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Building God's house

Last month I had a chance to visit Victor Hugo's house in Guernsey. From the outside, the large white building looked like many other town houses on the island. However, on the inside, many things were upside down. I am talking carpets and plates on the ceilings...

Every room was unique. One was gothic and dark and reminded me of the inside of a cathedral; another was lavishly decorated in deep red and gold and would not have been out of place in a palace; a third looked like a giant greenhouse.

Although the rooms were very different, there was no doubt that the same mind had designed them, as Victor Hugo's initials could be found in every room.

It reminded me of the church as a whole. Many things seem upside down. The worship styles of individual congregations are clashing. In contrast to Victor Hugo's house, the church cannot even present a unified facade. And this mishmash is all supposed to be part of God's work?

Yes, it is true. Not everything that claims to be Christian has truly been inspired by God.

However, don't get distracted by the decoration or worry about clashing colours, but check that the brickwork is sound. Look out for the initials JC – Jesus Christ – on the bricks. Whenever you see those initials, you can relax and let Jesus worry about how and where the brick fits in. After all, He is the architect and builder of His church.

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