

"Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an Holy Temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit."
Ephesians 2:19-22 KJV



In Revelation 2:1 the word “church” is translated from the Greek word “ekklesia.” It means; a calling out, a popular meeting, or an assembly. The assembly of believers is the “Body of Christ.” Christ is “*the head over all things to the Church, which is His Body,*” Believers are the body, arms, fingers, legs, and feet of God on earth. It is His habitation in the same sense as your body defines visibly where and who you are. When Luke wrote his Gospel of Jesus, he wrote, “*It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus.*” He then wrote in the beginning of his account in the Acts of the Apostles, “*The former treatise (Gospel of Luke) have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus BEGAN both to do and teach.*” Jesus continues His Work on earth through His earthly presence, the Church. The Church isn’t the place or building, it’s the believers who assemble. When believers are disobedient the Church is like a body attacked by cerebral palsy. It is spastic, non-functional, and useless to Christ. Believer’s obedience allows the Spirit to “*fitly frame*” the Assembly into “*an habitation of God;*” the visible representation of an invisible God. The Chief Corner Stone, by which the whole Church is plumbed and aligned, is Jesus Christ, the Word of God made flesh. Obedience allows God to inhabit the Assembly. If you aren’t part of the “*assembly*” when they meet, you aren’t in Church. This is why it’s important to visit shut-ins, because Jesus said, “*where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.*” If God is not present, it is NOT Church. Notice the minimum is two. Disobedience, no matter how private, will prevent “*Body of Christ*” from functioning. Jesus is not only Lord of all; He is the “*Head of the Church;*” and personal Saviour to every soul that calls on His name. “*For WHOSOEVER shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*” Jesus is God. “*In the beginning was the Word...and the Word was God. The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.*” No one died for your sins, but Jesus Christ, who hung on Calvary’s junction between life and death; between God and man, and was tortured beyond belief for OUR sin. “*He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from Him; He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. Surely He hath borne OUR griefs, and carried OUR sorrows: yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for OUR transgressions; He was bruised for OUR iniquities: the chastisement of OUR peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep...turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on HIM the iniquity of us all.*”

The God of heaven dwells with those,
Those who, through faith, on Him repose,
He meets with ev’ry soul who calls,
Who gather in His Temple walls. ~CGP

Obedience to God’s Word is what God desires to dwell WITH us and work THROUGH us to save those for whom He died. Jesus said, “*I am come that they might have Life.*” Obedience told you or you would still be damned!

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, ‘Behold, the Tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God.’
Revelation 21:3 KJV