

Churches Under Christ Newsletter

October 1, 2021

"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth."
(Genesis 1:26-28)

The Churches Under Christ Ministry helps churches who want to organize under Christ alone and is under the authority of Charity Baptist Tabernacle of Amarillo TX, Ben Hickham Pastor

Pages 2-5: Lessons on the Bible (Common Law) Trust]: [Lesson 2: The elements of a church Bible Trust](#) PUBLISHED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

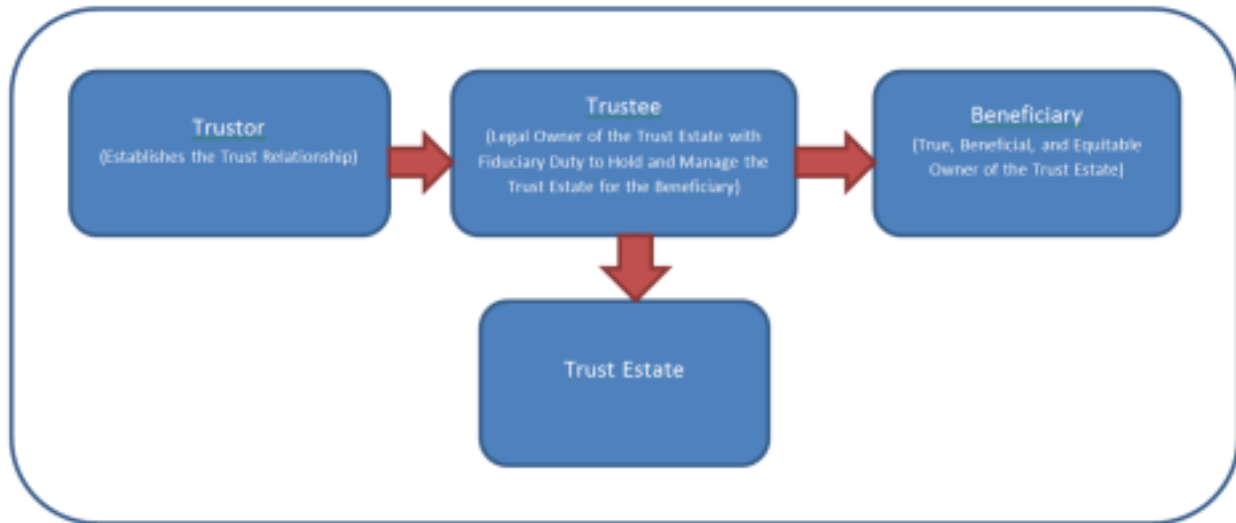
The ministry also published [What Does Romans 13 Teach Regarding Man's Obligation to Civil Government? A Bible Study](#) SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

Pages 6-16: Some more important and interesting ministry activities in September, 2021

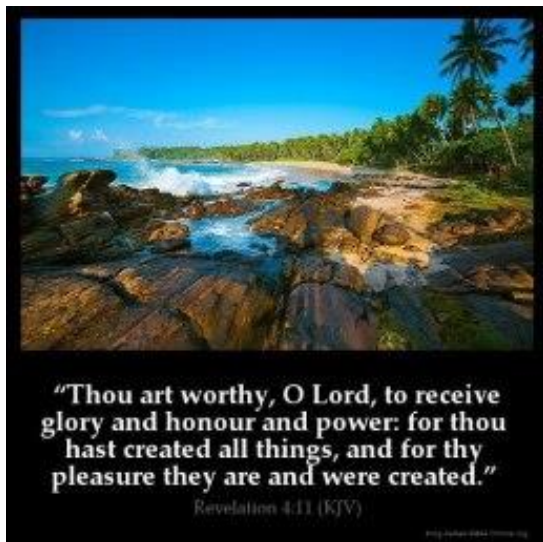
LESSON 2: THE ELEMENTS OF A CHURCH BIBLE TRUST

Jerald Finney
Churches Under Christ Ministry
September 30, 2021

Go to [Lessons on the Bible \(Common Law\) Trust](#) for links to additional lessons:



Specific terms are not necessary for a church Bible Trust relationship, a fiduciary relationship with property, to exist. However, as with any relationship, terms facilitate communication. Since a Bible Trust relationship is one in which a church reaches an agreement with another to hold and manage property for the benefit of the owner of the property, the Lord Jesus Christ, convenient terms for the elements of the relationship are trustor, trustee, beneficiary, and trust estate. This lesson will use those terms in explaining the church Bible trust relationship.



According to God's Word in the Old Testament, God entrusted man with His earth and all that is in it. God created the heavens and the earth, and all that is in the earth, including man and woman. He gave man the duty to hold and manage His earthly creations. A trustor or settlor is the one who establishes a trust agreement. God was trustor of all things. He appointed man as trustee. The earth and the things that are in it compose the earthly trust estate of the trust established by God, the beneficiary (true, equitable, and beneficial owner).

God entrusts mankind with the earth and all material things in it. He entrusts His children with spiritual matters. God's churches, churches under Christ and Christ alone, are spiritual organisms totally under the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, not worldly organizations partially under Christ and partially under the world. Any church who submits herself to man's laws of incorporation, charitable trust, tax exemption, etc. is not a church under Christ

and Christ alone and is not organized and managed solely under New Testament church doctrine.

