



## **Churches Under Christ Newsletter**

### **May 1, 2019**

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior and one and only head of **HIS** churches.  
A ministry headed by Christian Attorney Jerald Finney under the authority of Pastor Ben Hickam and Charity  
Baptist Tabernacle, Amarillo TX.

- Matthew 16:18 “And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock **I** will build **my** church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”
- Ephesians 1:22 “And hath put all things under his feet, and gave **him to be the head over all things to the church.**”

### **A BRIEF REVIEW OF THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INTRODUCTION OF A NEW PHASE OF THE MINISTRY**

I continue to work with churches organizing and already organized using the Resolution to Adopt the Declaration of Trust, the Declaration of Trust, and Appendix.

In April I worked with pastors, churches, and other believers to include the following:

1. Helped Indiana Pastor with a novel property tax issue. The county property tax boards of 10 counties in Indiana have classified churches as businesses in requiring them to do a yearly report of personal property used by the church. Although, upon examination, their authority to do so is arbitrary, the Regulation which states their alleged authority is in error. The state law they cite for their authority does not in fact give them that authority. The pastor sent his county property tax office a letter to that effect.
2. Consulted with three pastors (from Iowa, North Carolina, and Texas) on how to report the gifts they receive from their churches on their income tax forms.
3. The Lord laid on my heart to directly communicate to a mega-church in Amarillo Texas, Trinity Fellowship Church, Bible truth about church organization, etc. by standing on the sidewalk outside the meetinghouse, preaching on the matter, displaying a banner and sandwich signs, and talking to those who approach me. I believe this is a start to another phase of the warfare this ministry is actively involved with. These mega churches, in

abandoning Bible principles, deny the power of God, cause others to blaspheme the name of Christ, have to one extent or another gone further down the road to heresy and apostasy, use the name of Christ to support what is a business and claim special financial protections which other businesses cannot claim (e.g., property tax exemption); use unholy music; have unbiblical organization, methods goals, and teachings. They organize as corporate 501(c)(3) religious organizations, business organization, business goals, and business tactics to “church” people. They find out what the people in the community want and give it to them instead of giving to the people what God wants given to them using the methods God lays out in His Word. They are not churches under Christ and Christ alone. They are not New Testament churches.

These churches are doing tremendous damage to the cause of Christ in America. As a result of their actions and other things of course, the percentage of professing Christians, especially among young people is decreasing at an alarming rate. For more on this, see some of the articles linked to at [Articles and other resources on Christian Issues, Heresy and Apostasy](#).

When someone approaches me, I first ask if they are saved. If not, I explain God’s plan of salvation to them, give them a tract and a handout with a webpage they can go to for more information on salvation (<https://jeraldfinney.com/salvation-and-after/>), and refrain from talking about the deeper issues which bring me there. If they say they are saved, I discuss with them the reasons I am there.

I have already talked with one of their leading pastors, a long-time member, another member, security guards, an atheist (not a member of the church), a teenager who was lost (not a member of the church), and some others. All discussions have been in love without anger and productive. For example, the long-time member, after I told him my reason for being there, stated that he knew something was wrong but could not understand why, etc. Another member I talked to asked some very good questions and was very reasonable. We had a very productive discussion which I had to cut short after 10 or 15 minutes because I had to leave to get to my church services. The last time I was there, one of their security guards drove up, asked if he could give me a bottle of water (I thanked him but told him I had some water with me), and said, “We love you.” I answered, “I love you all too—that is why I am giving you the truth.” He replied very courteously and not with sarcasm or ridicule, “I know that.” One of the pastors I talked to asked me if he could get me some water, asked what it was all about, etc. He also informed me that he knew I had a right to be on the sidewalk, but that if I touched the church property, I would be arrested. I told him I would not be getting on church property and that as a lawyer I was very familiar with American First Amendment law and the history of the First Amendment. I also told him that that was a fine way to treat a fellow believer. I thought of a better answer which I will use if there is a next time: I will say, “I will render unto God the things that are God’s [pointing at the sidewalk], and unto Caesar the things that are Caesar’s (pointing at the buildings on the property, then at the grounds of the property, then at him).”

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THIS PHASE OF THE MINISTRY AS WELL AS THIS MINISTRY AS A WHOLE. I WILL ATTACH TO THE E-MAIL ANNOUNCING THIS NEWSLETTER THE DOCS USED TO DO THE BANNERS AND SANDWICH SIGN I AM NOT USING. ANY INPUT FROM OUR PASTORS AND SUPPORTERS WILL BE APPRECIATED AND CONSIDERED.**

#### **Featured Sermons, Essays, and Books**

**Sermons:** Go to the sermons page of the Biblical Law Center: Separation of Church and State/The Biblical Principles and the American Application website (<https://jeraldfinney.com/miscellaneous/sermons/>) for links to great relevant sermons such as Dr. Greg Dixon 2005 sermon "[Authority, The Greatest Thing In The Universe](#)," Jerald Finney’s message, "[Is an Incorporated 501\(c\)3 Church a Church of Christ?](#)" [The Rose of Sharon](#) (Transcript of a sermon depicting the love relationship between Christ and His local visible church , emphasizing the importance of organization under Christ only as opposed to corporate 501c3 or 508 status or legal status of any kind) etc.

**Books** by Jerald Finney are free online in PDF, online form, and Kindle, and may be ordered. Go to the [free online, PDF and order page for books by Jerald Finney](#).

**Churches Under Christ Ministry Website:** <https://jeraldfinney.com/> (Browse this page for a wealth of informational resources)

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US FOR ANY REASON. YOUR COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS, ENCOURAGEMENT, AND CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

For the Glory of God,

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