

deal of point to it, unless you can present a strong reason to the contrary. I say the burden of proof is on the man who does not work for church ~~an~~ union, to present a reason why he should not be.

And it is not a sufficient reason to say, these people here are not ~~the~~ Christians. That is a good reason for not uniting with these people, but it is not a reason for not looking for other people who are real ~~the~~ Christians, with whom we should unite. I say that we should either have a reason why a universal organization, visible organization of true Christians is not God's will, or else we should work actively for such a thing. Now that is ~~as~~ far as I want to go in consideration ~~of~~ of this present problem right now.

But on this point of the church universal, the Westminster Confession has a very interesting statement which I read to you last time, about the visibility of it. It said that the holy catholic church, the catholic or universal church which is invisible, consists of the whole number of the elect that have been, are, or shall be gathered into one ~~in~~ under Christ the head thereof. And is the spouse, the body, ~~the~~ fullness of him that ~~is~~ filleth all in all. Now I do not know how anybody can disprove anything in that definition of it. It is quite a comprehensive and carefully worked out definition.

(question) What we mean is that it is not visible at the present. As an organization, the invisible church. That is to say, the invisible ~~the~~ church is a unit which includes all the true Christians that ever have been or ever will be. Well, they are not visible at one time. They are not visible to us right now. But then I also think that there is this about it. The term invisible is not of the best to express it, and yet I do not know of any other to express it. Here you have a group of ~~the~~ people. Here are 100 people together. And they are a Christian church. Well now, to our visible sight, there is a visible ~~the~~ church, there are 100 people. But to the sight of the Lord Jesus Christ, there may be ~~the~~ 90 Christians and 10 unbelievers. And as the organism, the true church is invisible to us in the sense that we cannot tell exactly what it is. Now the term invisible is not so clear perhaps