

## "THE CHURCH"

### I. THE PREDICTION OF THE "CHURCH" (Matthew 16:13-18)

#### A. The MEANING of "Ekklesia."

1. The *literal meaning* of "ekklesia" is "the \_\_\_\_\_ assembly of people."
2. In a *general sense*, "ekklesia" is used of an \_\_\_\_\_ of any kind.  
(Acts 19:32, 39, 41, 7:38)
3. In a *technical sense*, "ekklesia" is used of the Universal and \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Acts 11:22, 13:1; Ephesians 1:22-23, 2:14-16)

\* How is "ekklesia" distributed in the New Testament?

- 110 times: it is used of Christians
- 3 times: the nation of Israel or those in Israel
- 2 times: a gathering of mainly unsaved Gentiles

#### B. The PREDICTION of the Church. (Matthew 16:18)

1. The *Foundation* of the Church is \_\_\_\_\_ ... "upon this rock."

\* Who does this "rock" not refer to?

- 1) Peter
  - a. because of the shift from "\_\_\_\_\_" (Peter) to "\_\_\_\_\_" (rock) (Matthew 16:18)
  - b. because of Matthew 16:21-23
  - c. because Peter tells us who the Rock is in Acts 4:5-12 & 1 Peter 2:4-9
  - d. Because Paul tells us who the \_\_\_\_\_ is in 1 Cor.3:11
- 2) Any \_\_\_\_\_ whether pastor or church-planter

2. The *Builder* of the Church is \_\_\_\_\_ ... "I."

\* What does this mean to church leaders?

3. The *Beginning* of the Church would be \_\_\_\_\_ beginning on the day of \_\_\_\_\_ ... "will build."

\* What does this debunk?

That the Church ...

- 1) Started with \_\_\_\_\_ – some in Covenant/ Reformed Theology
- 2) Started with \_\_\_\_\_ – most in Covenant/ Reformed Theology
- 3) Started with \_\_\_\_\_ The Baptist – some Baptists
- 4) Existed during \_\_\_\_\_ earthly ministry - others

4. The *Owner* of the Church is \_\_\_\_\_ ... “*my church.*”
  - \* Whose “flock” is the church?
5. The Centrality of the Church is seen by the promise “I will build by my \_\_\_\_\_.”
6. The *Durability* of the Church is guaranteed as “*the gates of Hades \_\_\_\_\_ prevail against it.*”
  - \* Is this referring to the local church or universal church?
7. The Importance of the Church is seen by it being the “\_\_\_\_\_ and ground of the \_\_\_\_\_.” (1 Timothy 3:15)

**C. The CLARIFICATION About the Church.**

1. The Church is never referred to as a \_\_\_\_\_. (Colossians 4:15)
2. The Church is never referred to as a \_\_\_\_\_. (Revelation 2-3)
3. The Church is not a different name for \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The Church is not synonymous with the Messianic \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The Church is not the same as \_\_\_\_\_.

**II. THE UNIQUENESS OF THE “CHURCH”**

**A. In \_\_\_\_\_ to ISRAEL.**

<u>ISRAEL</u>	<u>CHURCH</u>
Entered by physical birth ( <i>Gen. 17:6-8; Romans 9:3</i> )	Entered by spiritual birth ( <i>1 Peter 1:23</i> )
Under Law ( <i>Exodus 20</i> )	Under grace ( <i>Romans 6:14</i> )
Citizenship on earth ( <i>Matt. 6:10</i> )	Citizenship in Heaven ( <i>Phil. 3:20-21</i> )
Earthly temple ( <i>2 Sam. 7:13</i> )	Heavenly temple ( <i>1 Corinthians 3:16</i> )
Earthly promises ( <i>Matt. 5:3-9</i> )	Heavenly promises ( <i>Jn. 14:1-3; Phil. 3:20; Col. 1:5; 1 Pt. 1:4</i> )
Involves one nation ( <i>Ps. 147:19-20</i> )	Involves many nations ( <i>Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8</i> )

**B. In its \_\_\_\_\_ Orientation.**

The Church is the...

