

GOD'S ECUMENICAL PROGRAM

Beloved of the Lord:

The use of the word "ecumenical" in the present ecclesiastical world embraces in its meaning the entire professing Church for the purpose of forming a one world Church out of all the bodies of professing Christendom. This is being done regardless of genuine conversion to Christ and contrary to God's ecumenical plan. His plan embraces only those who have been born again, His redeemed children.

1. **THE CHURCH WAS ONCE AN ECUMENICAL BODY** at its commencement. Read Acts 2:44 - Acts 4:32 - Acts 5:13. This was according to Christ's desire - John 17:21.
2. **THIS ECUMENICAL CONDITION WAS RUINED** by entrance of false professors. Simon the Sorcerer in Acts 8:9-24. Note Peter's words in vs. 20-23. Note Paul's words in Acts 20: 29,30. Phil. 3:17-19; note 2 Pet. Ch.2; 1 John 2:18,19; Jude 4, etc. Christ's words in Rev. 2:14,20; 3:2,16,17. this condition will never be remedied by man on earth -- 2 Tim. 3:13.
3. **GOD'S ECUMENICAL PROGRAM** for the Church, note the following facts --
 - A. **What is the composition of the Church?** It is not a building of material substance. It is not an ecclesiastical system or organization of man. It is composed entirely of those whom God calls "living stones" - 1 Pt. 2:5. They are human persons who have been "born again", and received the Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, as their Savior, built upon Christ - 1 Cor. 3:11 - 1 Pet. 2:3-5.
 - B. **What is then its membership?** "We are members of His (Christ's) body" etc. Eph. 5:30, Note 1 Cor. 12:13 - "By one Spirit we are all baptized into One Body" (not many bodies). The Church, in Scripture, is an organism, not an organization.
 - C. **What is its destiny?** The destiny of God's earthly people, Israel, is EARTHLY; but the destiny of the Church is HEAVENLY, according to the Word of God. The Church is not to stay on the earth, but when completed, taken to heaven. This taught Jesus and made this promise in John 14:2,3. Confirmed by Paul in Phil. 3:20,21; Col. 3:1-4, 1 Thes. 1:10; 4:15-17.

The Savior's promise is literal - "If I go away, I will come again, to receive you unto MYSELF, that where I am, there shall ye be also" - John 14:3. This blessed event, a timeless one, for no one should prophesy a specific date, as some have unfortunately done.

Beloved, though your feet may be weary, your eyes dim, your hands tired, let your heart respond to His blessed Promise, by wholeheartedly praying -- "EVEN SO, COME LORD JESUS" -- Rev. 22:20.

FAITHFULLY YOURS IN CHRIST