According to New Testament principle and example, a church under Christ alone is a purely spiritual organization (See, e.g., the Book of Ephesians) made up of spiritual beings (See 1 Corinthians 2:14-16). God's Word defines New Testament churches as spiritual organisms, not worldly organizations (See, e.g., Ephesians 4 and 1 Corinthians 12). Their concern is not to be for this world and worldly possessions. Their purpose is eternal and spiritual, not temporal and earthly. Thus, no church in the New Testament owned or held property, real or personal. Members of New Testament churches gave offerings to God to be used for purposes consistent with His will as revealed in His Word, but they did not give to the church they were part of; doing that would have been giving to themselves. A New Testament church under Christ alone, a heavenly organism, has no employees, pays no salaries, holds no real or personal property, has no insurance, and acts legally in no other way.

(19) Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; (20) And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; (21) In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: (22) In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

Ephesians 2:19-22

(11) But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; (12) Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. (13) For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: (14) How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Hebrews 9:11-14

How can a church remain true to Christ in the matter of property? By holding or owning none. Property is both real (real estate) and personal. Personal property includes money and bank accounts. A church under Christ must meet on real estate, but she cannot own the real estate. She can meet in a person's home, in his building, or under his tree. Or, a church can meet on public property. Or, a church (trustor) can reach an agreement with a person (trustee) whereby the church gives to God (to the trust estate owned by God) and meets on property owned by the Lord Jesus Christ (the beneficiary). The trust estate, which can hold real estate used for church purposes only, money, and/or a bank checking account held and managed by a person or persons (trustee(s)) solely for the benefit and will of the owner.

Members of a New Testament church give to God a portion of His property which he has entrusted to them, not to the church, since they are the church. When they give to God, their gift is put in God's trust estate and is irrevocable (See, Acts 5:1-11).

The trustor church declares the trust relationship and appoints a trustee. The trustee agrees to become the legal (earthly, temporal) owner of the trust estate. He agrees to hold and manage the trust estate solely for the benefit of the Lord Jesus Christ, the owner of the trust estate. He receives no compensation for serving as Trustee.

The pastor should be trustee named in a church Bible trust agreement. A pastor, deacon or elder in the church can serve as trustee. The pastor should be as qualified or more qualified as any man in the church to hold and manage God's earthly property. See EN[i].

A trust document should include language which prohibits the trustee from using any property, or proceeds from the conveyance of any property in the trust estate, for the benefit of himself or anyone else. Language such as:

"In no event will the ownership of any or all real or personal property or money in the Trust Estate ever be transferred to any member or members of [Name of Church] or to any other person, except as provided in this document for ..., or for other purposes consistent with Bible guidelines."

The beneficiary is the true, equitable, and beneficial owner of everything in the trust estate. All property in the trust estate is to be held and managed by the legal (earthly) owner of the trust estate solely according to the will of the true, equitable and beneficial owner of the property, the Lord Jesus Christ. The trustee has a fiduciary duty to use the estate for purposes consistent with the will of God as laid out in God's Word.

A church Declaration of Trust should include language such as:

“The Beneficiary of this Trust is the Lord Jesus Christ, and all of the properties of the Trust Estate are held in Trust, by the Trustee, solely for the benefit of the Lord Jesus Christ who is the true, equitable, and beneficial owner of all property including all property held in Trust. This Declaration of Trust is not naming or making the Lord Jesus Christ the Beneficiary of the Trust Estate; He is the true, equitable, and beneficial owner of the earth and all that is in it (Exodus 19:5, Leviticus 25:23, 1 Chronicles 29:11-12, Psalm 24:1, Psalm 50:10, Psalm 89:11, Haggai 2:8). This document is merely declaring that truth.”

Some Concluding Comments to This Lesson

A church can remain a spiritual entity only by utilizing the Bible concept of trust, by declaring and practicing an irrevocable common law or Bible trust, whether declared in writing or not. The church is trustor since the church (the members) return portions of that which God has entrusted to them to the Lord, to God. What is given to God constitutes the trust estate. The appointed temporal legal owner of the trust estate is the trustee. The Lord Jesus Christ is the beneficiary, the true, beneficial, and equitable owner of the property held in the trust estate. Gifts, tithes, and offerings are to God (to the trust estate which is owned by God), not to the church.

This type of trust arrangement is Scriptural. The church is declaring and practicing a relationship with property, not organizing as a trust. The church remains totally under the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ and His word as long as she does not act legally. The trustee does not hold the property in the trust estate for the church. The trustee holds and manages the property in the trust estate solely for the owner of the property, the Lord Jesus Christ, according to His will. The trustee is the legal (temporary earthly) owner of the property and the Lord Jesus Christ is the true, equitable, and beneficial owner.

As to property on which a church meets, the state will declare someone to be legal owner of that property if no one lawfully has title and if it is brought to the attention of the state. The law, and the Lord, requires someone to hold temporary earthly title to real property.

A New Testament church is a spiritual entity only. Therefore, a New Testament church cannot hold title to property. Should a church hold title to property through a trustee or trustees, that church is no longer a spiritual entity only because she has entwined herself with the legal system. A title is a legal declaration of ownership.

