## Non-Denominational Christianity: Is Unity Possible?

- Introduction: 1. An often repeated phrase in religious circles is "Attend the church of your choice."
  - 2. But do you think such advice is good advice?
  - 3. Do you think that the present state of religion is what God had in mind when he planned the church?
  - 4. Do you think that God really wants us divided up into competing churches, competing for the souls of men, teaching different doctrines, wearing different names, and following different creeds?
  - 5. If not, what does the Lord desire, and how do we achieve it?

## I. The Lord's Desire Concerning the Church

- A. (John 17:20-21) Jesus prayed for unity and oneness.
- B. (1 Corinthians 1:10) Paul pleaded for no division.
- C. (1 Corinthians 12:25) No division in the body.
- D. (Ephesians 4:4-6) Oneness.

## II. How Do We Achieve The Lord's Desire Today?

- A. Can we who live in the 21<sup>st</sup> century practice what the Lord had in mind?
- B. Yes, but it will require courage.
  - 1. Courage to shed the traditions of our fathers.
  - 2. Courage to leave behind denominational bodies, which by their very nature are divisive.
  - 3. Courage to love and stand for the truth even above the desires and pressures from our own families.
- C. What if we practiced Christianity from an "Island Approach?"
- D. Can a person on a remote island become a member of the church you read about in the Bible without being a part of some man-made denominational body?
- E. If so, can someone living in Glasgow, KY do the same?

## Conclusion: 1.

- 1. Is the church of which you're a member the specific spiritual body that the Lord had in mind when he planned the church?
- 2. It was not, nor never will be the Lord's desire to have a multiplicity of churches teaching different doctrines, following different creeds, and divided by different names.
- 3. We're not trying to be another "brand name" of Christianity.
- 4. Our call is not to join our denomination, but to call all men everywhere to leave the divisiveness of denominationalism and simply be a member of the Lord's church.