church, and glorify God in the Church, Eph. 3:21. If this course is wrong then pray tell us is there safety anywhere in religion.

Those who endorse the Bible colleges and orphan homes are divided on how to support them. When one sets up an UN-SCRIPTIONAL organization its mighty hard to find SCRIPTURE for operation of the same. Its not a question of support. Any religious organization (and they are) doing the work of the church (and they are) should be supported by the church if the organization itself is right. Now don't somebody pop up and say, "They are not doing the work of the church." We know they are, have proved it in this pamplet and can do it again.

The orphan home is a miniature Bible college with all the characteristics. In time it will become the monster to be fought out of the church treasuries. (Just like the Japanese school) No doubt there will be many that will go along with these innovations whether they are out of the treasuries or in. (Just like the Japanese school) For us we will stick to the ONE BODY and the rest can fuss and fume over their unscriptional organizations. "Unto him be glory in the Church." Eph. 3:21,

Wait dear reader, it is not our aim to play on your tender sympathies or prejudices but since we have been accused of not believing in caring for orphans let us ask this question, "What do you think Jesus would do if an orphan child came to his door and needed lodging? Would he send it to Boles or say "come in"? Is this the Christian act, to send the little fellow out of your sight, where you won't be bothered and he won't

clutter up the house and track up the floor and you will never have to sit by his bedside through the long night hours while he is sick and a thousand other things that will be his problems will never concern you at all? It is easy to do that but who bore the burdens of others? Remember He did not have to do it. As far as God will bless us, we believe it the Spirit of Christ to open our doors, make the homeless ours, love him, care for him, teach him, play with him as his dad and mother, pray with him as one of God's creation whether our blood or not. Now please, please don't come telling us that we disbelieve in caring for orphans. We should know what we believe.

Arguments Answered

It is not our aim to shoot at a straw man nor do we claim that these are all the arguments that can be made.

Argument

"If Bible colleges claimed to make preachers then I'd oppose them."

Answer

Gospel Advocate Dec. 9, 1948, page 1187. The colored school at Nashville, Tennessee is known as the "preacher factory." ACC bulletin August 1946. "ONLY A CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, where the Bible is taught and New Testament religion is emphasized, can prepare men and women to become MISSION-ARIES of the New Testament Church." Gospel Advocate July 1, 1948 page 648. Freed-Hardeman college says, "special emphasis is placed on the teaching of the Bible and the training of young men for the MINISTRY of the Gospel.

Argument

"If the Bible colleges did the work of the Church then I'd not be for them."

Answer

Gospel Advocate Dec. 18, 1941 page 1217. Of David Lipscomb college it is said, "There is just one point that we wish to make here-viz., THE TEACHING OF THE BIBLE WAS THE ALL AB'S SORBING THOUGHT IN ESTABLISHING DAVID LIPSCOMB COLLEGE."

Argument

"If colleges and orphan homes were other institutions then I'd not endorse them."

Answer

Gospel Broadcast April 3, 1947 page 9 N. B. Hardeman says, "Since these schools are HUMAN INSTITUTIONS—."

Argument

"If they did or could control the Church then they would be wrong."

Answer

Bible Banner Nov. 1947 page 15 Foy E. Wallace Jr., writes, "It shows that the schools have the power to sweep the Church

into digression on any point at which they may themselves digress and choose to push."

Bible Banner Jan. 1948 Floyd A. Decker writes on page 13, "About all the trouble the churches have ever had, I mean serious errors concerning the truth has come through educational institutions. It will continue to come that way."

Argument

"How would we educate our preachers without Bible colleges?"

Answer

How did Timothy receive his? See 2 Tim. 2:2 for a good example and a scriptural one.

Argument

"State schools teach atheism."

Answer

So do Bible colleges, Bible Banner August 1947 page 12 R. E. C. says, "The history of religious schools in general has been that when they reach the place of financial independence they remain no longer true to the cause that established them."

Page 14 John F. Wolfe writes of Pepperdine college, "One faithful gospel preacher remarked to me after one of the classes, 'It's pretty hard to take, but when you get away from it and get to preaching the gospel you can forget enough of it so that it won't have too much influence on you."

Same article. "Brother______ said that when he went back home he would continue to preach what the church believes and what the brethren expect him to preach but that he NO LONGER BELIEVES IT." Brother Wolfe asks, "I wonder if Pepperdine college is proud of that kind of product."

Argument

"How would we care for orphan children?"

Answer

The world was literally teeming with poor, needy and orphans in the days of Jesus. Neither Paul nor Peter nor any of them ever set up an institution to care for the poor; if so FIND IT!

Argument

"Is it ever wrong to teach the Bible?"

Answer

Try the same logic on preaching through a missionary society and see where you go.

Argument

"Are not Bible readings the same as Bible colleges?"

Answer

The Bible readings are conducted by the Church. No charge is made for tuition as G. C. Brewer willfully or ignorantly falsified about in his debate at St. Louis with Carl Ketcherside. The difference between Bible studies conducted by the Church and Bible colleges run by a board of directors is the difference between making known the manifold wisdom through the Church Eph. 3:10 and through a human institution.