

WHY CHURCHES DECLINE

Dr. Bill Bennett

A former reporter, of the *Greensboro Record*, now working with *The Biblical Recorder*, asked me the following question: Why have great churches declined over the last fifty years? I gave him the following answer.

1. No desire to keep growing.
2. Unwillingness to change
3. Loss of vision for winning the lost.
4. Consumer mentality of congregations.
5. Prayerlessness and powerless preaching.
6. Unregenerate church members.
7. Pastors acting like CEO's rather than servants and shepherds (pride, *hubris*).
8. Desire for public approval rather than God's approval.
9. Little understanding and appropriation of the power of the Holy Spirit.
10. Loss of first love for Jesus.
11. Deacon domination or "power-broker's" control.
12. Internal conflict and self-serving factions.
13. Too many business meetings
14. An unbelieving liberalism or dead orthodoxy.