

# True Church/False Church Chart

## A Summary Comparison

### The TRUE CHURCH:

- is persecuted
- is reviled by the world
- rejoices in suffering
- is taught by the Holy Spirit via various prophets
- focuses on unifying factors (essence of the gospel)
- is participatory (1 Cor.14)
- works like a functional body
- is scorned by men
- enjoys true fellowship
- operates in and by the power of the Holy Spirit
- is supernaturally powerful (miracles, deliverance)
- functions in the gifts
- receives fresh/specific revelation/insight/wisdom elevates Christ
- emphasizes holiness, perseverance and obedience
- requires repentance
- walks in the light (confession, transparency)
- has a merciful, humble, childlike spirit
- strives to enter His rest, a finished work
- knows God personally and intimately
- reads the Word with the heart
- engages in spontaneous, Spirit-led worship
- gives to God's work (the poor, missions, outreach)
- loves and supports the brethren individually
- fosters horizontal intimacy and transparency
- teaching is spontaneous
- exalts the lowly and those of humble means, permitting all to contribute as God leads
- sometimes appears undignified, foolish
- confronts and deals with open sin in its members
- is like being in a symphony
- is a team sport
- is deed-oriented (with power)
- is covenant-relationship driven
- is sanctification oriented
- emphasizes spiritual growth
- is not of this world
- values godliness (love, truth, sacrifice, obedience, repentance, perseverance)
- eschews rituals, traditions and/or sacraments
- strives to forgive its debtors
- works out its own salvation w/fear and trembling
- has a heart faith
- strives for maturity and unity
- welcomes the Spirit/seeks to be filled
- leaves you in awe of God
- values (and seeks) experience(s) with God
- emphasizes "counting the cost" of discipleship
- emphasizes Lordship salvation and bearing fruit

### The FALSE CHURCH:

- persecutes "unbelievers" or "heretics"
- is revered in the world
- shuns suffering (pampers itself)
- is taught almost exclusively by seminary-trained individuals
- focuses on dividing factors (peripheral differences)
- is hierarchical
- works like a quadriplegic body
- is accepted by men
- fosters pseudo-relationships and isolation
- operates by programs, strategic planning, paid staff
- is supernaturally impotent (no works of power)
- denies the gifts (says they have ceased)
- denies that God speaks outside His Word
- elevates men with charisma/talent (personality-cults)
- emphasizes eternal security and automatic forgiveness
- hardly mentions repentance (or denies it's required)
- walks in hypocrisy (hides its sin)
- has a judgmental, critical, prideful or religious spirit
- works to achieve sainthood, reputation, salvation or fame
- knows *about* God
- parses the Word from the head
- engages in entirely preprogrammed worship
- gives to mortgages/salaries, building programs
- uses the brethren
- fosters façades, secrecy, hypocrisy
- teaching is rehearsed (even jokes)
- exalts the talented, good-looking, rich, savvy, charismatic, educated, and worldly-wise
- appears dignified, puts on a good show for public consumption
- tolerates sin in its midst
- is like *going* to the symphony
- is a spectator sport
- is word-oriented (doctrines and creeds)
- is membership driven
- is entertainment oriented
- emphasizes numerical growth
- imitates the world
- values worldly success (appearance, wealth/prosperity, marketing/numbers, popularity, size, fun)
- emphasizes traditions, rituals and sacraments
- thinks forgiveness is optional or irrelevant
- demands conformity and group-think
- has a head faith (or "said-faith")
- strives for popularity and success
- quenches the Spirit/seeks to control
- leaves you in awe of men (and/or women)
- devalues, shuns or quenches experience(s) with God
- emphasizes the free gift of salvation
- thinks salvation is entirely God's choice, positional and permanent