

## **Ministry to Believers (Continued...)**

### ✦ **Purpose #2 – Nurture (Continued...)**

- ↪ The public church service is intended to do this (1 Corinthians 14:26), but the **individuals** are also to build themselves up in the most holy faith (Jude 20) and to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18).<sup>5</sup>
- ↪ Some Practical Ways Edification Can Be Accomplished: Discipleship, Fellowship, Spiritual Correction, Sharing, and Bearing One Another's Burdens.<sup>6</sup>

### ✦ **Purpose #3 – To Purify Itself**

- ↪ This is why Christ gave Himself for the Church (Ephesians 5:25-27).
- ↪ How Does This Work?
  - ☆ There is a purging that **The Father** performs (John 15:2; Q Corinthians 11:32; Hebrews 12:7-11).
  - ☆ There is a purging that **The Believer** should perform (1 Corinthians 11:28-31; 2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 John 3:2).
  - ☆ There is a purging that **The Local Church** is asked to perform (Acts 5:11; Rom. 16:17; 1 Cor. 5:6-8, 13; 2 Cor. 2:6; 2 Thess. 3:6, 14; Titus 3: 10f.; 2 John 10).<sup>8</sup>



## **The Purpose of the Church Is A Vital Mission & Ministry To The World.**

### **ENDNOTES:**

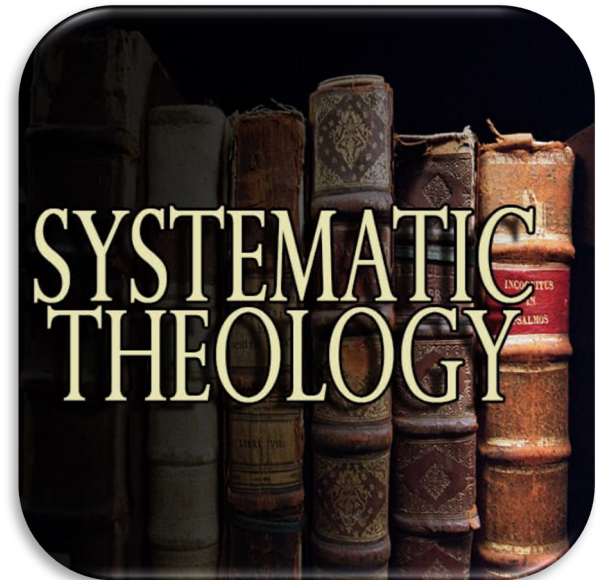
- <sup>1</sup> James, Sharon, 5 Ways the World Would Be Worse without Christianity, (October 16, 2023) Crossway.org (An online resource: <https://www.crossway.org/articles/5-ways-the-world-would-be-worse-without-christianity/>) (Accessed February 21, 2024).
- <sup>2</sup> Thiessen, Henry C., Revised by Vernon D. Doerksen, *Lectures in Systematic Theology* (Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1949 – Revised in 1979, Reprinted February 1989), 330
- <sup>3</sup> Dusing, Michael L., and others, eds, *Systematic Theology* (Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 1994), 544.
- <sup>4</sup> Grudem, W. (2020). *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine* (Second Edition, p. 1064). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic.
- <sup>5</sup> Thiessen, Henry C., 331.      <sup>6</sup> Dusing, Michael L., 545.      <sup>7</sup> Thiessen, Henry C., 331.

# THE JOURNEY

Assembly of God

## ***MESSAGE GUIDE***

***Speaker: Pastor Mark Geer***  
***Sunday: February 25, 2024***

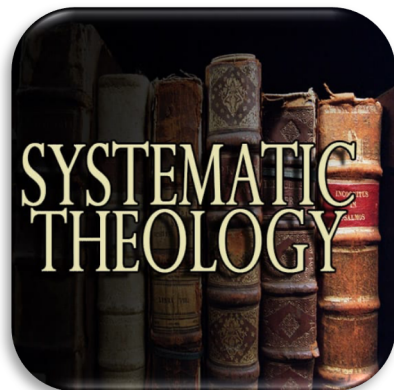


# Message Talk Sheet

Date: February 25, 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 7)**

The Doctrine of the New Testament Church:

The Purpose of the Church

[Part A – "It's Mission & Ministry: Lesson #1 – Worship, Fellowship, Discipleship, Nurture & Purity"]

Scriptures: Colossians 1:27-29; 3:16; Ephesians 4:11-16; 5:25-27

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

### **In A World Without The Church / Christianity...**



✘ *Five Ways The World Would Be Worse Off Without Christianity:*

- ↪ *The World Would Be Crueler.*
- ↪ *The World Would Be More Unjust.*
- ↪ *The World Would Be Less Free.*
- ↪ *The World Would Be Less Educated & Much Poorer.*
- ↪ *The World Would Have No Lasting Hope.* <sup>1</sup>

✘ *It's Important For Us To Have A Clear Sense of **The Purpose of the Church.***

- ↪ *Why Are We Here?*
- ↪ *What is God's Purpose for the Church?*

## **Ministry to God**



✘ **Purpose #1 – Worship**

- ↪ Colossians 3:16; Ephesians 1:5, 12, 14  
~ "To the Praise of His Glory."
- ↪ The Westminster Shorter Catechism: What is the chief end of man?
  - ☆ Man's chief end is to **Glorify God** and to enjoy Him forever (Ecclesiastes 12:13; Romans 15:6, 9; Ephesians 1:5, 12, 14, 18; 3:21; 2 Thessalonians 1:12; 1 Peter 4:11).
- ↪ How is God Glorified?
  - ☆ We glorify God by **worshipping Him** (John 4:23f.; cf, Phil. 3:3; Rev. 22:9).
  - ☆ We glorify God by **prayer** and **praise** (Psalm 50:23).
  - ☆ We glorify God by **living a godly life** (John 15:8; 1 Peter 2:9; cf. Titus 2:10). <sup>2</sup>
- ↪ Worship – Greek: **proskuneō**, originally meant **'Kiss toward.'** <sup>3</sup>
- ↪ Every aspect of one's life as a believer should be characterized by the desire to exalt and glorify the Lord (1 Corinthians 10:31).

## **Ministry to Believers**



✘ **Purpose #2 – Nurture**

- ↪ The Church's Goal: To Build Believers Up to **Maturity** in the Faith (Colossians 1:27-29).
- ↪ God Gave Gifted Persons To Accomplish This Goal (Ephesians 4:11-16). <sup>4</sup>
  - ☆ To **equip the saints** for the work of ministry (v.12a).
  - ☆ For **building up** [Edifying / Nurturing] the Body of Christ (v.12b).
  - ☆ Until we all attain to the **unity of the faith** and of the **knowledge** of the Son of God (v.13a).
  - ☆ To a **perfect man** [into maturity] (v.13b).