

YOU ARE NOT ALONE WHEN YOU CANNOT FIND A CHURCH

*"Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars;
and I am left alone, and they seek my life."*

~ Romans 11:3

1. When You Cannot Find a Church

- a. The most popular question I get asked, "Is there a grace church near me."
- b. There comes a time when you may feel like Elijah in Romans 11:3
- c. It is a special kind of loneliness in a crowd. (*100's of churches, but not one for you*)
- d. You are not alone. There are others. It has been done before. The Lord is with you.
- e. Consider Paul in Acts 18:9-10

2. You Are Not Alone – we need to get past the despair

- a. When the majority of our country claims to be Christian, what hope is there?
- b. Paul was alone with his message, you are not – Gal 1:12; 1 Cor 9:17; Col 1:25
- c. Paul was pressed when his likeminded friends showed up - Acts 18:1-5
- d. Sometimes your ministry requires travel: count the cost – Rom 15:32
- e. You learned how to rightly divide, so can others. We may be small, but not alone.
- f. There may be people in your town/ county/ state – maybe all you need is a sign.

3. You Are Not the First – there is a path to take

- a. Take a stand – You may be surprised – Acts 18:6-8
- b. Not everyone is apt to teach, but you can take a stand.
- c. If you are convicted about the truth of MAD right division, you need to leave.
- d. Baptists are not mid-Acts dispensational, you're not the first to think so
- e. When people remain spies for Jesus in other churches, no grace churches get started
- f. Churches get started because of a demand for them. Check your conviction!
- g. Where do you go? You are a pioneer, a missionary, on the cutting edge. Start at home
- h. The goal is *not* settling for what is close to right, but what is right
- i. Beware of Berean error, Acts 28ers, grace evangelicals, Bible doubters, online heresies
- j. Every generation needs a revolution – Thomas Jefferson ← Unitarian deist
- k. Renewal of the church has happened before: Reformers, Methodists, Fundamentalists
- l. Renewal is always a return to sound doctrine, not a departure from it.
- m. Renewal can be exciting, there is a pattern, but it is not easy. Do the work.

4. You Are Complete in Christ – your strength is in Him, not yourself or in others

- a. If you are by yourself in your community, family, marriage – Let God be true.
- b. You do not need anything else but Christ - Colossians 2:10
- c. The temptation will be to compromise to win friends, influence people – don't do it!
- d. The Lord was with Paul - Acts 18:9-11, 2 Cor 12:8-11; 2 Tim 4:7, 17
- e. When years pass, your rock needs to be the Lord, God's word, not numbers of people.
- f. Wear it on your sleeve, be who you are in Christ, not what they want you to be.
- g. Be the faithful steward of the mysteries – 1 Cor 4:1-2. Be His ambassador.