

**#**

**45**

***HOW DO THE ELDERS FEEL ABOUT THE  
WOODINVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST***

**THIS SUBJECT IS MUCH BIGGER THAN WOODINVILLE**

**It is a problem throughout the nation and the world.**

**It affect all of us when we travel on a vacation.**

**It affects us when we consider moving to another city.**

**FOR THIS REASON WE PLAN TO PREACH ON IT  
TONIGHT AND BOTH SERMONS NEXT WEEK**

***HOW DO THE ELDERS FEEL ABOUT THE  
WOODINVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST***

**WE WILL GIVE YOU A CLEAR ANSWER BUT IT WILL  
BE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE THIRD SERMON  
IN THIS SERIES**

***HOW DO THE ELDERS FEEL ABOUT THE  
WOODINVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST***

**THAT CONGREGATION SITS ON RT. 522 TODAY**

***WHY THE WOODINVILLE CHURCH?***

***WHY NOT  
BELLEVUE  
NORTHWEST  
MONTLAKE TERRACE  
FEDERAL WAY  
TACOMA***

**THERE IS A REASON**

# ***HERE ARE SOME THINGS WE WANT TO ANSWER IN THIS SERIES***

- 1. WHY THE WOODINVILLE CHURCH AND NOT OTHERS IN THE AREA?**
- 2. WHAT IS THE MYSTERY OF LAWLESSNESS AND WHAT IS AN APOSTASY?**
- 3. DOES THE BIBLE SPECIFICALLY TEACH ABOUT AN APOSTASY?**
- 4. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BIG SINS & AN APOSTASY?**
- 5. HOW MANY APOSTASIES HAVE THE LORD'S PEOPLE HAD?**
- 6. WHAT DOES THE NUMBER 3 HAVE TO DO WITH AN APOSTASY?**
- 7. WHEN IS THE RIGHT TIME FOR A CHURCH TO DIVIDE?**
- 8. WHY DO CHURCHES BELIEVE THE BIBLE AUTHORIZES THINGS THAT ARE NOT IN THE BIBLE?**

***EVENTS OF THE PAST  
DIRECTLY AFFECT US TODAY***

**ANY PERSON IGNORANT OF THE PAST CANNOT  
TRULY APPRECIATE WHAT THEY HAVE TODAY.**

**ANY PERSON OR NATION IGNORANT OF THE PAST  
IS BOUND TO REPEAT THE SAME MISTAKES**

# ***LOOKING AT OUR PAST HAS NEVER BEEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN IT IS TODAY***

Prov 1:20-33 **Wisdom crieth aloud in the street; She uttereth her voice in the broad places; She crieth in the chief place of concourse; At the entrance of the gates, In the city, she uttereth her words:** How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? And scoffers delight them in scoffing, And fools hate knowledge? Turn you at my reproof: Behold, I will pour out my spirit upon you; I will make known my words unto you. Because I have called, and ye have refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man hath regarded; But ye have set at nought all my counsel, And would none of my reproof: **I also will laugh in (the day of) your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as a storm, And your calamity cometh on as a whirlwind;** When distress and anguish come upon you. Then will they call upon me, but I will not answer; They will seek me diligently, but they shall not find me: For that they hated knowledge, And did not choose the fear of Jehovah: They would none of my counsel;

***ALMOST EVERYTHING  
ABOUT OUR PRESENT CONDITION  
WAS CAUSED BY SOME PEOPLE IN EUROPE  
WE HAVE NEVER KNOWN OR SEEN***



***WE NEED TO GO BACK EVEN BEFORE EUROPE  
TO BIBLE TIMES***



**FIRST, WE BEGIN IN THE OLD  
TESTAMENT TIMES OF  
ISRAEL**

**WE CAN LEARN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN  
REALLY BAD SINS  
AND  
AN APOSTASY**

**GOD RULED ISRAEL BY USING JUDGES ABOUT 1050 BC.  
300 YEARS LATER THE PEOPLE DEMANDED A CHANGE IN  
GOVERNMENT FROM JUDGES TO KINGS**

**1 Sam 8:19-20**

**Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, "No, but we will have a king over us, that we also may be like all the nations,**

