

## Am I Narrow-Minded For Believing In Only One Church?

When people hear me say, "the Lord has only one church" it must sound very narrow-minded. I understand their feelings and take no offense to their criticism because in all likelihood they have not investigated the word of God. My responsibility as a preacher is to explain that the "body" and the "church" are one and the same.

- *"And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence"* (Colossians 1:18).
- *"... and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all"* (Ephesians 1:23).
- *"There is one body"* (Ephesians 4:4) and *"there is one God"* (4:6). In view of this information, how can I believe otherwise?
- *"Reconcile both unto God in one body"* (Ephesians 2:16). If I love the word of God, I have no choice except to believe.
- *"Baptized into one body"* (1 Corinthians 12:13). If I respect God's word, I am not at liberty to believe otherwise.
- *"Yet but one body"* (1 Corinthians 12:20). This expression is saying that there is ONE and ONLY ONE body. I have no choice but to accept this truth.

The body is the church. There is one body, thus I am forced to conclude there is one, and only one, church. If not, why not? Jesus said, *"Upon this rock I will build my church"* (Matthew 16:18). He never promised to do more. I urge you to investigate and find this "one true church" and become a part of it by your obedience to the gospel.

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