



“Therefore, we must
give the more
earnest heed to the
things we have
heard...

...lest we drift away.” (Heb.2:1)



Are All Churches of
Christ the Same?

Matthew 16:18



Are All Churches of
Christ the Same?

- **They Should Be!**
(Matt.13:19)
- **But Divisions
Must Come...**
(1Cor.11:19)
- **Yet Not All
Divisions Are
Formal and
Obvious**
(1Cor.1:10)

An open book with glasses resting on it, set against a dark wooden background. The book is open to two pages, and the glasses are positioned over the right page. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, sans-serif font.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:3

“For this is the will of God, your sanctification...”

SANCTIFICATION

Sanctify / Sanctified:

- 0037. ἀγιάζω *hagiazō* to make holy, i.e. purify or consecrate

Sanctification:

- 0038. ἁγιασμός *hagiasmos*; from 37; properly, purification, i.e. purity

Holy:

- 0040. ἅγιος *hagios*; from ἅγιος *hagos* sacred (physically, pure, morally blameless or religious, ceremonially, consecrated)

APPLYING THE DEFINITIONS

- Sanctification and Holiness are synonymous
- God's will for us is to be set apart from the world as a reflection of His Son both individually and collectively as a church.

THIS IS THE WILL OF GOD — YOUR SANCTIFICATION (1THESS.4:3)

- Establish your hearts blameless in holiness (1Thess.3:13)
 - To be acceptable to God (Rom.12:1-2)
 - To be a reflection of God (1Pet.1:18-19)
 - To glorify God (2Tim.2:20-22)
 - In every aspect of life (Titus 2:1– 3:2, 8)



COMPROMISING OUR SANCTIFICATION

1 Thessalonians 4:3

COMPROMISING THE STANDARD OF HOLINESS

- “We’re only human – no one is perfect”
(2Cor.7:1)
- “We need to be more in touch with the world”
(2Cor.6:17-18)
- Measuring themselves by themselves
(2Cor.10:12)

COMPROMISING THE MEANS AND MOTIVATION FOR SANCTIFICATION

- Censoring the Word of God (Jn.17:17)
- “It’s a grey area” (Eph.5:17)
- Failure to practice Church Discipline (1 Cor.5:5)



COMPROMISING THE GOAL OF SANCTIFICATION

- Everyone who has this hope purifies himself (1 Jn.3:2-3)
- Our citizenship is in Heaven (Phil.3:18-21)
- This world is not our home (1 Jn.2:15-17)



Are All Churches of
Christ the Same?

- There IS a Difference
- Does it matter?
- Are These Churches Sound?