**THIS WAS A "SPIRIT OF LAWLESSNESS" BUT STILL NOT AN APOSTASY.**



# THIS SPIRIT OF LAWLESSNESS CONTINUTED FOR 100 YEARS AND THEN THERE WAS AN APOSTASY – 1 KINGS 12



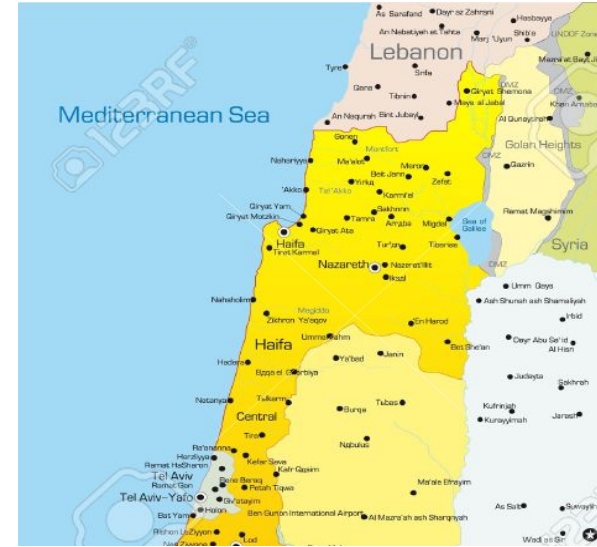
**REHOBOAM  
&  
JEROBOAM**

# THERE WERE REALLY BAD SINS BUT THEN THERE WAS AN APOSTASY – 1 KINGS 12



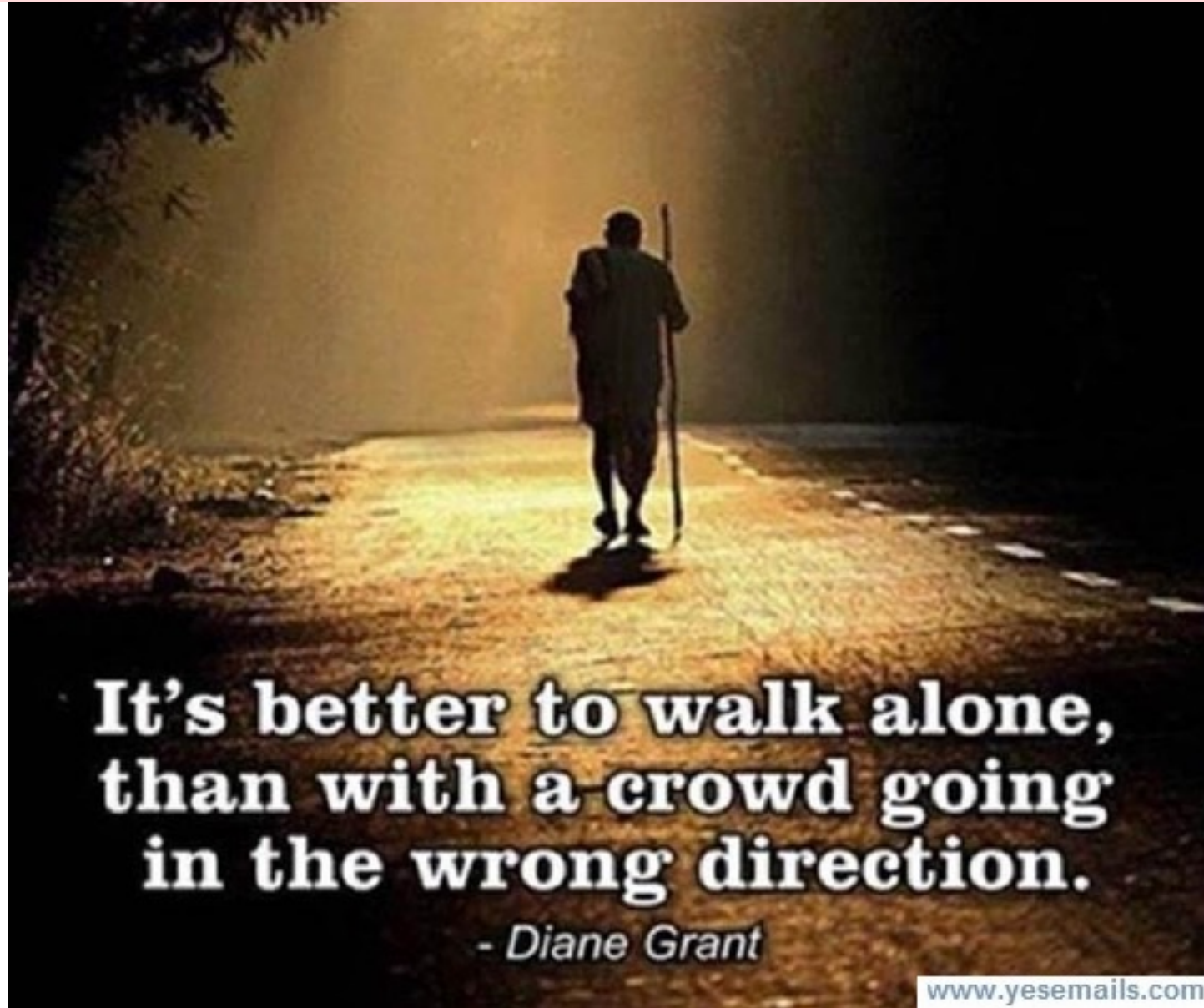
**APOSTASY MEANS  
STANDING FROM**

**AND THE FIRST  
APOSTASY WAS  
COMPLETED**



**ISRAEL &  
JUDAH WERE  
DIVIDED**

**THIS CAPTURES THE LIVES OF O.T. PROPHETS SUCH AS  
JEREMIAH & ELIJAH**



**It's better to walk alone,  
than with a crowd going  
in the wrong direction.**

*- Diane Grant*

**NOW, LETS MOVE TO THE  
NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH**

# THE APOSTLE PAUL DECLARED THAT THERE WOULD BE AN APOSTASY

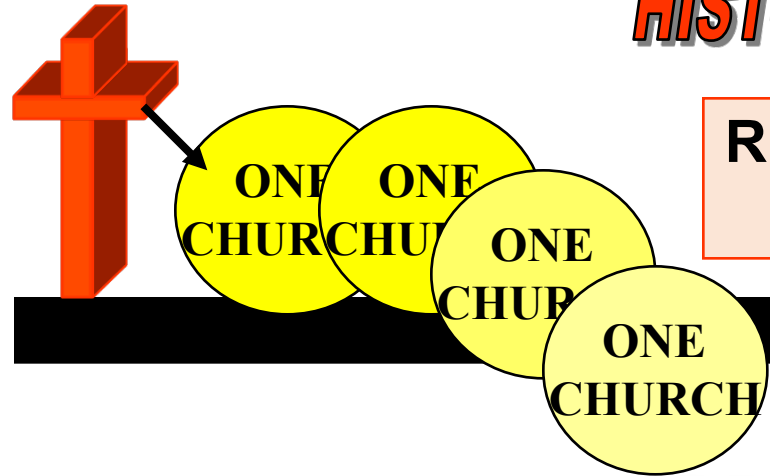
52 AD

II Th 2:1-4 Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