Only a legal entity can act legally, sue, be sued, enter into contracts, be charged with a crime, or act legally in some other way. To assume ownership of property is to act legally. Every American citizen in his right mind is a legal entity. Likewise, corporations (aggregate of sole, profit or non-profit), charitable trusts, business trusts, and Internal Revenue Code § 501(c)(3) and § 508 organizations are legal entities. A church who owns property through one of these legal devices is asserting ownership. A church who does not hold property, to include money, but puts property into a trust estate of a properly structured irrevocable common law or Bible trust is not acting legally. The trustee of such a trust holds legal or earthly title to the money or property, if any, in the trust estate. He is to administer the money and property, if any, for the benefit of the true owner of the property, the Lord Jesus Christ. On the other hand, a church who holds property through a trustee for the benefit of the Lord Jesus Christ is a legal or earthly entity.

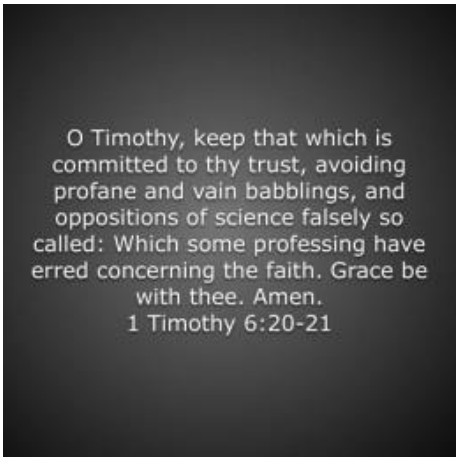
Holding property in the recommended manner has additional benefits. Not only does holding property in this manner comport with biblical principles, it also lessens the chances that the property, and especially the buildings, will become idols. “Their idols *are* ... the work of men’s hands. ... They that make them are like unto them; *so is* every one that trusteth in them.” (Ps. 115:4-8). Likewise, monetary riches and other worldly possessions can become idolatrous. Finally, holding property in this way assures that a church has chosen not to be structured like a business or a government created organization; that church can operate according to the principles in the New Testament.

As God, our Lord owned everything.
As a man, our Lord God owned no
worldly property. No New Testament
church owned any property. What
about the church you are a member
of?

As God, our Lord owned everything. As a man, our Lord God owned no worldly property. No New Testament church owned any property. What about the church you are a member of?

Endnote

EN[i] Timothy was a preacher with a special position of trust. Timothy was a trustee of a spiritual heritage: “O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:” (1 Ti. 6.20). Likewise, elders, which includes pastors, must meet specific requirements which not every man in a church can meet. (See, for example, Tit. 1.5-9). An elder must hold fast the Word of God, “that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers” (Tit. 1.9-16, 2.2; see also, Ac. 11.30, 14.23, (ordained elders in every church), 15.2, 4, 6, 22-23, 16.4, 20.17, 21.18; 1 Ti. 5.1 (“rebuke not an elder, but entreat him as a father”), 1 Ti. 5.17-19; Ja. 5.14-15; He. 13.7, 17; 1 Pe. 5.1 (Peter the Apostle was an elder, here writing to “the elders who are among you”; 1 Pe. 5.5 (younger to submit to the elder, and all to submit to one another); 2 Jn. 1 and 3 Jn. 1 (John the Apostle was also an elder).



O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen.
1 Timothy 6:20-21

Biblically, a pastor must meet stringent God-given requirements:

“This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop [pastor], he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.” (1 Ti. 3.1-7).

“For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;” (Tit. 1.7).

These requirements are strict because a pastor, and every member of a church, is entrusted by God to “take care of the church of God.” (1 Ti. 3.5).

“The elders [pastors included] which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight *thereof*, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over *God’s* heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.” (1 Pe. 5.1-5).

The Bible proclaims: “Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the Word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.” (He. 13.7). “Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.” (He. 13.17). “Salute all them that have the rule over you, and all the saints....” (He. 13.24). “Them” is plural, and includes the pastor and other elders of a church.

The elders, including the pastor, are to oversee a church: “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.” (Ac. 20.28). Paul was speaking to the elders of the church at Ephesus (Ac. 20.17-18).

A pastor is responsible to act as a ruler, trustee, steward, and overseer of a church. As such, he should be as qualified as any other church member to be the trustee of God’s trust estate.

HIGHLIGHTS OF **SEPTEMBER 2021** MINISTRY ACTIVITIES:

Sept 1 Published [September 1, 2021 Ministry Newsletter](#).

On Saturday, September 4, 2021, 09:40:19 PM CDT, _____.com> wrote:

Brother Jerald,

I'm getting push back on the Common Law Trust. There is opposition on naming Christ as the beneficiary because God doesn't benefit/gain or is not lacking in any way. I understand that idea, but I'm thinking that a Christian giving glory to God is right and proper and if Christ "benefits" or obtains glory through the proper operation of his church that is fine.

Can you help explain this to me?

I can call during the week if that is easier.

Jerald Finney <jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net>To: _____ Sun, Sep 5 at 7:24 PM

Dear Brother _____,

Here are some thoughts for you to consider. Let me know if you agree or disagree.

