

The Church of Jesus Christ

Acts 2

Matthew 16:18 I will build My Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Revelation 21:9-10 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.

Acts 1:4-5 And gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, which, He said, "You heard from Me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

I. Built by the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:4-5 And gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard from Me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

Acts 1:6-8 So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; 8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

1 Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Acts 2:32-33 This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. 33 Therefore, having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.

Acts 2:38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

1 Corinthians 12:3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus is accursed"; and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

Ephesians 2:20-22 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

II. United by Christ

John 15:26 When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, **He will testify about Me;**

Ephesians 1:22-23 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the Church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 4:15-16 But speaking the truth in love, **we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ,** 16 from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

Acts 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.

Acts 4:11-12 He is the stone which was rejected by you, the builders, but which became the chief cornerstone. ¹² And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.

The Church exists for Christ's sake: to unite the soul with Jesus Christ, teach it to live in Him, and thereby glorify Him in the world.

III. Stands on the Word of God

Acts 2:42 **They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching** and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

1 Peter 1:23-25 for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, **through the living and enduring word of God.** ²⁴ For, "All flesh is like grass, and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls off, ²⁵ but the word of the Lord endures forever." And this is the word that was preached to you.

1 Peter 2:1-3 Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, ² like newborn babies, **long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,** ³ if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

John 8:31-32 So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "**If you continue in My word,** then you are truly disciples of Mine; ³² and **you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.**"

Ephesians 2:20-22 having been built **on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone,** ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture is **inspired by God** and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Colossians 3:16 **Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you,** with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

IV. Exists in fellowship

Acts 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

2 Corinthians 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

Ephesians 4:15-16 But speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ,¹⁶ from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

- **Corporate Prayer**

Acts 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

- **Corporate Worship**

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

- **Mutual edification**

1 Thessalonians 5:11-15 Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing...¹⁴ We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone. ¹⁵ See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people.

- **Mutual Encouragement**

Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

- **Serving one another**

Romans 12:13-15 Distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality...¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

- **Financial Giving to the Church Ministry**

2 Corinthians 9:6-8: "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."

V. Expressed in witnessing

Acts 1:8: "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; **and you will be My witnesses** in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 2:42-44: "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common."

Acts 2:44-47: "All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. **And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.**"

Acts 4:11-12: "Jesus is 'the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.' ¹² Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

1 Peter 3:15: "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."

What is your relationship with Christ's Church?

What is your attitude to the Church?