1 Tim 4:1-3 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.



# HISTORY RECORDS THE BEGINNING OF THIS APOSTASY



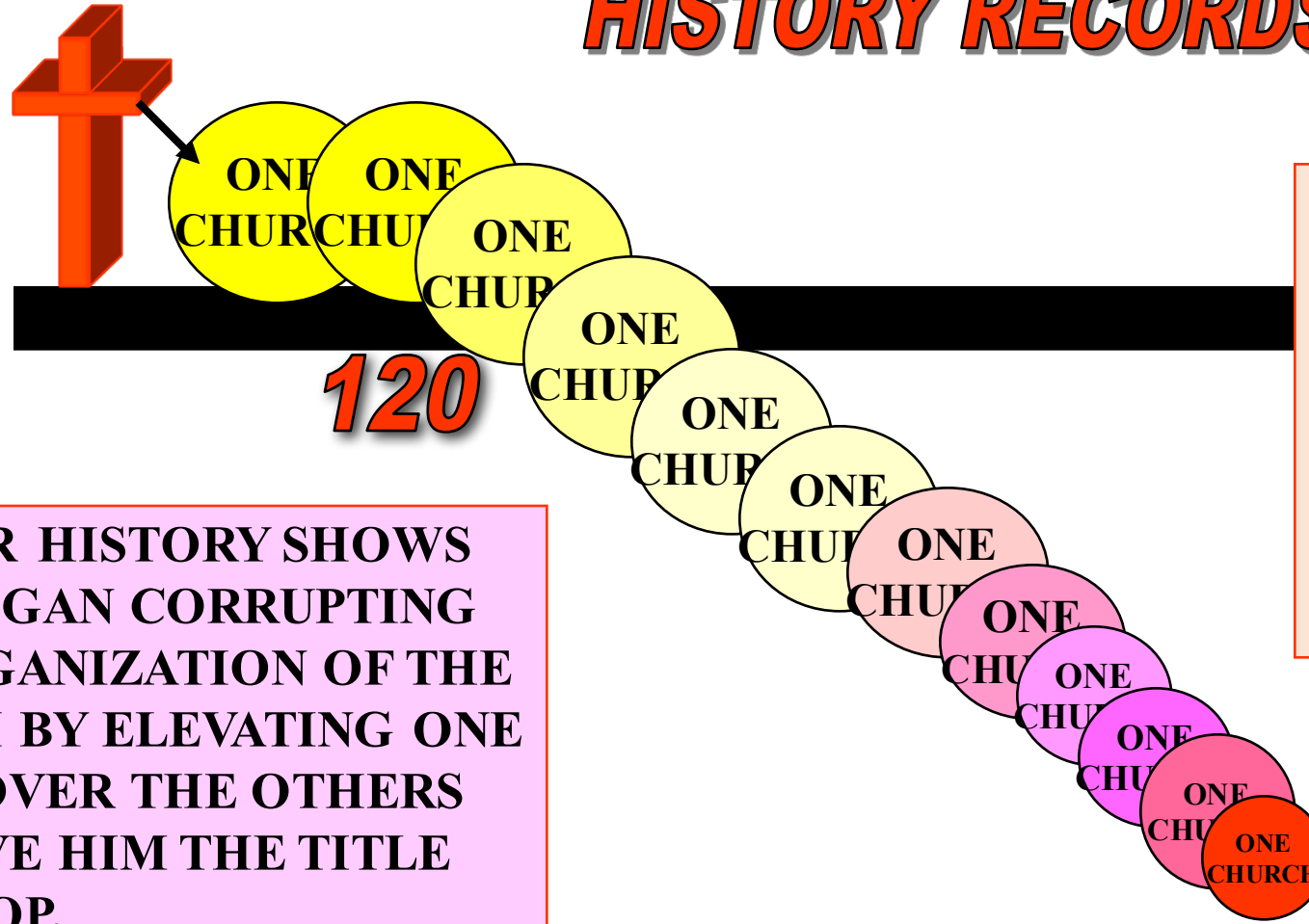
REMEMBER THAT THE MYSTERY OF LAWLESSNESS WAS AT WORK IN 52 AD

SECULAR HISTORY SHOWS THEY BEGAN CORRUPTING THE ORGANIZATION OF THE CHURCH BY ELEVATING ONE ELDER OVER THE OTHERS AND GAVE HIM THE TITLE OF BISHOP.

120

2 Thess 2:7-10  
For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. 8 And then the lawless one will be revealed,

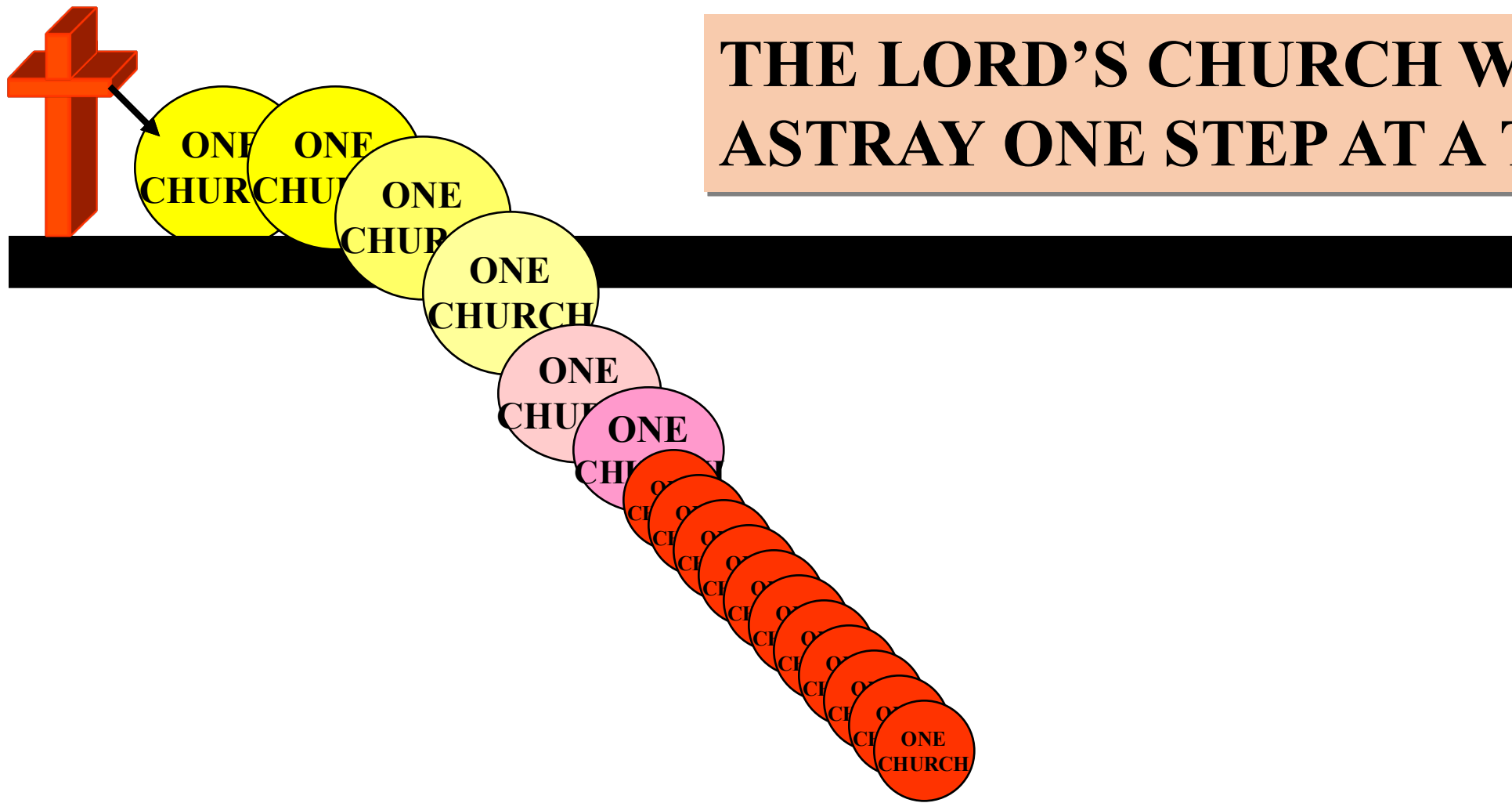
# HISTORY RECORDS THIS APOSTASY



SECULAR HISTORY SHOWS THEY BEGAN CORRUPTING THE ORGANIZATION OF THE CHURCH BY ELEVATING ONE ELDER OVER THE OTHERS AND GAVE HIM THE TITLE OF BISHOP.

THIS CONTINUED UNTIL 606 WHEN THEY ELECTED ONE MAN AMONG THE BISHOPS TO SERVE AS HEAD OF THE WHOLE CHURCH AND CALLED HIM "THE POPE."

