The Indestructible Kingdom  
Heb. 12:28

Introduction:
A. Pessimism concerning the church can be found among many brethren.
   1. The outlook has become fearful and doubtful
   2. The mood has become negative.
   3. The speech has become problem focused.
   4. The condition of many local churches and individual Christians fuels this pessimism
B. Pessimism is unjustified when it comes to the universal church - the kingdom of God.
   2. Earthly kingdoms will rise and fall, but the kingdom of God will stand.
   3. Local churches will rise and fall, the universal church will stand.
   4. The kingdom will be here when Christ comes again (1 Cor. 15:24)
C. Let us note that all efforts to destroy it have failed so far.

Discussion:
I. No Earthly Power Has Destroyed It.
   A. The combined power of Jerusalem and Rome did not prevent its establishment.
      1. Herod’s killing of John the Baptist – first preached “kingdom at hand” (Matt. 3:2)
      2. Jerusalem’s and Rome’s role in the crucifixion of Jesus.
   B. The combined power of Jerusalem and Rome did not destroy it after its establishment.
      1. The early Jewish persecution (Acts 4, 5, 7, 8)
      2. The Roman persecution (Nero, others, cf. Book of Revelation)

II. No False Teacher Has Destroyed It.
   A. The danger of false teachers.
      1. Jesus’ warnings (Matt. 7:15; 24:11, 24)
      3. John’s warning (1 John 4:1)
   B. The power of false teachers.
      1. To deceive and divide (Rom. 16:17-18)
      2. To destroy souls (2 Pet. 2:1-2)
   C. As dangerous and powerful as they are – the kingdom still stands.

III. No Internal Problem Has Destroyed It.
   A. Jerusalem’s internal problems.
      1. Ananias and Sappharia (Acts 5)
      2. The murmuring (Acts 6)
   B. Corinth’s internal problems.
      1. Division (1 Cor. 1)
      2. Carnality/immaturity (1 Cor. 3).
      3. Fornication (1 Cor. 5)
      4. Lawsuits between brethren (1 Cor. 6).
      5. Lord’s supper abuse (1 Cor. 11)
      6. Problems over spiritual gifts (1 Cor 12-14).
      7. Denial of the resurrection (1 Cor. 15:12)
   C. Judaizing teachers (Acts 15:1; Gal. 2:3-5)
   D. Churches of Asia.
      1. Ephesus – left first love (Rev. 2:4-5).
      2. Pergamos – doctrine of Balaam and Nicolaitans (Rev. 2:14-15)
      4. Sardis – dead (Rev. 3:1) – few not defiled (v. 4)
      5. Laodiceans - lukewarm (Rev. 3:15).

Conclusion:
A. Someone said, “The church has be a divine institution or brethren would have destroyed long ago.
B. Brethren may err, but the foundation stands sure (2 Pet. 2:18-19).