Beneficiary is the true, beneficial, and equitable owner of the property in the trust estate. That is the definition given in the trust documents. The trust estate, and the earth and all that is in it, belongs to Him and is to be taken care of for Him according to His will. He gives us free will as to whether to glorify and please Him. God benefits when we glorify and please Him in any way. Doing things contrary to His way is the opposite of benefit: it is an **evil, loss, disadvantage, detriment, damage, calamity, bereavement, injury, privation**. God grieves when churches and people go against His will. He is pleased when they do things according to His will. When one takes care of God's church using His methods, He is pleased which is a benefit to Him. Also, He is willing that none should perish and that all should come to repentance. By doing things His way, we point to Him which points others to Him. That is a benefit to Him. Children are added to His family. When believers and churches do things contrary to God's way, people, or fewer people, are pointed to Him.

Equitable means valid in equity as distinct from [man's] law. Equity means fair and impartial. Much more could be said about "equity" and "equitable." Who is more fair and impartial than the Lord? Do you agree that the Lord is fair and impartial?

Have you have been talking to someone who is part of the [A "Christian" " "Law" Center that does not understand what they are doing]? I would be glad to engage them, or anyone else who is giving "push back," in an honest search for truth via conference call. If they are willing, we can set some guidelines for honest discussion.

God bless,

Brother Jerald

Note. The Declaration of Trust contains language such as:

- "The Beneficiary of this Trust is the Lord Jesus Christ, and all of the properties of the Trust Estate are held in Trust, by the Trustee, solely for the benefit of the Lord Jesus Christ who is the true, equitable, and beneficial owner of all property including all property held in Trust. This Declaration of Trust is not naming or making the Lord Jesus Christ the Beneficiary or the Trust Estate; He is the true, equitable, and beneficial owner of the earth and all that is in it (Exodus 19:5, Leviticus 25:23, 1 Chronicles 29:11-12, Psalm 24:1, Psalm 50:10, Psalm 89:11, Haggai 2:8). This document is merely declaring that truth."

_____.com To:Jerald Finney Mon, Sep 6 at 12:27 AM

Brother Jerald!!!

Yes I agree that God is fair and impartial, he is the perfect Judge of the all things!

We have not journeyed down the [A "Christian" " "Law" Center that does not understand what they are doing] road.

The pushback is from the Pastor and Elder.

Citing Matthew 17:24-And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute money came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute?

²⁵ He saith, Yes. And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying, What thinkest thou, Simon? of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? of their own children, or of strangers?

²⁶ Peter saith unto him, Of strangers. Jesus saith unto him, Then are the children free.

²⁷ Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee.

The thought is we sign the document even though we don't have to so we can operate as a church in the world we live in.

The problem they have with the Bible Trust is that Christ is the beneficiary. That is not a problem for me. I completely agree with your analysis and breakdown of "beneficiary". Thank you for explaining that I will try to relay the information.

I love your willingness to talk on a conference call. I communicated that you are a great resource and that they must call you on the "beneficiary" problem. I am sad to report they are unwilling to take the initiative but I will be more aggressive in coordinating and facilitating a conference call with/for them.

I'm also going to get the definition of Beneficiary as contained in the trust document. That really should solve the problem..

Thank you!

Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____ Mon, Sep 6 at 6:12 PM

Dear Brother _____,

A church can establish a trust relationship without documents. However, God's money held in the trust estate cannot be held in a bank account. Why? Because a bank will not open a trust account without examining trust documents. So, all tithes, offerings, and gifts to the Lord must be in cash. Also, real estate for a meetinghouse must be held in trust for the Lord. The title can name the Lord as the new owner, but there are problems with that. Some churches have done that and run into problems. For example, the name of the owner may be "the Lord Jesus Christ," but the title must be signed by people who are trustees whether called that or not. And they will be signing on behalf of the church which makes the church a legal worldly entity. Etc. The same analysis applies to leasing property.

It would be an honor and pleasure to take this up in a conference call. Let me know. God bless.

Brother Jerald

Note. The trust is named on the title, and the trust documents make clear that the Lord Jesus Christ is the owner of the property held in trust. The title is signed by the trustee who holds and manages the property Lord's property held in the trust estate, as declared in the trust documents.

_____.com To: gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net Sun, Sep 5 at 3:55 PM

Dear Sirs, I am a pastor who has been struggling with the 501c3 and how to get out of it for some years now. I can't seem to find anyone who knows anything about this or can answer my questions. Mark Taylor says you can help me. If you would please reply with some information on how I can speak with you on these matters. Thank you so much.

In Christ,

Pastor _____

Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____ Sun, Sep 5 at 7:33 PM

Dear Pastor _____,

Please feel free to give me a call at 512-785-8445. If you get a VM, please leave a message and I will return your call asap. Tomorrow, I won't be available until sometime in the afternoon, maybe late afternoon.

God bless.

Brother Jerald Finney

____.com To: gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net Mon, Sep 6 at 1:12 AM

Dear Brother Jerald

Thank you for all your wisdom and guidance in assisting others seeking to reinstate their relationship with God in doing his work.

We are looking for your guidance in creating a Common Law Church Trust organization based on the KJB.

Are you able to provide guidance for people working in Australia?

Australia as part of the Commonwealth & as such recognizes Common Law, with a statue to Magna Carta in the national capital Canberra acknowledged by the monarchy in 2015.

