

The Christian Churches of today may be generally classified as follows:

1.) The Catholic Church, contending that the Church has had an uninterrupted existence upon the earth since originally founded by Jesus Christ.

2.) Protestant churches founded by the reformers who contend that the original Church fell into apostasy, and therefore, through a study of the Bible, have attempted to return to the original teachings and practices of the Church. The number of these churches is an evidence of how impossible it is to agree upon the teachings of the Bible when left to the wisdom of man to interpret and understand them. Because of this lack of unity, churches have continued to multiply in a further effort to return to what they consider the original teachings of the Christ.

3.) Those who believe that the Church established by Jesus Christ while upon the earth, fell into an apostate condition as predicted by the Apostles, and that the Church could not be reestablished upon the earth merely through a reformation but only through a reformation.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints stands alone in this latter classification, except for only small apostate groups that have broken away from the Church.

In considering these claims, it is obvious that if the first be true, there is no excuse of any other Christian church. If the original Church had gone astray, could a reformation restore its power? Can a living branch be taken from a dead tree? Or, must there be a new planting, a restoration?

(from "A Marvelous Work and a Wonder" by LeGrand Richards pp 2-3)