

✘ A Definition of the Kingdom of God: “The rule or realm of God, the universal sphere of His influence.”⁷



↳ “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)

BIBLICAL METAPHORS

✘ The Kingdom of God /
The Kingdom of Heaven



✘ The Family of God

↳ A Family (1 Timothy 5:1-2; Ephesians 3:14; Matthew 12:47-50; 1 John 3:14-18).⁸

↳ The Bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:24f., 32; 2 Corinthians 11:2; James 4:4; Revelation 19:6 – 20:6; John 3:29).⁹

The Better We Understand The Nature & Chracter of The Church, The More We Are Able TO BE THE CHURCH!

ENDNOTES:

¹ Dusing, Michael L., and others, eds, *Systematic Theology* (Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 1994), 532.

² 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.

³ Grudem, W. (2020). [Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine](#) (Second Edition, p. 1054-1055). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Thiessen, Henry C., 309.

⁶ Pearlman, Myer, *Knowing The Doctrines of the Bible* (Springfield, MI: Gospel Publishing House, 1937, 1981), 351.

⁷ Dusing, Michael L., 542-543.

⁸ Grudem, W. (2020). (Second Edition, p. 1052).

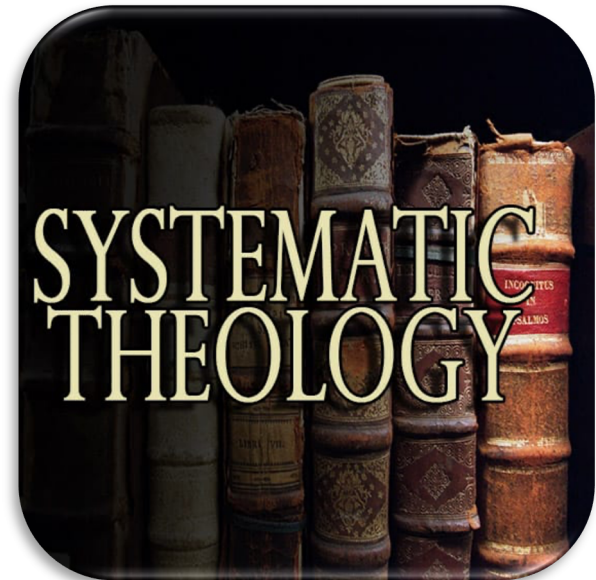
⁹ Ibid.

THE JOURNEY

Assembly of God

MESSAGE GUIDE

***Speaker: Pastor Mark Geer
Sunday: February 11, 2024***



Message Talk Sheet

Date: February 11, 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:

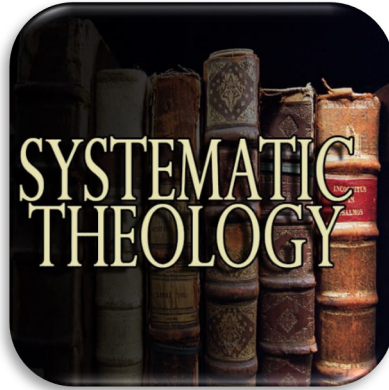
ECCLESIOLOGY (Part 5)

The Doctrine of the New Testament Church:

The Nature of the Church

[Part C – "It's Character: The Church, Israel & The Kingdom;
Biblical Metaphors Applied to the Church"]

Scriptures: Luke 17:20-21; Ephesians 2:11-18; 3:14; 5:22-33; Romans 11:1-36



ECCLESIOLOGY ~ "The Doctrine of the New Testament Church"

What the Church IS & IS NOT:

✘ God Has Always Been Calling Forth
A People To Himself.

↳ In the OT – It was the Nation of Israel (Leviticus 26:12).

↳ In the NT – It is the Church of Jesus (1 Peter 2:9). ¹



What the Church IS NOT! ²

✘ The Church is not a continuation of the old economy.

↳ 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),
nor is She a Denomination.

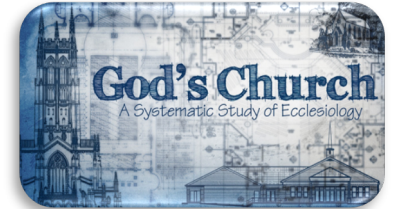
✘ The Church is not a Denomination (1 Corinthians 1:11-17).

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 & Fellowship (Acts 2:41-47; 4:32-37)

The Church & Israel

- ✘ Dispensational Systematic Theology
(Lewis Sperry Chafer) ³
- ✘ Progressive Dispensationalism: ⁴



- ↳ 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. ⁵

↳ 1 Corinthians 10:32; Eph. 2:11-18; Romans 11; Acts 15:12-21

The Church & The Kingdom of God

- ✘ "Is the Church synonymous with the Kingdom of God?" **"NO!"** ⁶
- ✘ The Church age is **a phase** of the Kingdom
(Matthew 13; 16:18-19; Colossians 4:10-11).

