

## The Pillar and Ground of the Truth

### Scripture

“But if I am delayed, *I write* so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.” (1 Timothy 3:15 NKJV)

### Commentary

Speaking with a friend yesterday reminded me of something very important, the church. With all of her faults, she is still God’s instrument for this age. Organized, directed, and empowered by God to do His bidding, the church is the pillar and ground of the truth.

Unfortunately, many have given up on her [the local church] because of what she has become. The charge that pastors have become CEOs more concerned about the business of the church than its members has been levied by more than a few people. The need to entertain the people has supplanted the need to grow the people. Youth groups are more about being cool than being holy. It’s all become quite disturbing. If your church is not like this, then give thanks to God and guard it carefully.

However, what are you to do if your church is not honoring God? This is a very difficult question that I hope to address in some detail in the future. What I can tell you right now is that the answer is not to give up on her. Now I am not talking about a church that is doing harm to the gospel. Paul said, if that were the case, “. . . even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.” (Galatians 1:8 NKJV) Clearly, there are grounds for leaving a so-called body.

However, in most cases, the answer is not leaving, but staying and prayerfully seeking ways to fix the problems. Many have just given up. They quit attending anywhere because everywhere they go they are confronted with the same issues. However, they do so against God’s command. As it is written, “And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.” (Hebrews 10:24-25 NKJV) God has designed us to function best by being accountable to each other.

Therefore, I want to call all of us to prayer today. There are many reasons why a church can get off track. Remember, Satan is doing everything he can to destroy her. He has tares to infiltrate, to introduce heresies, and to sow discord. However, we have something far greater, the Sovereign Lord of the Universe who only waits to hear the cry of His people. Will you cry out today? Call upon the God of creation to purge His bride from worldly influences and unhealthy practices. God is not finished with the church for it is the pillar and ground of the truth.

## Prayer

Father, we grow weary at times. Help us to overcome. Give us courage and wisdom to deal with these serious issues in a God-honoring way. Cause our pastors to remember the deep convictions that drove them to the ministry. Revive us today, amen.