Abstract
Materialism or religio-economic entrepreneurship has been a primary impetus for the explosive growth of Protestant churches in Korea, especially since the 1960s, when rapid industrialisation began to propel Korean society into tremendous economic prosperity. However, since the early 1990s, there has been stagnation, even decline. The primary aim of this article is to identify the most pressing problems facing the Korean Protestant churches and show how these problems have begun to render them less vibrant and possibly to bring about decline in their membership. More specifically, the article identifies how materialism, having deeply penetrated Korean Christianity, led it first to grow and then decline; thus robbing it of its requisite or intrinsic organisational characteristics-being the light and salt of the world.

Cite this
of most protestant churches I have been to, there were always baskets being passed around collecting money for this and that. One that I could remember was for to have the pastor go on vacation. The other was for the pastor to get a new car. A baptist church that I went to here in NC (if Baptist isn’t Protestant, excuse me) the minister complained to the congregation that they didn’t collect as much money as they did the previous Sunday (that was 10,000 US dollars.) I stopped going after only one service. I don’t want to go to a church that always asks for money like that, or t... So when a church, in my opinion is always asking for money and won’t let you leave until you give more, I never go back. 

Home Christian News

Protestant Churches Targeted in Korean Gathering Ban. Protestant Churches Targeted in Korean Gathering Ban. By. Stephanie Martin. The bad press from that group and subsequent outbreaks at Protestant churches are raising concerns that Christianity is getting a bad name in South Korea. Combined with recent dustups about political issues and father-to-son succession at megachurches, increased cases of Covid-19 “could reinforce people’s bad impression of Christianity here,” says Yoo Hye-rin, a Christian who’s currently worshiping online. Recently, a non-Christian researcher says she noticed people avoiding empty subway seats near a woman whose bracelet featured a large cross. “I was also reluctant to sit next to her,” the re Materialism or religio-economic entrepreneurship has been a primary impetus for the explosive growth of Protestant churches in Korea, especially since the 1960s, when rapid industrialisation began to propel Korean society into tremendous economic prosperity. However, since the early 1990s, there has been stagnation, even decline. The primary aim of this article is to identify the most pressing problems facing the Korean Protestant churches and show how these problems have begun to render them less vibrant and possibly to bring about decline in their membership.