For His Glory

Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____ Wed, Sep 8 at 12:44 PM

Dear Brother _____,

I would be glad to discuss the principles of the common law (Bible) trust with you. The concept can be applied in any country, but in some countries will be met with persecution. I do not know how it will be accepted in Australia. Please call me at 512-785-8445. If you get a VM, please leave a message and I will return your call asap.

I have began a series of lessons. The home page with links to the lessons is at: [Lessons on the Bible \(Common Law\) Trust](#).

I will be looking forward to hearing from you. God bless.

For His Glory,

Brother Jerald Finney

512-785-8445

____.com To: **Jerald Finney Mon, Sep 13 at 2:41 AM**

Dear Brother Jerald,

We probably have at least as much freedom from persecution as you experience in the USA.

Thank you for the invitation to phone you. The time difference probably makes that intrusive on sleep etc.

At this stage I believe all we need is some guidance as to the Declaration of Trust.

How is this done when God is not there to sign as settlor or beneficiary?

Please advise?

The link to your lessons did not attach in the email kindly sent.

God bless & keep you

Note. I do not believe, based upon what I know about Australia, and especially considering the recent tyrannical persecutions of those who do not get the covid vaccines in Australia, that Australians have at least as much freedom from persecution as we have here in the USA, at least for the time being.

Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____ Mon, Sep 13 at 9:45 AM

Dear Brother _____,

Below is link to a webpage with links to lessons on the Bible (common law) trust.

[Lessons on the Bible \(Common Law\) trust](#)

The lessons will be completed as time allows. If you browse the website, you will find a lot of information that will help you as you apply the principles in the Australian landscape.

God bless.

Brother Jerald Finney

Sept. 8: VM from pastor _____ about 501(c)(3) in _____. [Phone no. & email address]. Heard about us through Mark Taylor. He took over as pastor in 2016. Church has been incorporated for decades. He has talked to lawyers etc. about incorp. & 501(c)(3). Const. & by-laws were executed in 1987. He wants to update them. We talked for a long time.

Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____ Wed, Sep 8 at 2:25 PM
[Lessons on the Bible \(Common Law\) trust](#)

_____.com To: Jerald Finney Fri, Aug 27 at 2:22 PM

Hello Brother,

After applying for tax exemption went, on April 9th, to see what county wanted. Assessor called and came out June 8 to see property. I showed him what we desire and if we needed to do anything else to get tax curiously or if we where good, today I finally got a response. He had stated he would talk to you about the trust setup but did not. I did give him a draft of the trust paperwork for a guide and he said he understood.

So we know now I believe that we will have to setup and transfer the property into the trust name as we through. So I would like to proceed to setup for that understand new trust papers 2021.

Thank you

Pastor _____

[Name of Church]

_____ questioner #2 _____ .com To: Jerald Finney Fri, Aug 27 at 5:12 PM

He attached completed Questionnaire 2

Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____ Wed, Sep 8 at 4:41 PM

Dear Pastor _____,

Attached is the completed Questionnaire 2 with corrections in red. You did very well in answering the questions, better than most pastors. Once you go over the corrections, give me a call and we will briefly discuss it together. We will also discuss your talks with the assessor about property tax exemption.

Then, I will prepare and send documents.

God bless,

Brother Jerald

Sept 14 Telephone conference with Pastor _____. We discussed completed and corrected Q2. He is very studied and understands it all.

He refreshed my memory. I sent him sample docs in 2017, but he had a lot of trouble with one of his deacons (explained in prior entries) and never executed the docs. All that is now straight. The meetinghouse property is now in his name and is now paid for, so they are ready to go forward with the new docs. He has talked to his county assessor and explained what they are planning to do. The assessor indicated that the property tax exemption should be no problem once the property is deeded to the trust; but cannot exempt it as long as it is in his name.

The church has already cancelled their present covenant because of problems we have discussed after he sent me a copy.

He met Dr. Dixon in 2008. Dr. Dixon told him that the way they were doing things was Ok. He told the church when planting it that there was no way the church would incorporate and get the 501c3.

Sept 17: Worked on sample trust docs. **Sept 18** Completed initial drafts of trust docs. Emailed to Pastor _____. Called to let him know.

Jerald Finney jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: ____ Sat, Sep 18 at 5:41 PM

Dear Brother ____,

Attached are the docs. Please read the letter accompanying the docs very carefully.

PLEASE DO NOT FAIL TO REPLY TO THIS EMAIL TO LET ME KNOW THAT YOU RECEIVED IT. I WILL ALSO CALL YOU AFTER SENDING.

God bless,

Bro. Jerald

...

On Thursday, September 30, 2021, 09:46:33 AM CDT, ____ .com wrote:

Planning to excute documents Sunday night

Pg 2 declaration of trust: Upon liquidation we would like it to go to missionary support not the state.

Pg 3 declaration of trust Qualification of trustee: Can we put 21yrs old

Thanks, ____

Jerald Finney jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: ____ .com Thu, Sep 30 at 6:06 PM

Praise the Lord! Second correction made in attached DOT.

[Explained how to handle the first matter]. Giving it to the state upon termination of the trust is there for a purpose.

God bless.

Bro. Jerald

Sept 8 Called Bro. ____ _____. Left VM saying that I have figured out a way to take care of it [He is not up on using the computer in filling out the Questionnaires]. I will fill it out over the phone as he answers each question.