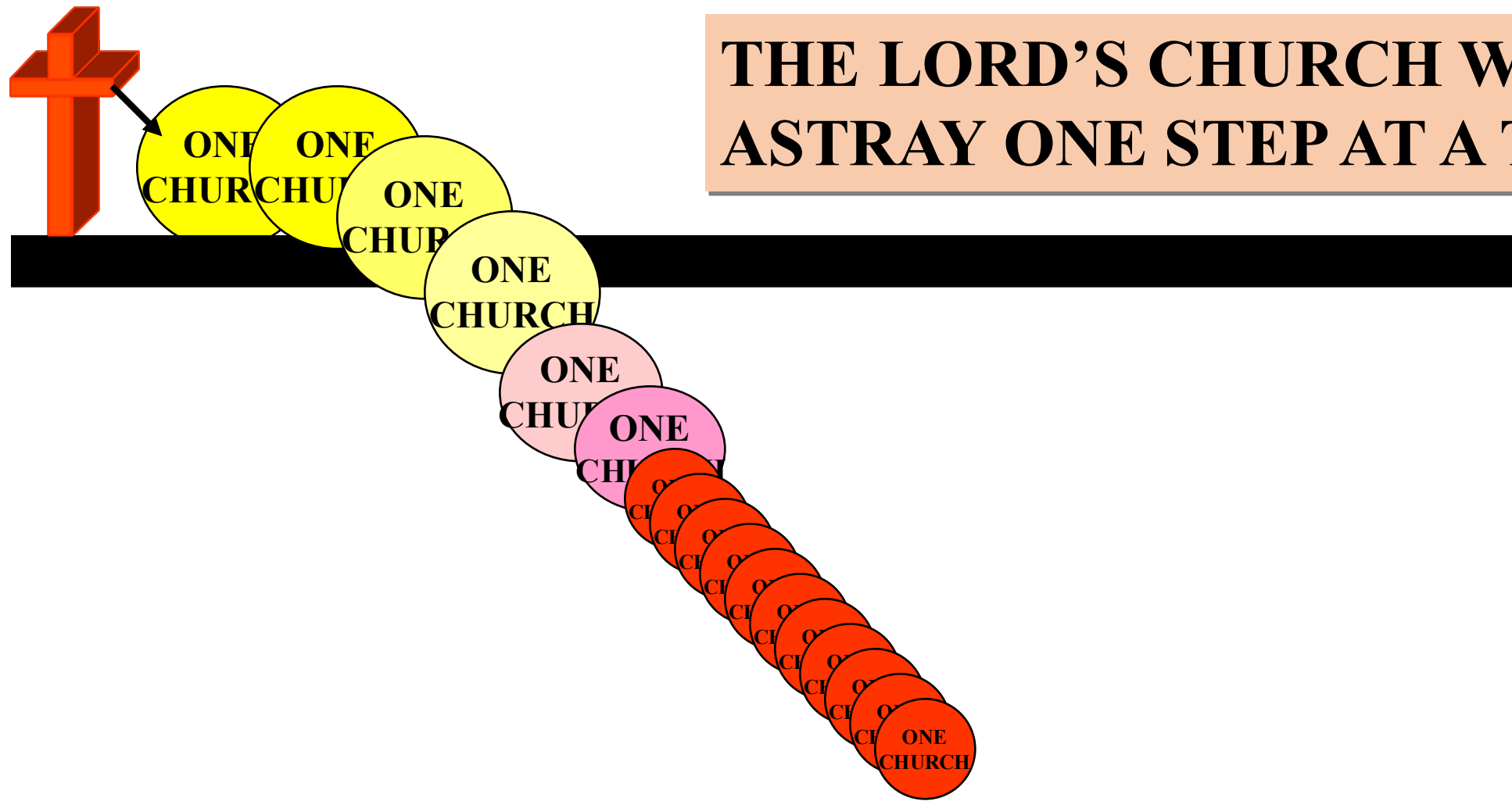
**THE LORD'S CHURCH WENT  
ASTRAY ONE STEP AT A TIME**



***WHEN DOES THIS LINE TURN FROM WHITE TO BLACK?***



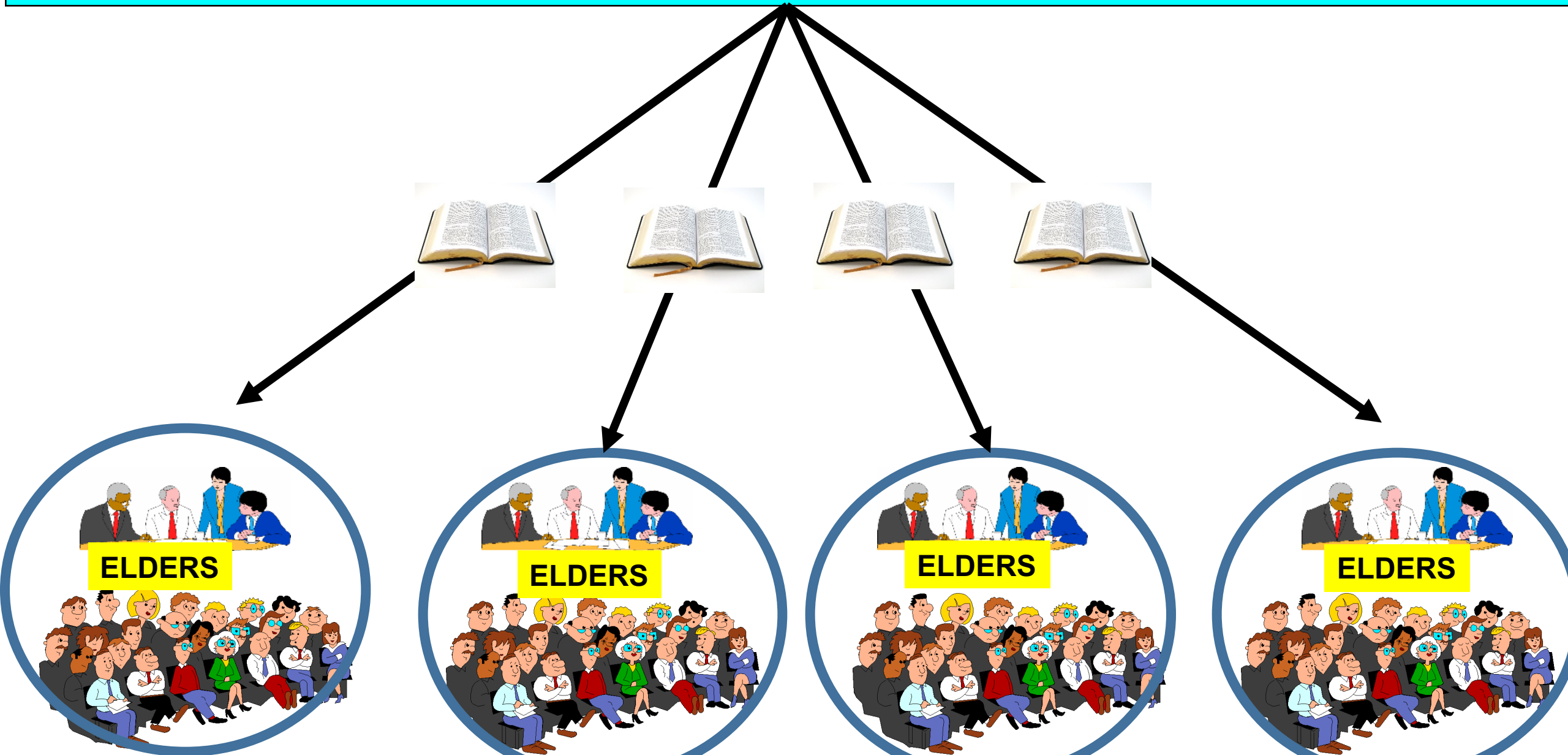
**THE LORD'S CHURCH WENT  
ASTRAY ONE STEP AT A TIME**



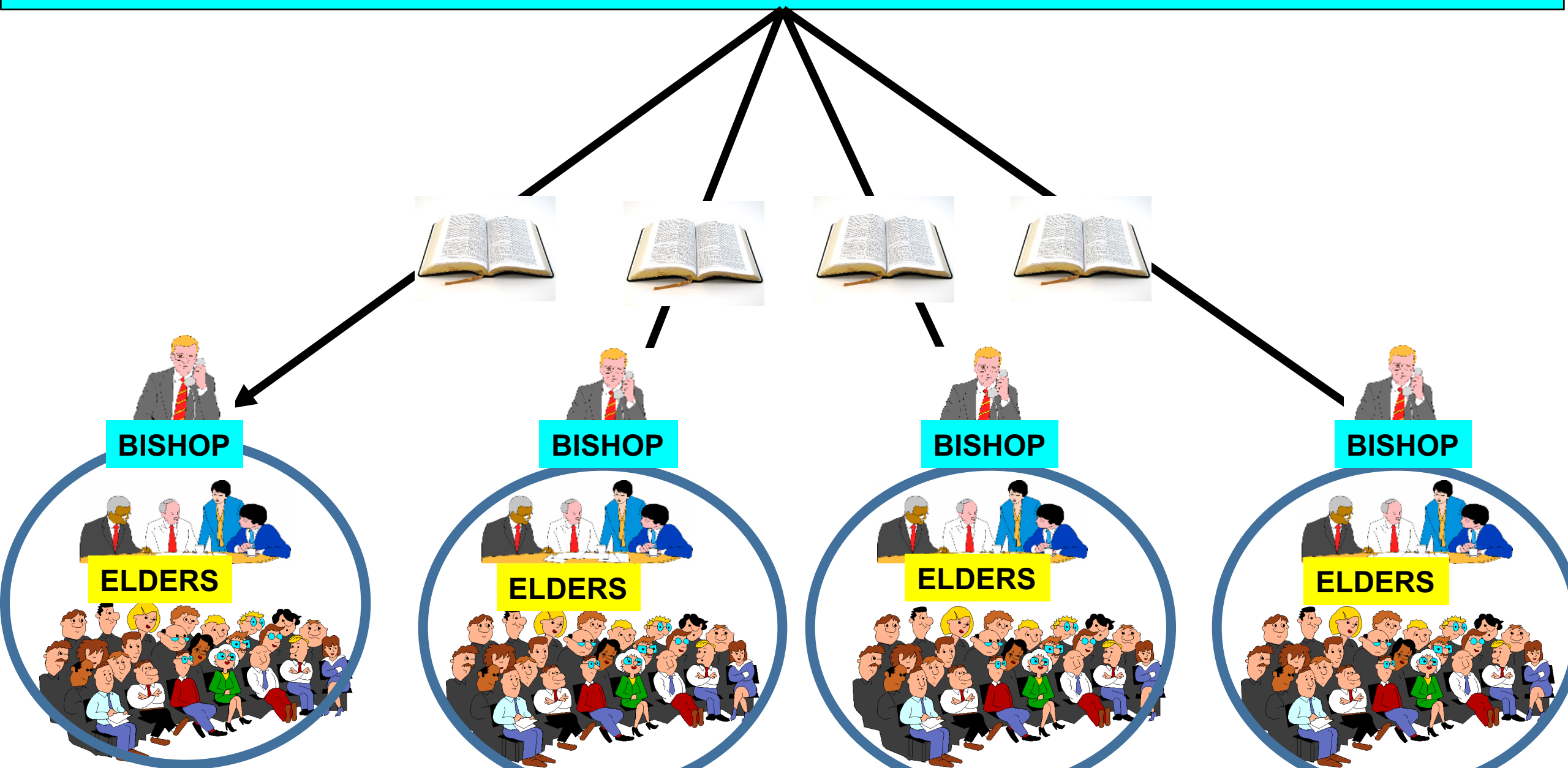
***HOW DID IT GO FROM  
THE LORD'S CHURCH  
TO THE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH***

