

- The Solution: The Gospel Was Reaffirmed

- The Result: The Protestant Church

The Protestant Church Today

- The Problem: Doctrinal Differences

- The Solution: Denominations

- The Result: We Are a Southern Baptist Church

The Nature of the Church

The Church is Visible and Invisible

- Visible (Mt. 18:17)

- Invisible (Heb. 12:23)

The Church is Local and Universal

- Local (Rom. 16:5)

- Universal (Eph. 3:8-10)



The Church is Conveyed in Metaphors

- A Family (1 Tim. 5:1-2)
- A Bride (Eph. 5:32)
- An Olive Tree (Rom. 11:17-24)
- A Field of Crops (1 Cor. 3:6-9)
- A Building (1 Cor. 3:9)
- God's House (Heb. 3:6)
- A Pillar and Buttress of the Truth (1 Tim. 3:15)
- The Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:20)

The Essentials of the Church

Corporate Worship

Preaching the Word

Administration of Ordinances

- Baptism
 - The Meaning of Baptism

 - The Mode of Baptism

- Lord's Supper
 - A Metaphor for the Gospel

 - A Vehicle for the Gospel

The Government of the Church

Biblical Offices

- The Office of the Pastor (Elder/Overseer)



- The Office of Deacon

Forms of Government

- Episcopalian

- Presbyterian

- Congregational

The Purpose of the Church

Ministry to God: Worship

Ministry to Believers: Discipleship

Ministry to the World: Mission