

. . . Greetings once again to all the saints and my friends who are in tune with The Mission Trail of Guthrie, Oklahoma. I have a very important subject for our consideration at this time, and one which is very essential for the spiritual welfare of every child of God. So you stay with me now and don't turn off your radio until you hear the conclusion of this matter.

The title of it we shall call: "The Church of your Choice!" I am thinking of this very common expression used freely these days by many different people of various religious beliefs and background. It is used, no doubt, with much sincerity and a feeling of liberality by granting to each one the power to choose which church they shall become a member of, therefore, "The Church of your Choice!" is very widely used.

Now, I would like to ask you this question. Is there a scripture in the Bible which either makes this statement directly or indirectly implies such a freedom of choice? There is no question but that it is of vital importance to become a member of the church! Most of us will agree readily to this, but someone may ask, "Which church should I join?"

Again let me refer you to the Bible and inquire of those who are familiar with its teaching. Does any scripture in its pages command a child of God to join any denomination? If so, I have not found it! I have found a scripture here in Jeremiah, chapter 50, verse 5 and 6 which speaks of a desire to join something. Let me read it to you: "They shall ask the way to Zion with their faces thitherward, saying, come, and let us join ourselves to the Lord in a perpetual covenant that shall not be forgotten. My people hath been lost sheep; their shepherds have caused them to go astray, they have turned them away on the mountains; they have gone from mountain to hill, they have forgotten their resting place."

Here we have a prophecy which is certainly applicable to the conditions existing in the religious world of today. Many good and precious people have become so utterly ashamed of those who profess to be followers of God by their greed for money, pleasure, and the honor of this world that they have turned away from it all with the question in their minds: "Is there anything to religion after all?" Or they might say: "I am just as good as another person I know who is a member in good standing of such a denomination. He attends the dances, card parties and movies and yet is acceptable in the social circles because he pays his dues and assessments!"

Now, my friends, let us brush aside the customs, traditions of men, and teachings which are so prevalent and take a good perspective look at what the New Testament teaches.

Jesus said to Peter, "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18

After gathering material for this spiritual building or kingdom of God, he did build his church and set it in order on the day of pentecost.