1. heavenly \_\_\_\_\_ of God. (Hebrews 3:1, 12:23)
2. with a heavenly \_\_\_\_\_. (Ephesians 1:20-23)
3. with a heavenly \_\_\_\_\_. (John 14:3; Acts 1:11)
4. with a heavenly \_\_\_\_\_. (Ephesians 2:6)

5. with a heavenly \_\_\_\_\_\_. (Phil. 3:20)
6. with a heavenly \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (Eph. 1:3; 1 Pet. 1:3-5)
7. that should have a heavenly \_\_\_\_\_. (Col. 3:1-2)
8. with a heavenly \_\_\_\_\_ of a heavenly \_\_\_\_\_ at the rapture. (Colossians 3:3-4; Philippians 3:20-21; 1Thessalonians 1:10, 4:13-17)

### III. THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH

#### A. As to \_\_\_\_\_ CHURCHES.

1. The local church when perfected in organization consists of...
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Timothy 3:8-13)
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ / spiritually \_\_\_\_\_ congregations. (Philippians 1:1)
2. There are local churches during this age that are like...
  - a. Ephesus – who are doctrinally strong and serving, but \_\_\_\_\_ their first \_\_\_\_\_. (Rev. 2:1-7)
  - b. Smyrna – who are willing to \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_. (Rev. 2:8-11)
  - c. Pergamos – who are \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_. (Rev. 2:12-17)
  - d. Thyatira – who tolerated \_\_\_\_\_ teaching. (Rev. 2:18-29)
  - e. Sardis – who are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, but had a name. (Rev. 3:1-6)
  - f. Philadelphia – who God \_\_\_\_\_ a door that \_\_\_\_\_ one can close. (Rev. 3:7-13)
  - g. Laodicea – who are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_. (Rev. 3:14-22)

#### B. As to the \_\_\_\_\_ CHURCH.

1. There will be a future \_\_\_\_\_ of all dead believers in Christ. (1 Thess. 4:16; 1 Cor. 15:20-23; 1 Cor. 15:51-52a)
2. There will be a future \_\_\_\_\_ of all living believers in Christ. (1 Cor. 15:52b; 1 Thess. 4:17)
3. There will be a future judgment of all church-age saints call the Judgment \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Cor. 4:5; 2 Cor. 5:10)

4. There will be a future \_\_\_\_\_ with Christ in the Kingdom due the believer's position in Christ. (Rev. 1:5b-6; Rev. 2:26-27; Rev. 3:21)

**\* Who are the 24 elders?**

**\* Who can't they be?**

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ (5:11)
- 2) Seraphim / living \_\_\_\_\_ (5:11)
- 3) Tribulation \_\_\_\_\_ (7:11-14)

**\* They are representatives of the Raptured Church!**

- 1) They are in \_\_\_\_\_. (Raptured! / John14:3)
- 2) They are sitting on \_\_\_\_\_. (Rev.3:21)
- 3) They are called \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Peter 5:4)
- 4) They are clothed in \_\_\_\_\_ raiment. (Rev.3:5)
- 5) They have \_\_\_\_\_ on their heads. (rewarded at the Bema)
- 6) They are \_\_\_\_\_ in number. (representative #)
- 7) They have been \_\_\_\_\_ by Christ's blood. (Rev.1:5)
- 8) They are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (Rev. 1:6)
- 9) They shall \_\_\_\_\_ on the earth. (Rev. 2:26-27)

**\* Why is this important?**

- It shows us where the \_\_\_\_\_ is when the tribulation breaks out
- In order to be in \_\_\_\_\_ it has to be pre-tribulational
- The church is \_\_\_\_\_ by the 24 elders
- This is also where \_\_\_\_\_ come in