

The Ownership Virus

Introduction

Acts 20:28 *Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.*

A sincere believer hears “This is my church. My ministry. My members.” Then he reads Acts 20:28 and get confused. Who bought him? The pastor or Jesus? If a man “owns” them, they run back to the world where at least ownership is honest.

Unless God Who bought us (His Church) with the priceless blood of His Son, Jesus Christ, decides to lease or sell us to another, or dies for someone else to inherit us, no one on earth is by any means qualified to own us.

Do you “own Church”? Please, renounce now that you know, because until now you have shown ignorance to the provision regarding this in God's word (see Acts 17:30-31).

Presentation

1. What Scripture Says

(1) God paid, God owns.

Acts 20:28 *...to shepherd the church of God, which he purchased with his own blood.*

(2) Christians are not property. They are blood-bought.

1 Pet. 1:18-19 (KJV) *...ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold... but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish.*

(3) No man-ownership, only Christ-ownership.

1 Cor. 7:23 *Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.*

(4) Now that we know, we renounce (Acts 17:30).

Acts 17:30 *Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent.*

2. Why This Virus Scatters Lambs of Christ

(1) A lamb reads 1 Pet. 1:18 and it says “bought with blood”. The lamb thinks “I belong to Jesus”.

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(2) His Pastor says “my members, my church”.
The lamb thinks “Wait, I have two owners?”
Confusion sets in (Matt. 6:24).

(3) The lamb leaves saying it is better to be “no man’s member” than “two men’s property” (Matt. 18:6).

3. The Bottom Line

Christian Unity says there is No Owner But Christ. The Church is not a business. Believers are not “members” of a man. We are members of Christ (1 Cor. 12:27). God bought us with blood. Unless God dies again for someone else to inherit us, no pastor, bishop, or “ministry founder” can own us. We must renounce it now (Acts 17:30).

Evaluation Questions & Answers

1. Who purchased the Church?
 - * God with His own blood (Acts 20:28).
2. What were we redeemed with?
 - * Not silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ (1 Pet. 1:18-19).

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3. What must we do now that we know the truth?

- * Repent and renounce ownership (Acts 17:30).

4. Can a man own what Jesus bought with blood?

- * No. Only God can lease or sell us.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, You bought us with blood. Forgive us for writing “Pastor’s Church” on what is Yours.

Break every chain of man-ownership. Let lambs know that they belong to You alone.

If I have called Your bride “my ministry”, I repent. She is Your Church.

Feed every blood-bought lamb. Amen.