

## Staying Put

As you drive down a certain street in a certain town, pass all of the nice brick homes lined up along a nice concrete street, you'll suddenly see a change of scenery. There, nestled among those fine houses is Ferguson's hog farm. A small white framed house, a single pick-up truck with rusted fenders parked on a dirt driveway and over a hundred hogs in the pasture behind the house. If you go and ask Mr. Ferguson how this came to be, he'll be glad to tell you. "This here place used to be out in the country. When I bought this place 42 years ago, there wasn't a soul for miles around. Then about ten years ago, folks began to build those big fancy houses all around. I ain't never had the first bit of trouble out here till them folks decided that this was a good place to live and they all wanted to move in on me. Then all of the sudden I get lawyers and real estate agents coming to see me, wantin' me to sell out. They tried every trick in the book, they even had one of them petition things that was signed by all of them fancy folk sayin' that the smell from the hogs was makin' their younguns' sick. But it didn't work. This here is my home and I ain't moving just because a bunch of folks decided that this place was better for them than it was for me. No sir, ain't nobody gonna run me off, I'm stayin' put!"

Needless to say, but Mr. Ferguson is a stubborn old coot isn't he? When it comes to our relationship with Christ and His church, you and I should be just as stubborn. We should take on the attitude that no matter what comes along, nothing can separate us from our Lord and His family and we're "staying put!" The bible puts it this way...

*"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?"*

*"For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:35, 38-39)*

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