# **JESUS WAS THE HEAD & THIS WAS HIS PLAN**

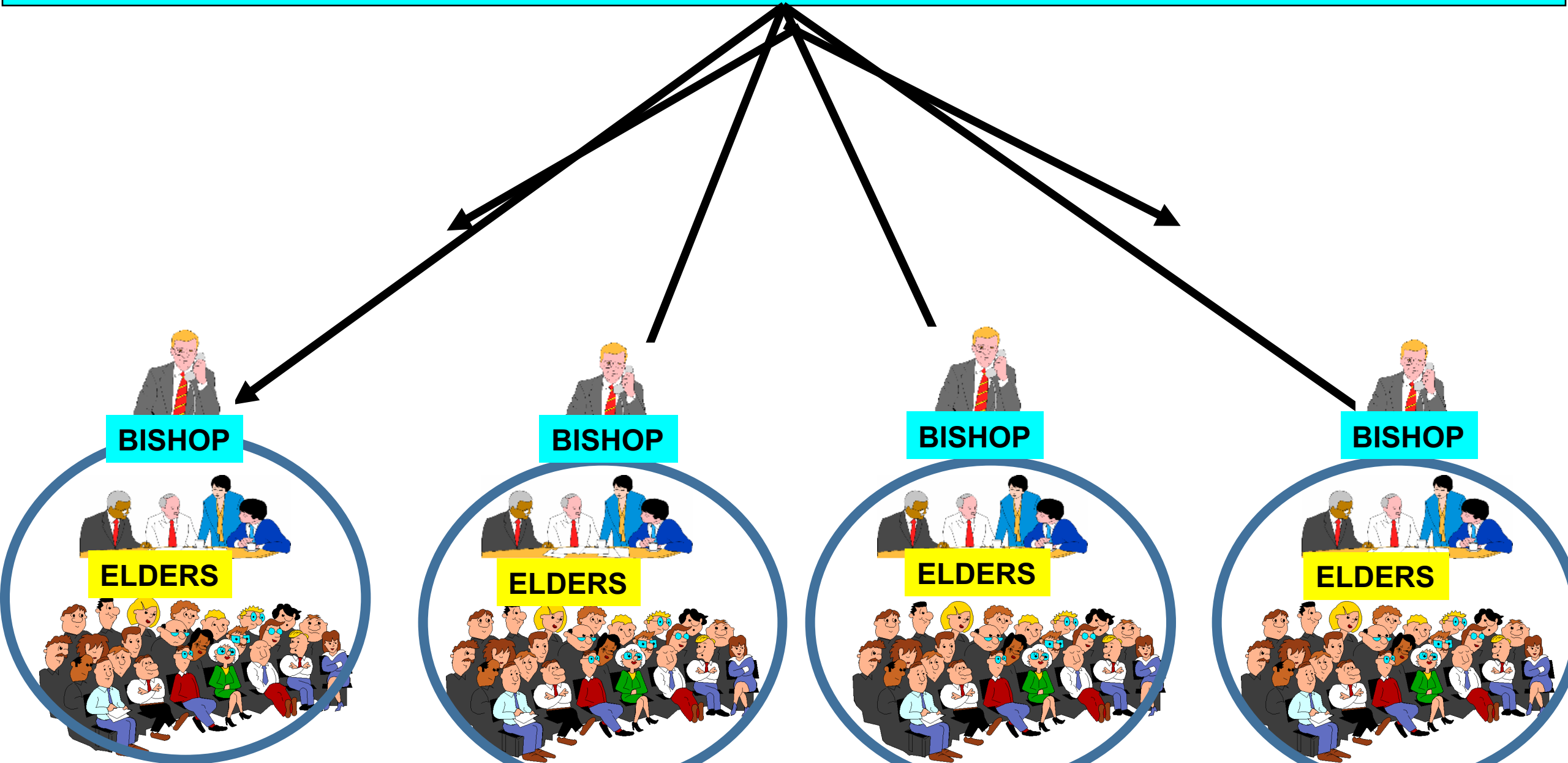
**Col. 1:18 – Eph. 1:22**



# IN 120 THE ORGANIZATION BEGAN TO CHANGE BY ADDING ONE THING



# ***THE BISHOPS FORMED A BOARD OVER A DIOCESE***



***INSTEAD OF HAVING ONE BISHOP OVER ONE ELDERSHIP  
WHICH WAS OVER ONE CHURCH  
THEY HAD ONE BOARD OF BISHOPS OVER MANY  
CHURCHES AND ELDERSHIPS***

**A BOARD OF BISHOPS WAS OVER  
SEVERAL CHURCHES IN A DISTRICT OR  
DIOCESE  
MANY CHURCHES UNDER ONE HEAD**

**A BOARD OF BISHOPS WAS OVER  
SEVERAL CHURCHES IN A DISTRICT OR  
DIOCESE  
MANY CHURCHES UNDER ONE HEAD**





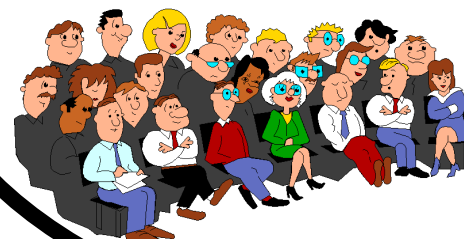
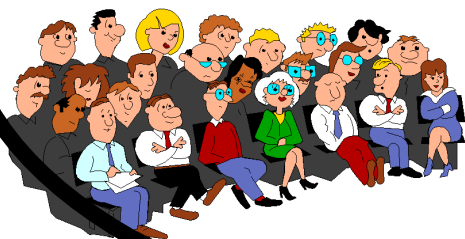
# THE BISHOPS OF FIVE CHURCHES FORMED A BOARD OVER THE WHOLE CHURCH AND THEN ELECTED ONE OF THEM TO BE THE HEAD