Sept 11 Telephone conference with Bro. _____. We filled out Q1 and talked for 2 hours.

Sept 16: Called Bro. _____. We went over Q2 question by question. I filled in the answers, giving him first opportunity to answer. Advised that he give his members a copy and go over it with them. If they have questions, concerns, etc. that he cannot answer, advised that he give me a call, perhaps a conference call.

Sept 8-16 I continued communications with go-betweens for a pastor who does not speak English. The go-betweens do not speak good English. One does not even live where the church is located and is very busy with his work; as a result, he did not return my calls, communicate with the pastor, etc. After dealing with them a long time and getting no where, I sent the following email:

____.com>To:Jerald Finney Wed, Sep 15 at 9:47 PM

Dear Brother Jerald, I hope that you are well. What is the best number to reach you? I would like to speak with you tomorrow, if possible. Please let me know what time works best for you. Blessings, ____

Jerald Finney jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: ____ Thu, Sep 16 at 11:08 AM

Dear Brother ____,

This is not working. Since talking to you last, I received a call from the pastor through his daughter. She indicated that the communications between the pastor and you are lacking.

Below are my notes in my last attempt to communicate with you:

- **Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____ Wed, Aug 11 at 1:12 PM**
I have tried to call you several times starting yesterday morning. The number I have is _____. I get a message that the mailbox is full and cannot accept any messages. Bro. Jerald Finney
- **On Monday, August 9, 2021, 09:47:12 PM CDT, _____ .com> wrote:**
Yes, please do, Bro. Jerald.
- **Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____ Mon, Aug 9 at 8:29 PM**
Dear Brother _____, I will give you a call in the morning. I won't have but a few minutes, but we can set a time for a phone conference. I will be in the office (home) all day Wednesday, until I leave for church a about 6-6:30 pm that day. If that will not work for you, we can set another time. God bless. Jerald
- **_____ .com To: Jerald Finney Thu, Aug 5 at 7:55 PM** Dear Brother Jerald, how are you? Hopefully, you are feeling better. Please let me know when the church should expect to hear from you. Blessings, _____
- I just cannot continue this fruitless endeavor. If you can get with the pastor and arrange a more workable solution, let me know. I would like to be of help, but this is chaos and is not working.

God bless,

Brother Jerald

Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____ .com Thu, Sep 16 at 7:54 PM

Dear Brother,

Simply and honestly stated, I cannot continue with this arrangement for a number of reasons. I wish you all the best.

For His Glory,

Brother Jerald

On Friday, September 17, 2021, 12:50:07 PM CDT, _____ .com> wrote:

Dear Brother Jerald,

I spoke with Pastor _____ this morning, and he was very sad to learn of your decision. The pastor wanted to know if it was something that we did, or if there were other reasons for your decision.

Also, the pastor asked if you could send us the documents that you have already prepared and whether the church can compensate you for the time spent preparing those documents.

Blessings,

Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____ .com Fri, Sep 17 at 6:53 PM

Dear Brother _____,

Documents without understanding is not wise. I have not yet drafted documents. I have only spent a lot of wasted time and worry over the course of our relationship. No charge for that.

You are obviously very sincere believers who love the Lord. I truly wish you the best as you seek to please Him.

God bless,

Brother Jerald

Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____ Thu, Sep 16 at 7:54 PM

Dear Brother,

Simply and honestly stated, I cannot continue with this arrangement for a number of reasons. I wish you all the best.

For His Glory,

Brother Jerald

Note. I deeply regretted having to take this action, but it was necessary all things considered.

On Monday, September 13, 2021, 07:23:08 AM CDT, ____ wrote:

Brother Finney,

I was looking through my old emails, because I thought you had sent the paperwork for a Trust. I did not find it. I was wondering if you would be able to send that information to me for me to work through.

Thank you. God Bless!!

Pastor

Dr. ____, DRE

[Phone No. & E-mail address]

My Reply:

Dear Brother ____,

My records show that we were no where near sending paperwork declaring a trust. The following are the last communications we exchanged:

[I copied and pasted my records of our communications in July, 2021 (our only communications).

____.com To:Jerald Finney Mon, Sep 13 at 10:16 AM

Brother Finney,

I will begin to go through the videos that you have sent to learn more about a common law trust. Don't worry about the paperwork.

Thank you.

Pastor ____

Note: This ministry does not send out "trust paperwork" prior to procedures that assure that the recipient understands what he is doing. Paperwork without understanding is very destructive, as evidenced by those "churches" who have no understanding of God's Word and who choose to contract with civil government and become non-profit corporations, 501(c)(3) or 508(c)(1)(A) tax exempt organizations, charitable trusts, unincorporated associations, etc.

Sept. 14 Phone conference with pastor _____. Executed docs in 2017.

Everything is in the name of the trust: ins. vehicle, checks and bank account. Talked about property tax exemption for property used 100% for religious purposes. No separate ministries incur. 501c3, etc.

They had property donated to the church.

He asked about an associate elder who works full time for church matters. He is not now ordained. Told him that they need to ordain him; once done, they can also provide for him and his family as desired. Discussed how to handle this on his income tax papers.

