

that is not what the parable says.

The church is in the world until the end of this age. God has placed us in the world, and does not desire us to leave it. ~~with~~

Although the church is in the world, it is distinct from the world. What is the church? In the fullest sense the church is the church invisible. It consists of those who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour. Of course, none of these are tares. So the church invisible is completely separate from

the tares, because the true church is made up entirely of true believers. To say that wheat and tares grow together in the church invisible would be utter nonsense. from the visible church

How how about the visible church? Should we try to root out/everyone of whom we are not one hundred percent sure that he is saved, and is therefore a true child of God? That would be utterly absurd. We cannot be sure enough in our judgment. It is not God's will that we make such an attempt.

However, it is God's will that we have a church in which the influences are such as will be conducive to the building up of Christian life. It is His will that we have a church which is an instrument for the advancement of His work. It is not His will that open denial of His truth be permitted in His visible church.

That is just ordinary common sense. There is abundant Scriptural evidence for it, but it should be recognized by ordinary common sense.

If brewers organized an association to persuade people to buy liquor, so as to increase their business, and then found that their association included a few people who were constantly taking about the evils of drinking liquor, you can be sure they would remove such people from their association. It would be only common sense to do so. The visible church is put into the world by God for the purpose of advancing His truth. Many parts of it are now in a situation which is utterly ridiculous, for they have in their membership and even in their leadership men who are seeking to tear down the very thing it was established to build up, and to make it go in the opposite direction to that which is commanded in God's Word. To seek to maintain the purity of the visible church is merely ordinary common sense, and is very clearly taught in the Scripture. To seek to attain absolute purity in