CONSTANTINOPLE ANTIOCH

ROME

ALEXANDRIA JERUSALEM



# EASTERN ORTHODOX CATHOLIC CHURCH

Patriarch of Constantinople



**CONSTANTINOPLE**

**ANTIOCH**

# WESTERN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



**ROME**

**JERUSALEM**

**ALEXANDRIA**

**ROME**



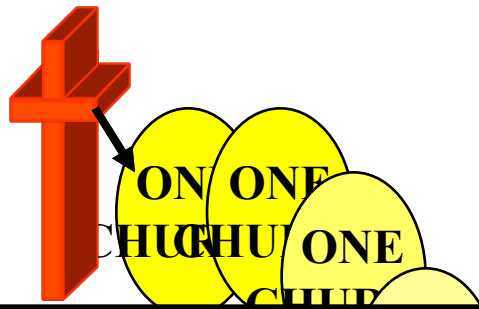
**CONSTANTINOPLE**



**ANTIOCH**

**JERUSALEM**

**ALEXANDRIA**



**THIS SET THE STAGE AND EXPLAINS WHY DENOMINATIONAL CHURCHES BELIEVE THE BIBLE AUTHORIZES THOUSANDS OF THINGS**

CHURCH  
ONE  
CHURCH  
ONE  
CHURCH

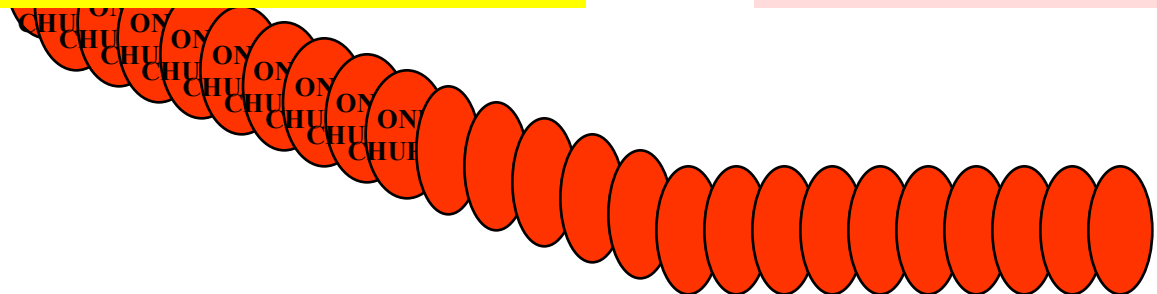
**Martin Luther  
1517**

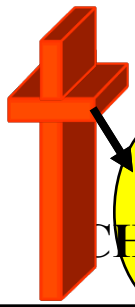
**Zwingli  
1523**

**Luther said,  
“If the Bible does  
not condemn it,  
then we can do it.”**

**Zwingli said,  
“If the Bible does not  
