

Sermon: Why Are There So Many Churches?

Text: [I Corinthians 1:10-17 ESV](#)

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Introduction: Most divisions in the Church are a result of strong personality and power games rather than doctrine. Typically people do not select a church based on doctrinal grounds, today, but because of relationships, programs offered and amenities. Divisions are not a new phenomena.

I. The Early _____

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____ (Peter)
- D. _____

II. The _____ and Following

- A. Martin _____
- B. Ulrich _____
- C. Jean _____
- D. John _____

III. The _____ Movement

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____

IV. _____ Thought

- A. What people _____
- B. _____ Trends
- C. What the “churches of Christ/Christian Churches”

Conclusion: Jesus wants His Church restored to its original beliefs and condition. The enemy is Satan – not those who follow Jesus as Lord. We need to work together not to elevate our leaders or denomination, but to bring honor and glory to the true Head of the Church – JESUS CHRIST!

I Corinthians 1:10-17 ESV

Divisions in the Church

10 I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. 11 For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. 12 What I mean is that each one of you says, “I follow Paul,” or “I follow Apollos,” or “I follow Cephas,” or “I follow Christ.” 13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? 14 I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15 so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. 16 (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) 17 For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

John 17:22-26 ESV

22 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. 24 Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. 25 O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. 26 I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”