

# **A Perfect Church**

**Introduction.** You may be wondering if I am about to say if Loop 287 is a perfect church, but I am not. No church is perfect. Before you get discouraged with the lack of perfection we find in local churches today, I remind you that perfect churches were not easy to find in the first century. The epistles showcase local churches that were beset with problems. The church at Corinth was a case study in church problems. The churches of Galatia were foolishly abandoning the pure gospel of Christ. The Thessalonians were held up as examples to all believers of their day, yet they had a problem with members who would not work. However, the church has a perfect pattern that makes it distinctive, and that should be respected (Acts 2:47).

## ***I. Planned By A Perfect Planner – God***

- A. Ephesians 3:10-11.
- B. Romans 11:33.

## ***II. Built By A Perfect Being – Christ***

- A. Matthew 16:18.
- B. Colossians 1:18.
- C. 1 Corinthians 3:11.
- D. 1 Peter 1:18-20; Revelation 1:5; 5:9; 7:14; 12:11; 19:13.

## ***III. Guided By A Perfect Law – The New Testament***

- A. James 1:25.
- B. 2 Timothy 3:16-17.
- C. Psalm 119:142, 172.

## ***IV. Teaches A Perfect Plan Of Salvation – Faith And Obedience***

- A. Mark 16:16.
- B. Acts 2:38.
- C. 1 John 4:15.
- D. Revelation 2:10.

## ***V. Has A Perfect System Of Work – Spiritual And Physical***

- A. Ephesians 4:11-12.
- B. Philippians 4:14-16.
- C. Jude 20-23.
- D. Romans 15:25-27

## ***VI. Has A Perfect System Of Worship – In Spirit And In Truth***

- A. John 4:24.
- B. Colossians 3:16.

- C. Acts 12:5.
- D. Matthew 26:26-29.
- E. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7.
- F. Acts 20:7, 20.

***VII. Has A Perfect Example To Follow – The Life Of Christ***

- A. 1 Peter 2:21-23.
- B. Ephesians 5:2.
- C. Philippians 2:5.

***VIII. Will Have A Perfect End – Heaven***

- A. 1 Corinthians 15:20-28.
- B. Luke 18:30.
- C. 2 Timothy 2:10.

**Conclusion.** Does a perfect church exist today? I have not found one. I have found that some churches are stronger than others, but every church has problems. The fault for this does not lie with Christ or the New Testament pattern. Local churches are made up of people: people who come from different backgrounds, with different attitudes, experiences, values, reactions, habits, levels of understanding, etc. Given this fact, personality conflicts, peculiarities, protests, pouting, pity-parties, and the party-spirit will always persist to one degree or another in every local church. Such is unavoidable. But do not let this dissuade and discourage you from the perfection found in the Lord's church. Live up to the Bible's demands and do everything you can to show people the beauty and perfection of what Christ died for (Acts 20:28).