authorize it, then we  
cannot do it.”**

**THE FIRST PROTESTANTS  
DETERMINED THE FUTURE  
OF HOW PEOPLE VIEWED  
THE BIBLE**





**THE ONE CHURCH JUST KEPT GOING ON AND ON AND ON AND ON AND ON AND ON**

CHURCH

ONE CHURCH

ONE CHURCH

CHURCH

**Martin Luther**

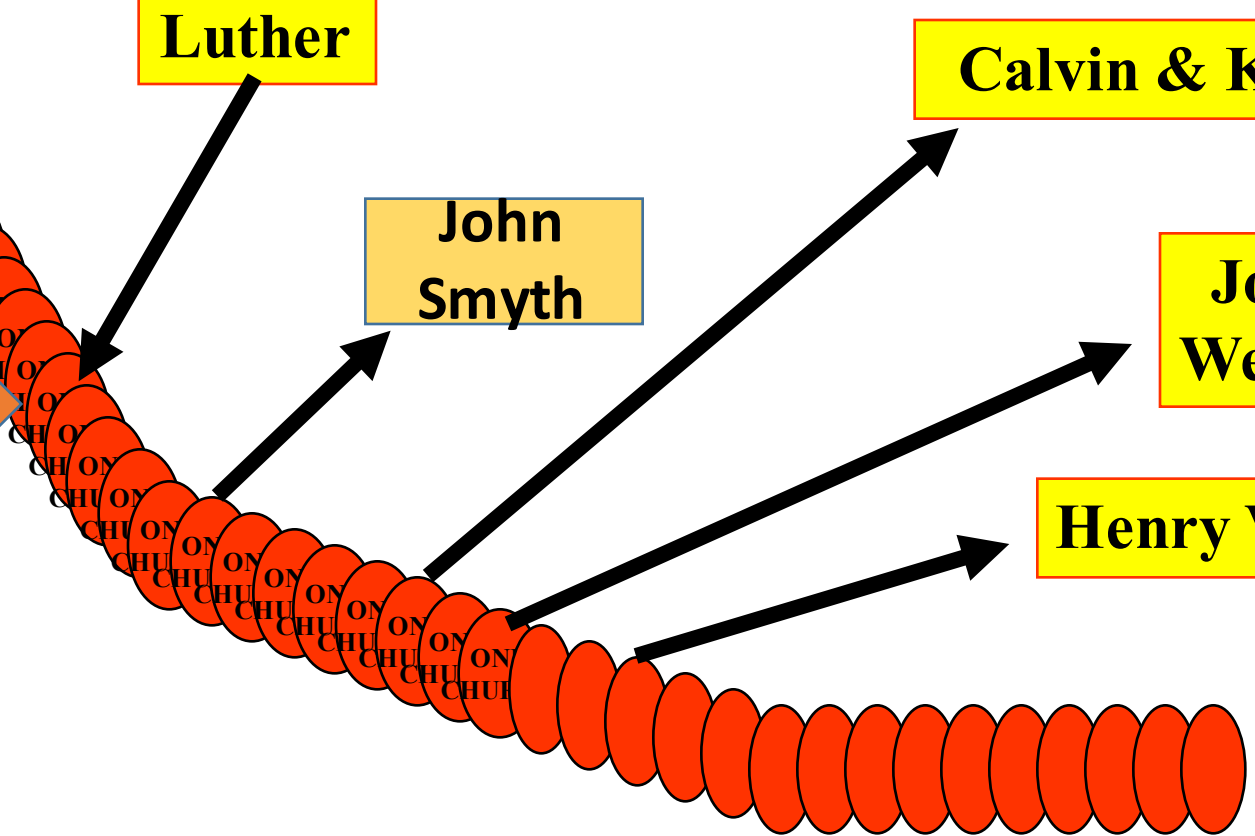
**Calvin & Knox**

**John Smyth**

**John Wesley**

**Henry VIII**

**PROTESTANT CHURCHES BEGAN 1517**





**THE ONE CHURCH JUST KEPT GOING ON AND ON AND ON AND ON AND ON AND ON**

CHURCH



**Lutheran Church**

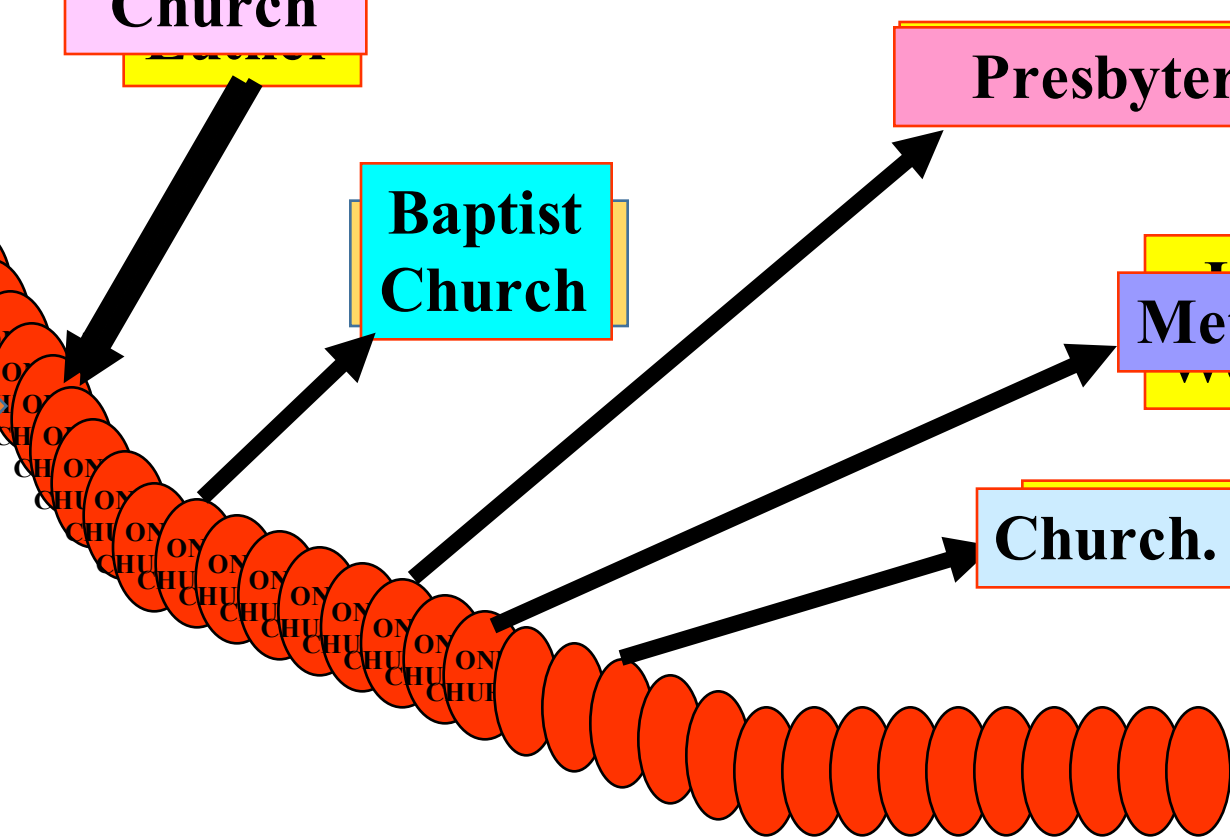
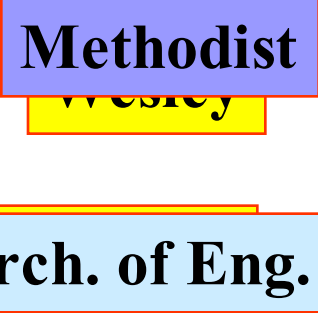
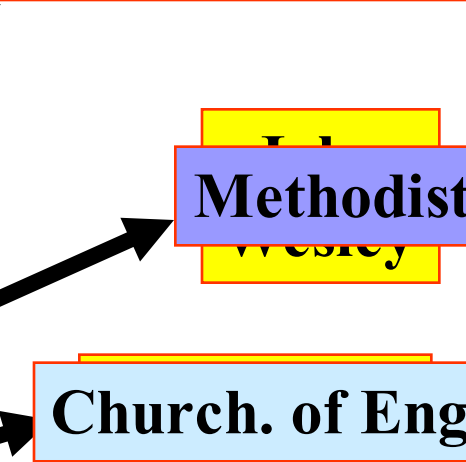
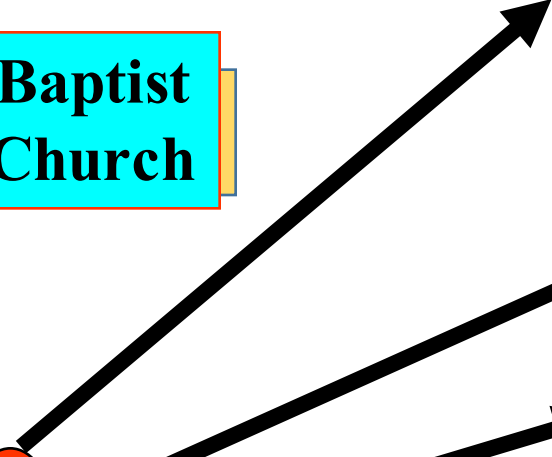
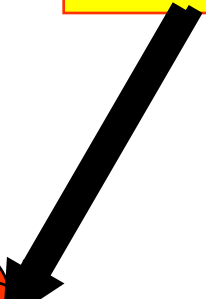
**Presbyterian**

