## **RECOGNISING THE FALSE CHURCH** June 24, 2024

Here are some elements to identify false churches:

- A church that primarily emphasises tithes and offerings rather than sanctification
- A church that does not consistently invite its members to live a life of righteousness and holiness
- It gives more authority to itself than to the Word of God
- It does not administer the sacraments correctly, particularly water baptism
- It maintains the worship of statues, idols, angels, and prayers to the dead
- It is established by false apostles or false prophets
- False pastors are the most visible element of its clergy
- It promotes spirituality, spiritism, and fetishism
- Its leaders are appointed by votes among humans
- It tries to separate members from their families, creating for the pastor an authority superior to that of spouses in families
- It associates with other obviously false churches and does not denounce them
- It does not preach repentance, water baptism, or the kingdom of heaven
- It primarily emphasises in its preaching earthly prosperity, money, or similar concerns that are essentially carnal
- It preaches the weakness of the flesh to justify a life of iniquity
- It indulges in supposed Christian pagan festivals