

Book of the Month

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The World Council Of Churches

By David W. Cloud

The World Council of Churches (WCC) is an international ecumenical union of more than 300 denominations representing roughly 400 million professing Christians. It was officially formed in Amsterdam, Holland, in 1948 with 147 denominations. Today there are 307.

The goal of the World Council was plainly stated at its convening Assembly in August 1948. Former General Secretary of the WCC, W.A. Visser 't Hooft, verbalized the sentiments of the ecumenists gathered for that historic occasion: "Our name indicates our weakness and our shame before God, for there can be and is finally only one Church of Christ on earth. Our plurality is a deep anomaly. But our name indicates also that we are aware of that situation, that we do not accept it passively,

" THAT WE WOULD MOVE FORWARD TOWARDS
THE MANIFESTATION OF THE
ONE HOLY CHURCH."

(W.A. Visser 't Hooft, *The Genesis and Formation of the World Council of Churches*, Geneva : 1982, p. 66).

This supposed "one holy church," this longed for world church, is a figment of a heretical imagination. The Bible does not tell us that there should be a world church. Quite opposite. The Bible repeatedly warns that Christendom will become increasingly apostate as the coming of Christ draws near, and the true churches are commanded to remain separate from this wickedness. GOD is not fulfilling the Great Commission through churches, plural.

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