

The Lord's church today is a fulfillment of **John 10:16**—both Jew and Gentile in one body under the care of the Great Shepherd.

Are there devout Christians in denominations? No. Are there children of God in denominations? Yes, but only because they chose to leave the safety of the one fold, the Lord's church, to follow the doctrines and commandments of men.

Those who have done so must repent and return to the church of our Lord before it is eternally too late! -----Patrick Morrison

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Bulletin for 10-17-2010



Record for Sunday, October 10, 2010

Attendance 36

Offering \$561.00

We are so blessed to have **Roger Leonard** with us this morning! Roger works with **Latin American Missions**, one of the mission works that we support. He and his sweet family visited with us last year. Roger is here with us today to deliver the message during the worship hour and tell us about the work going on in Latin America.

Welcome Visitors! You are our most honored guests! We would love to have you with us each time you have an opportunity!

There will be a *Gospel meeting* at Riverbend Church of Christ (formerly South Bypass) November 7-11 with Charles Cochran.



Coat Giveaway: Our winter clothing (coats, hoodies, hats, scarves, and gloves) has been scheduled for Saturday, November 6 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. We will need as many people as possible to help on Friday night, November 5, to organize the clothing and set up the building for the event. We will also need workers on Saturday. Please sign up on the table beneath the tract rack.

Members: Please turn in a completed teacher's questionnaire to Willard or Kevin as soon as possible. We want to have time to adequately prepare our teachers for the upcoming quarter. Thank you!

Please keep Curtis Love and his family in your hearts and prayers. Curtis is a member of the Chatsworth congregation. He has recently been diagnosed with lung cancer.

There are several members of the Lord's church in our community who are confined to their homes and are unable to attend services. Please pray daily for these loved ones and encourage them with cards and visits. **Callie Paige** (Chatsworth Health Care Center), **Lillian Criswell** (confined to home) **Cecil Hill** (confined to home)

Continue to remember in prayer: the Lord's church (worldwide), our missionaries, our nation and her

leaders, and our service men and women on foreign soil, Steve Weaver, Edna Dooley, Eathel Currey, Betty Holt, Nelle Tipton, Gene Smith, Diane Combe, The Genny Green family, Chovo Barrientos, Efrain Villareal, and Raymond Castaneda

Are There Devout Christians In Denominations? John 10:16

Sadly, many in our brotherhood would answer "yes" to this question. Denominations have for years taught that it does not matter what church you attend, as long as a person is sincere and honest. Many in the Lord's church have swallowed this idea. They cry long and hard that there are sincere, devout Christians in any given denomination. It is no wonder, then, that many congregations of the Lord's church have joined hands with denominational churches to promote or to participate in any number of things. Of course, they consider their actions to have Biblical backing. They proclaim the words of Jesus in defense of their endeavors: "other sheep I have, which are not of this fold" (**Jn.10:16**). To them, "this fold" represents the Church of Christ (denominational concept of the Lord's church), and the other sheep outside of "this fold" represent God's children scattered among the denominations. Does this interpretation have credence? Is it the case that there are devout Christians in denominations? The answer is no to both questions.

The passage under consideration does not support the idea that there are devout Christians in denominations. To the dismay of those who would espouse this soul-damning doctrine, this passage destroys their convoluted thinking. There is no hint of such a doctrine taught in this passage, nor is it even possible that this passage could teach such. The New Testament knows nothing of denominationalism. In the first century, there was one church and only one church (**Eph.4:4**). Although the seeds of denominationalism were being planted during the first century, these seeds did not bloom until after the close of New Testament times. To claim that **John 10:16** deals in any respect with denominationalism is to force a 21st century interpretation on a 1st century passage.

The latter half of the verse under consideration inflicts even more damage upon the idea that there are devout Christians in denominations. Christ proclaimed that the "other sheep" would be brought into "one fold" under the care of "one shepherd." This one fold is the one church! And this one church is under the care of the Great Shepherd Jesus Christ! Those in denominations follow the voice of Luther, or Calvin, or Wesley, or Pope John Paul II, but they are not following the voice of the Great Shepherd! The other sheep to whom Jesus was referring were the Gentiles. Though there were some Gentiles who sought God, and anticipated the coming of the Messiah, the Jews and Gentiles remained separated. Through Christ's death, he would bring both Jew and Gentile together in one body, one fold (**Eph.2:14**)!