

## **The Church & The Kingdom of God**

- ✘ “Is the Church synonymous with the Kingdom of God?” **“NO!”** <sup>5</sup>
- ✘ The Church age is **a phase** of the Kingdom (Matthew 13; 16:18-19; Colossians 4:10-11).
- ✘ The Kingdom of God: “The rule or realm of God, the universal sphere of His influence.” <sup>6</sup>
  - ↳ “The Kingdom comprises the redeemed of all ages (Old Testament saints and New Testament saints), and the Church comprises those who have been redeemed since the finished work of Christ (His crucifixion and resurrection).”
  - ↳ Louis Berkhof: **“Already – Not Yet”** (Luke 17:20-21)



## **The Nature of the Church is Without Question A UNIQUE And SPECIAL Creation of God!**

### **ENDNOTES:**

- <sup>1</sup> Thiessen, Henry C., Revised by Vernon D. Doerksen, *Lectures in Systematic Theology* (Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1949 – Revised in 1979, Reprinted February 1989), 309-310.
- <sup>2</sup> Grudem, W. (2020). [Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine](#) (Second Edition, p. 1054). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic.
- <sup>3</sup> Grudem, W. (2020). (Second Edition, pp. 1054-1055).
- <sup>4</sup> Thiessen, Henry C., 309.
- <sup>5</sup> Pearlman, Myer, *Knowing The Doctrines of the Bible* (Springfield, MI: Gospel Publishing House, 1937, 1981), 351.
- <sup>6</sup> Dusing, Michael L., and others, eds, *Systematic Theology* (Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 1994), 542-543.

### **Additional Sources Used But Not Cited Today:**

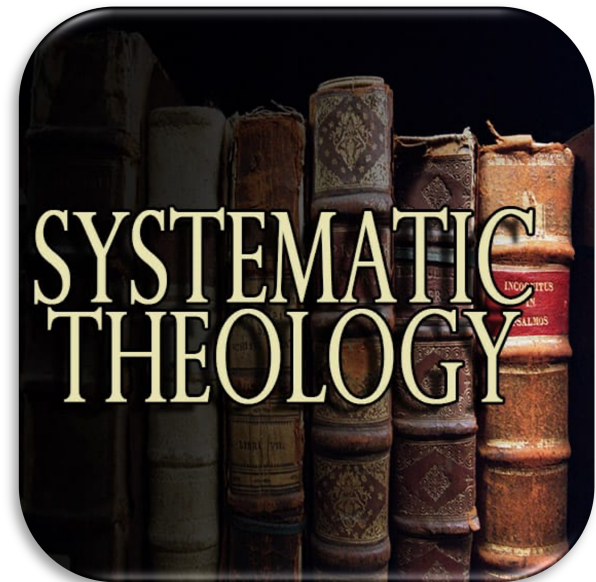
- Isgrigg, Daniel D., *The Future of AG Eschatology*, (Online Resource, published May 11, 2019; accessed 02-01-2024) <https://danieldisgrigg.com/2019/05/11/the-future-of-ag-eschatology/#:~:text=Therefore%2C%20the%20type%20of%20dispensationalism,not%20affirm%20any%20tribunational%20position.>
- Vlach, Michael J., *Dispensational Theology*, The Gospel Coalition (Online Resource – accessed 02-01-2024). <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/dispensational-theology/>

# THE JOURNEY

Assembly of God

## **MESSAGE GUIDE**

*Speaker: Pastor Mark Geer*  
*Sunday: February 4, 2024*



# Message Talk Sheet

Date: February 4, 2024

Speaker: Pastor Mark Geer

SERIES: SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY  
FOR DAILY LIVING

*"A Practical Look at the Study of God &  
Elements of Biblical & Spiritual Truth"*

Today's Message:

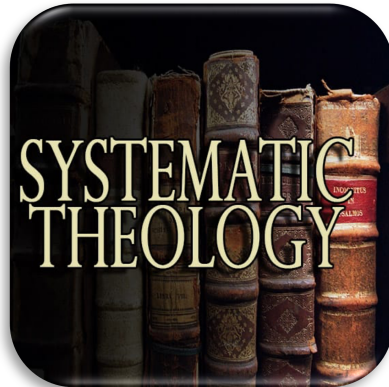
**ECCLESIOLOGY (Part 4)**

The Doctrine of the New Testament Church:

The Nature of the Church

[Part B – "It's Character: What It Is & Is Not, The Church, Israel & The Kingdom"]

Scriptures: 1 Peter 2:9-10; 1 Cor. 12:12-31; 2 Cor. 6:16-17; Romans 11:16, 24;  
12:4-5; Eph. 2:11-18; Luke 17:20-21



## ***ECCLESIOLOGY ~ "The Doctrine of the New Testament Church"***

### **I Love My Church!**

- ✘ The Church is **Unique** – Called to stand out! (2 Peter 2:9)
- ✘ We were made to be the People of God (2 Corinthians 6:16; cf. Lev. 26:12; 1 Peter 2:9-10; cf. Deut. 10:15; Hosea 1:10).



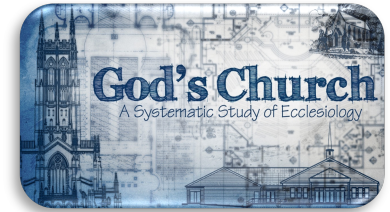
### **What the Church IS NOT!** <sup>1</sup>

- ✘ The Church is not a continuation of the old economy.
  - ↳ There IS a connection between the saved of all ages (John 10:16; Rom. 11:16, 24; 1 Pet. 2:9).
  - ↳ But in **Christianity** God is doing a unique and special thing (Matthew 9:17).
- ✘ The Church is not a continuation of the Synagogue (Matthew 16:18).

✘ The Church is not a Denomination (1 Corinthians 1:11-17).

✘ The Church is not...

- ↳ A Building... Corporation... Audience... Social Center... Entertainment Center... Educational Institution...



### **What the Church IS...**

- ✘ A Body (Romans 12:4-5; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31)
- ✘ An Organism (Matthew 7:17-20; Ephesians 4:11-16)
- ✘ A Community (Acts 2:41-47; 4:32-37)
- ✘ A Fellowship (Acts 2:41-47; 4:32-37)



### **The Church & Israel**

- ✘ Dispensational Systematic Theology (Lewis Sperry Chafer) <sup>2</sup>
- ✘ Progressive Dispensationalism: <sup>3</sup>
  - ↳ The church is the first step toward the establishment of the Kingdom of God.
  - ↳ God does not have two separate purposes for Israel and the church, but a single purpose—the establishment of the kingdom of God—in which Israel and the church will both share.
  - ↳ There is no distinction between Israel and the church in the future eternal state, for all will be part of the one people of God.
  - ↳ The church will reign with Christ in glorified bodies on earth during the millennium.
  - ↳ The Old Testament prophecies concerning Israel will still be fulfilled in the millennium by ethnic Jewish people, who will believe in Christ and live in the land of Israel as a "model nation" for all nations to see and learn from.
- ✘ Distinguishing Comments on Progressive Dispensationalism. <sup>4</sup>
  - ↳ 1 Corinthians 10:32; Eph. 2:11-18; Romans 11; Acts 15:12-21