**Baptist Church**

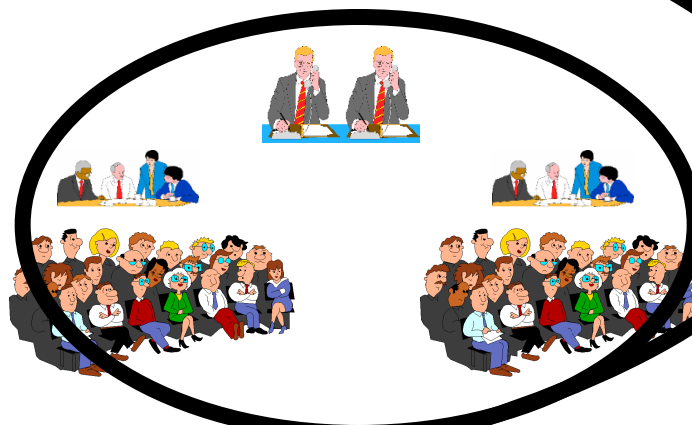
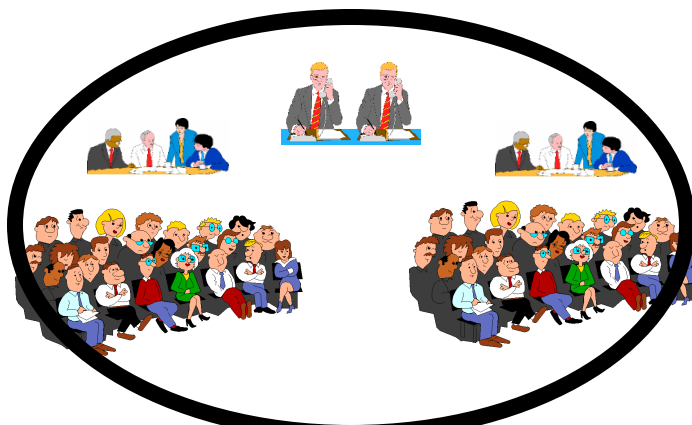
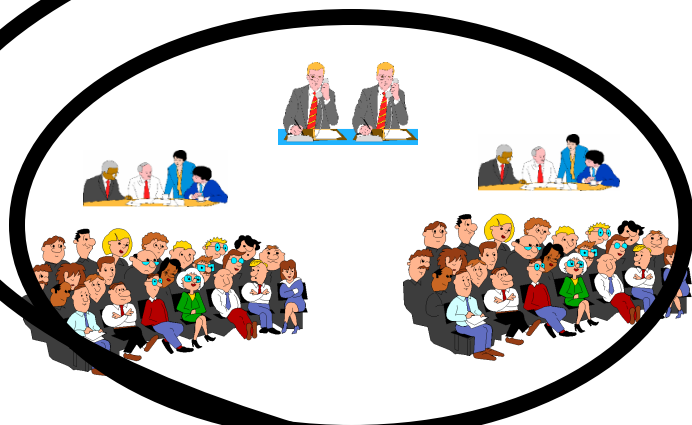
**Methodist**

**Church. of Eng.**

**PROTESTANT CHURCHES BEGAN 1517**



# HOW THE PROTESTANT CHURCHES WERE ORGANIZED





**THE ONE CHURCH JUST KEPT GOING ON AND ON AND ON AND ON AND ON AND ON**



**2**

**Lutheran Church**

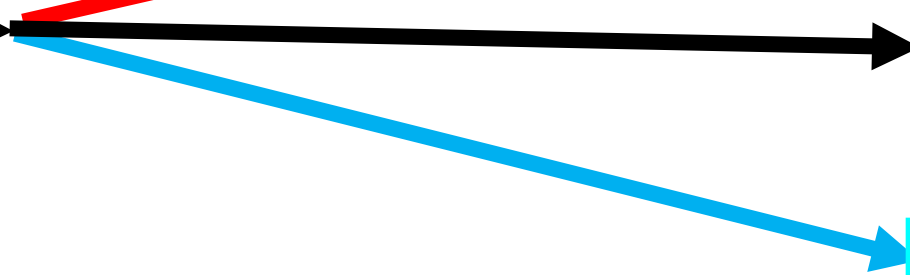
**Baptist Church**

**Presbyterian Church. of Eng.**

**Methodist**

**3**

**ONE CHURCH**



**NO BIBLE – POPE RULES  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**FAITHFUL – BIBLE RULES  
CONSERVATIVES**

**BIBLE + DOCTRINE = LIBERAL  
PROTESTANT CHURCHES**



**THE  
LORD'S  
CHURCH**

**AND THE SECOND  
APOSTASY WAS  
COMPLETED**

**THE LORD'S CHURCH  
AND THE CATHOLIC  
&  
PROTESTANT CHURCHES  
WERE DIVIDED**

**THE  
CATHOLIC  
&  
PROTESTANT  
CHURCHES**

**CHURCH**

**AND THE SECOND  
APOSTASY WAS  
COMPLETED**

**THE LORD'S CHURCH  
AND THE CATHOLIC  
&  
PROTESTANT CHURCHES  
WERE DIVIDED**

**TENS OF THOUSANDS OF GOD'S PEOPLE HAD TO PAY THE PRICE OF A LONELY JOURNEY IN ORDER TO REMAIN A FAITHFUL SERVANT**



**It's better to walk alone,  
than with a crowd going  
in the wrong direction.**

*- Diane Grant*