

THE CHURCH COVENANT

INTRODUCTION:

Over the last three or four decades the education of the local church has dwindled considerably

The average member of a local NT Baptist church does not know what they are a member of - nor what is expected of them as a member

It has always been a mystery to me as to why the moral decay of our nation has been on such a downward decline over these same decades compared to the two-hundred years before

At the time of my fathers birth (1920) the moral condition was about the same as it was two or three hundred years earlier

Then since the 1940's our society has plummeted to the shameful degradation that we know it today - Why?

What happened?

How come my father - his father, and his grandfather all grew up in a moral society - and since - we have had to struggle to just keep our head above the waters of moral decay?

Why?

I believe that it is because of the weakness of the local church

I believe that the local NT Baptist church has yielded her position in society to the framers of a new society

The Church Covenant

Why? - Because she was not strong enough to hold off or to stop the onslaught

Jesus told the 12 Apostles that “... *the gates of hell would not prevail against it*”

Yet - that seems to be what is happening

The NT Church at one time controlled the community

The NT Church was the standard setter for what was accepted and what was rejected

If the local NT Church opposed any certain matter

The matter would be rejected and forgotten

However - in our present day the society just ignores the local NT Church

The reason is because of its weakness

The local churches are not strong enough today to control the society

We allowed the strength of the church to become polluted

There is no respect or consideration for the local church

Most members do not understand the Church Covenant -the doctrinal position - the disciplinary procedure - nor the commission that the Local Church has according to the Bible

The Church Covenant

It is my desire over the next several weeks to strengthen this church by restating the fundamentals - the basic purposes – by teaching the Church Covenant

I know that we will be a much stronger church if every member clearly knows what their part and purpose in the Local Church is - and how they are to maintain that purpose

Please be in prayer with me as we go through these vital issues together