

What Exactly Is A “Sponsoring Church”?

Introduction:

A. What is the issue with Institutionalism?

1. In evangelism?
2. In edification?
3. In benevolence?

B. Hand in hand with this question, we often hear the phrase “sponsoring church.”

I. What exactly is a “sponsoring church”?

A. A sponsoring church is one that assumes a program of work, accepts responsibility for funding the work, and then solicits other congregations to provide the money.

B. Historically speaking –

C. Contemporarily speaking –

II. “Well, what’s wrong with that?”

A. Some would point to Jerusalem or Philippi as an example

B. This arrangement gives too much oversight to the elders of a sponsoring local church

C. This arrangement violates the New Testament pattern of local autonomy

D. This arrangement seeks to activate the universal church