

What is one city, one church doctrine?

The church is an organic body of believers worldwide (Eph 1:22, 23). When we place our trust in Christ, we become church members (Jn 1:12; Ro 8:16; 2 Pe 1:4).

Jacob Howard wrote:

In just a few verses, Romans 16 single-handedly deconstructs “one city, one church” doctrine (OCOC)...

...According to OCOC doctrine, a church should only take the name of “the church in [city name] city,” and any other kind of name is a denomination...

...Cenchrea (modern Kechries) was a port town of Corinth, a satellite of Corinth, having its own settlement....Paul recognizing the church in Cenchrea, the church in a port town, exposes the falsehood of the OCOC doctrine.¹

The church is not a building. When people leave the four walls, the structure is no longer a church. *We* are the church (Ro 16:5 Eph 2:21, 22).

Christians unite around the person of Jesus Christ (Eph 4:15, 16) now and in the future (1 Jn 3:2).

¹ Howard, Jacob. “One City, One Church: Witness Lee’s Groundless Take on Romans 16.” *TheLordsRecovery.Org*, 2 Jan. 2020, thelordsrecovery.org/2020/01/02/one-city-one-church-witness-lees-groundless-take-on-romans-16.