

# The Importance Of An Absolute Pt14

## *The Importance Of The Local Assembly*

### ACTS 14:23

23. *And when they had ordained them [elders] in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.*

### GREEK LEXICON - STRONG'S NUMBER 4245

*presbuteros {pres-boo'-ter-os}*

*among the Christians, those who presided over the assemblies (or churches) The NT uses the term bishop, elders, and presbyters interchangeably*

### THE IMPERSONATION OF CHRISTIANITY [57-0120M]

Material is not tested by its quantity, how big it is, how bigger church, I'm meaning here. See? It's not tested by its quantity, but by its quality. Metal is tested by its strength. And the Church is not tested on how big a church or how many members. It's tested by its strength by the Bible, how can it say, "Amen," to every promise that God has given.

### INFLUENCE [63-0803E]

We find out that even a church, a local church can be humble and have a--a little place serving the Lord with trueness of heart; and let them get just a little better, somebody help them and they get a--a fine church, or they'll try to make it a little better than the one down on the corner, and then the congregation walks around with their chest out. That, see, we--we must remember, that's the wrong thing.

### TITUS 1:5

5. *For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain [elders] in every city, as I had appointed thee:*

### TAKING SIDES WITH JESUS [62-0601]

...Paul established churches in different parts of the country. Each one of these churches, he left someone who was in order, a man that was trustworthy, a man that was known as a pastor, shepherd.

### JEREMIAH 3:15

15. *And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.*

BE CERTAIN OF GOD [59-0708E] They're pastors to feed you, and to shepherd you until Jesus comes. They're the caretaker at the inn. Jesus give them two pence: **the Word and the Spirit**. If they need anything more, He will give it when He returns. You know the parable of the good Samaritan.

JESUS CHRIST THE SAME YESTERDAY TODAY AND FOREVER [58-0223]

...the man when he's converted, he can have a church home to go to... If you turn him back out in the--the devil's pig pen, then he'll become back again just like he was. But if you got a place that you can direct him to, some good... Like Jesus with the Samaritan, he taken him to the inn. He said the Good Samaritan taking the m--the falling man to the inn. That's... **We got to have a place like that.**

INDIA TRIP REPORT [57-0126B] ...the reason that I just kind of stuck with the Baptist church was the sovereignty of the local church what I think is **apostolic**.

JEHOVAH JIREH [57-0612]

Over three hundred people gathered together this morning in the upper room of a hotel, where they were having breakfast; and I had the grand privilege of being there, and saying a few words, and hearing a wonderful message on the sovereignty of the local church, which certainly is my views of it.

THIRST [65-0919]

*"By one Spirit we are all baptized into one Body, which is the Body of Christ."* And in that Body is nine spiritual gifts operating through the local body, the local church. **That's apostolic**, if I ever knew of it.

**I CORINTHIANS 12:12-13**

12. *For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.*

13. *For **by one Spirit** are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.*

CHURCH AGE BOOK

By ONE Spirit are they ALL baptized into one body and **EVERYONE is to be moved upon by the Holy Ghost and EVERYONE is to participate in the worship of God**. But men wanted the preeminence, so they took over control, and bishops became archbishops, and with imposing titles they by-passed the Word of God and taught their own doctrines. They got the people to obey them until the time came that **their way of worship did not in any way at all resemble the early days after Pentecost**.

## CHURCH AGE BOOK

Learning has taken the place of revelation. Reason has replaced faith. **Program has replaced spontaneous praise in the Holy Ghost.** It wasn't so from the beginning. The whole specie has changed. It has become a hybrid church.

### **II TIMOTHY 3:5**

5. *Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.*

## THE MARK OF THE BEAST [54-0513]

But they organized and set together a church called the universal church. There they made a universal prayer. They had perfect harmony; everybody had to be together, everybody say the same thing. The same prayer was said. And they made up a bunch of Scripture, taking them from the Bible, many of them, and making others.

## PALMERWORM, LOCUST, CANKERWORM, CATERPILLAR [59-0823]

...the Catholic church, which means "*the universal church,*" tore off all the little churches around where God was dealing, and forced them into one church and one religion.

## ADOPTION PT3 [60-0522M]

The very word "*catholic*" means "*universal,*" a universal Christian church, worldwide, one church to cover the world in it's Christianity. They forced people to it.

## THE SECOND SEAL [63-0319]

Oh, he was so innocent riding on this white horse. "Well, you know, we can have a great worldwide church. We could call it the universal church." They still do.

## CHURCH AGE BOOK

In spite of Luther's constant teaching against **outside interference in local church matters** he was not able to clear men's minds of the "Bishop, Archbishop" concept of church government. Thus the church took one step in the right direction but still **remained shackled**, so in short order she was again imprisoned in the same dungeon whence she had attempted to escape.

### **JAMES 5:14-15**

14. *Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:*

15. *And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.*

#### HEBREWS CHAPTER FIVE AND SIX PT1 [57-0908M]

I believe in the supreme authority of the local assembly. Yes. Let each church be its own, choose its pastors, its deacons, its, whatever it is. And then, that way, the man in there has no bishop over him. The Holy Spirit wants to speak something to that church, they don't have to ask anybody about whether they could do this or do that. It's the individual in contact with the Holy Spirit. Show me by the Bible what's greater, in the Bible, than a local elder to a local church? That's right, yes, sir, the sovereignty of the local church, each church in itself. Now, brotherhood, that's wonderful. All churches ought to be in a brotherhood like that, together. But **the sovereignty of local church!**

#### THE SMYRNAEAN CHURCH AGE [60-1206]

And all these things go in each local body. And **every person in the church has an individual ministry**, and that individual ministry goes together with the rest of the ministry, to edify the Body of Jesus Christ.

#### THE BELIEVER'S POSITION IN CHRIST [55-0116A]

...**each one has got a ministry**. Even to the housewife has a ministry, of ministering the Word of God.

#### WHY? [61-0125]

Every one of you has got something to do now. Every one of you get right in your church and work just as hard as you can for your local church.

#### A GREATER THAN SOLOMON IS HERE [62-0725]

It's wonderful to see how **God has His different ministries** (You see?), how He works it. This lovely brother here singing, that's a ministry of song. And others has a ministry. See, **God has set in the church predestined gifts**.

#### HUMBLE THYSELF [63-0714E]

So just remember, that your part may be the mainspring, or it may be the little, some little hand, or some little part, or the winding stem, whatever it may be, or it may be the hands on the face of the clock, that tells the time. But **whatever it is, it takes us all working together in harmony** with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to bring this to pass.