Also discussed investing the Lord's money. Looked at the powers of the trustee.

He said it is on the website that the church is not incorp. or 501c3. He encourages pastor friends to get out of corporate 501c3 status. Has taught his church on these matters. **They did not close during Covid lockdowns, but other churches in the area did. Other families found out about the church and started coming and joined. They grew because other churches closed down. Etc.**

____.com To:jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net Wed, Sep 15 at 2:14 PM

Greetings Jerald,

I ran across your website (and very interesting articles, blogs, books, etc) in my search for clear answers on who can form 508's, etc, and their benefits.

Many of my colleagues, friends, and freedom fighters learned about Private Membership Associations in an attempt to protect our liberties, educations, properties, and freedoms in the era of exploding government overreach. We have been working with an unbarred attorney who has made it his life's work to help people set up these PMA's. As he was one of the very few attorneys left in the country doing this work, we encouraged him to train us so we could help others.

After reading your article associated with your book, "God Betrayed," I am left very curious as to the legalities of what we are doing. It appears to me that a Church founded on the New Testament should not form any of these entities, they don't have to according to the Constitution.

Are you familiar with PMA's and if so, the 508(c)(1)(a) designation for a Faith-Based Organization? I am a Christian Chiropractor so I set up a Faith-Based Private Health Association. After reading what you have written, I think this is a good spot for me to be, to 1.) Protect my liberties under God and the Constitution, 2.) enjoy some tax benefits as a business that is faith-based but not a church.

Would you agree?

I sure appreciate your time. Please feel free to call or email me anytime.

In health and God's freedom,

Dr. ____

...

Jerald Finney jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: ____ Wed, Sep 15 at 8:54 PM

Dear Mr. _____,

This ministry helps churches who want to organize according God's New Testament Church doctrine.

26 U.S. Code Section 508 may be viewed at [26 U.S. Code § 508 - Special rules with respect to section 501\(c\)\(3\) organizations](#)

508(c)(1)(A) applies to:

(A) churches, their integrated auxiliaries, and conventions or associations of churches, or

(B) any organization which is not a [private foundation](#) (as defined in section 509(a)) and the gross receipts of which in each taxable year are normally not more than \$5,000.

When I was in the photography business in the 70s-90s, my business was "faith based" after I was saved in 1980, and after I became a member of a Bible believing and preaching Church in 1982. Actually, I endeavored to base all matters on the foundation of God's Word, including the business. However, I did not seek government "help" which comes with more control according to the principles of the God of this world. I did pay my taxes, of course. [My business was my means of making a living, not a church.]

I believe that a study of the history of the First Amendment makes clear that civil government financial aid to churches and "faith based" organizations violates that Amendment; plus such aid ultimately does much harm to the cause of Christ. I see the harm it has done in the "faith based" organizations I have encountered and looked at. They are polluted as are incorporated 501(c)(3) and 508(c)(1)(A) churches to one degree or another. They are substantially controlled [and thereby perverted to one degree or another] by the civil government that they contracted with. You see, when one combines the holy with the unholy, the unholy always corrupts the holy; the holy never purifies the unholy (this is a Bible principle which honest investigation of reality confirms).

God bless you as you seek to know and do His will.

For His Glory,

Jerald Finney

____.com To:Jerald Finney Wed, Sep 15 at 9:08 PM

Thank you for your response. I agree wholeheartedly.

I think what I read and "innerstand," from you is that the Private Membership domain would be protective (as it should be) of Freedom of Speech, right to assemble, right to privacy, etc., but by establishing a 508(c)(1)(a), we are all at risk of dealing with the devil. What about unincorporated "faith based" organizations?

Just so I'm ultra-clear when you say financial aid to these entities you mean the tax-exempt structure, correct?

I really, really appreciate your time and wisdom as I do seek to do the right thing according to God's word and will, not the will of the world.

In health and freedom,

Dr. _____

P.S. I'm a female ;)

Jerald Finney <jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net>To: _____.com Wed, Sep 15 at 9:19 PM

My business was unincorporated. Yes, I mean tax-exempt or any kind of aid, such as government grants. A "Private Membership domain" is not covered by the religion clause of the First Amendment; of course, the 1st Amendment intended to guarantee certain rights to individuals including the owners, management, and workers of any organization.

God bless,

Jerald

_____.com To:Jerald Finney Wed, Sep 15 at 9:56 PM

Thank you! Thank You! Thank you!

God Bless you too!

Jerald Finney <jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net>To: _____.net Sat, Sep 18 at 7:41 PM

Dear Bro. _____,

I just read over the forms I sent you. There are a few grammatical errors and I also have made some minor improvements to the Resolution. The forms you have will not be used, although they are a good preview.

God bless,

Brother Jerald

Note. Sample forms were sent Aug. 25, 2021.

On 2021-09-18 20:41, Jerald Finney wrote:

Dear Bro. _____,

I just read over the forms I sent you. There are a few grammatical errors and I also have made some minor improvements to the Resolution. The forms you have will not be used, although they are a good preview.

God bless,

Brother Jerald

_____.net To:Jerald Finney Sun, Sep 19 at 7:56 AM

Okay thank you Brother Jerald.

Should I dispose of them and wait for the revised forms?

Brother _____

We discussed this over the phone.

From: Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net Sent: Thu, Sep 23, 2021 12:53 am Subject: Fw: Important Covid resources to consider.

I know that many of you on this mailing list know what is going on with Covid. I have a library of links to articles on the matter. Below are the links to (1) a very revealing article, and (2) a video (a Bible perspective). I am not saying that I agree with and can verify all that is in these resources, but they are worthy of consideration, I believe. Of course, I am not worried about this matter. I will not be vaccinated except it be physically forced upon me. However, as a believer I want stay informed about what is going on in this end time. God bless.

https://www.activistpost.com/2021/09/covid-19-war-on-western-democracies.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+ActivistPost+%28Activist+Post%29

<https://stateofthenation.co/?p=79371>

____.com To: gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net Thu, Sep 23 at 12:16 AM

Brother Finney!

Good Message! They are NOT Vaccinating me.!!.

I ALWAYS carry my New Testament in my back pocket & my 9mm Smith & Wesson on my Hip!

Biden & HIS "SATANIC COMMUNISTS" BUBBIES... are NOT taking either of them FROM ME!

God Bless You Brother Finney...I am SOO Blessed that the LORD brought You into My Life!

Pastor _____

Sept 21 Call from _____. His dad, with whom I have been working for quite some time to get all matters in the incorporated 501(c)(3) church he was pastor of in order so as to reorganize the Bible way, passed away. He said that they have completed the amendment to the corp. constitution so that they can transfer the property to the trust. _____ met with the elders Sunday afternoon. Before [his dad] died, he got everything straightened out with the secretary of state to transfer everything over to the trust. They did amendments. They also have discussed the property tax exemption with the county assessor and everything is OK there. We are to have a conference call (me to call them) on Oct. 3, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

Sept 23: I revised the original docs sent to _____.

Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____ Thu, Sep 23 at 4:06 PM

Dear Bro. _____,

The sample docs are attached.

PLEASE REPLY TO THIS EMAIL TO LET ME KNOW THAT YOU RECEIVED THEM.

I will call about 1pm Central Time on Oct. 3.

God Bless,

Brother Jerald

JERALD C. FINNEY

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Churches under Christ Ministry

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E-MAIL: gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net

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Sept 22: Call from Pastor ____ (phone no. & e-mail address) in ____, _____. Dr. Greg Dixon and Barbara Ketay helped him set up the common law trust 15 or more years ago. He had a question about how to appoint a successor trust. I told him that the Declaration of Trust explains how to do so, and to give me a call if it does not. Put the church on the email list with his permission.

On Thursday, September 23, 2021, 04:31:24 PM CDT, _____.com> wrote:

I tried to email Barbara Ketay, but her email isn't working. Churches are arguing with me, and refusing to answer if they're 501c. And won't mention laws. Can you please help?

Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____.com Thu, Sep 23 at 6:45 PM

Ask if the church gives IRS (Internal Revenue Service) acknowledgements for tithes, offerings, and gifts. If it does, it is tax exempt under either a 501(c)(3) or 508(c)(1)(A) and is subject to the rules and regulations that come with 501(c)(3). Let me know if you want to be put on the ministry mailing list. I do not solicit donations or inundate the list with emails. As to 508(c)(1)(A), see <https://geraldfinney.com/2014/04/28/church-internal-revenue-code-%C2%A7-508-tax-exempt-status/>.

God bless. Jerald Finney

_____.com To: gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net Wed, Sep 29 at 9:24 AM

Dear Bro Jerald. My name is _____. _____ from _____ Baptist Church is my pastor. The question I have is there any legal advice and or action I can take against my employer for firing me because I don't believe in the covid 19 vaccine. I have until Oct the 18th to get the jab. I'm not ant- vaccine I'm just Pro-choice. Or is there a way I can word my exemption later without refusing. I've talk to my pastor. And of course we came up with some verses to explain my reasons. Any advice would be helpful. Thank You and God Bless.

Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____.com Thu, Sep 30 at 5:54 PM

I am with you. I will not take the vaccine. However, I have not thoroughly studied the issue from a legal perspective. Sorry. You might try to contact the Alliance Defending Freedom to see if they can be of help. God bless. Bro. Jerald Just google "Alliance Defending Freedom" to get their info. If you have trouble contacting them, let me know.

Sept 30 Published [Lesson 2: The elements of a church Bible Trust.](#)

Sept 30 Call from _____. He said he wanted to discuss 501(c)(3). I called him. We talked for 45 min. or so. He is 44 yrs. old. Is disgusted with churches because they are 501(c)(3) businesses, that they are modern day Pharisees of Jesus' day. He said just look at how they talk. They just want more money to build their little kingdoms and pay their employees, including their employed pastors, more. He said every member is in the pastor's pocket. Said they are using God for a profit. He said they are telling their members to get vaccinated, that he is so sick of the deception and hypocrisy, that they are part of the march toward the one world government. **Etc.**

I talk to a lot of people who feel the same as the gentleman above. The Bible order is, salvation, baptism into a local church under Christ (for perfection, ministry work, edification, discipleship, sanctification, fellowship, etc.). Sadly, most locations have no church under Christ, only businesses, little kingdoms, etc. As a result, newly saved people never grow up and fight the spiritual warfare God has called them to because they are not being fed the Word of God.