

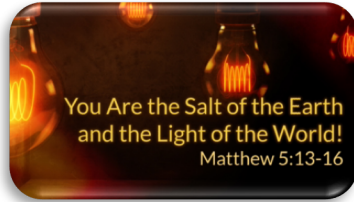
Ministry to the World (Continued...)

✦ Purpose #6 – To Uphold A Moral Standard

✦ “The church is ‘the light of the world,’ to **banish** moral ignorance; it is ‘the salt of the earth’ to **preserve it** from moral corruption... against the **downward trends of society** it must lift **a warning voice**; at all **danger points** it must plant **a beacon light.**”⁹

✦ See Matthew 5:13-16; 2 Corinthians 5:19; Galatians 2:7; 1 Timothy 1:11; 3:15; Philippians 2:16; Jude 3.

✦ “Few worldly communities realize the true worth of the people of God in their midst. But surely, not many of the ungodly would want to live in a world **where there were no Christian influence.**”¹⁰



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

ENDNOTES:

¹ 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).

² Grudem, W. (2020). *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine* (Second Edition, p. 1064). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic.

³ 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), 331.

⁴ Dusing, Michael L., and others, eds, *Systematic Theology* (Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 1994), 545.

⁵ Pearlman, Myer, *Knowing The Doctrines of the Bible* (Springfield, MI: Gospel Publishing House, 1937, 1981), 351.

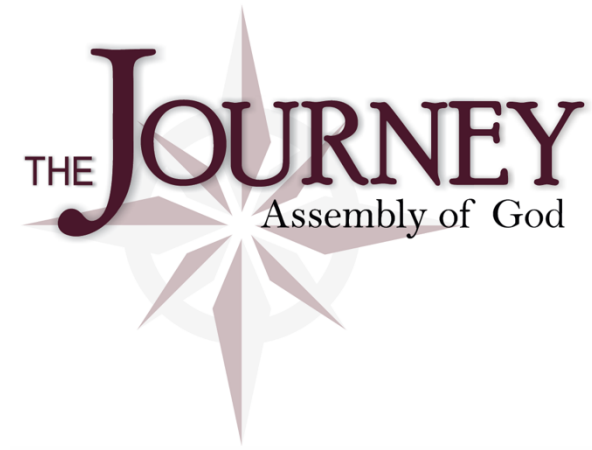
⁶ Grudem, W. (2020). (Second Edition, pp. 1064-1065).

⁷ Grudem, W. (2020). (Second Edition, p. 1065).

⁸ Ibid.

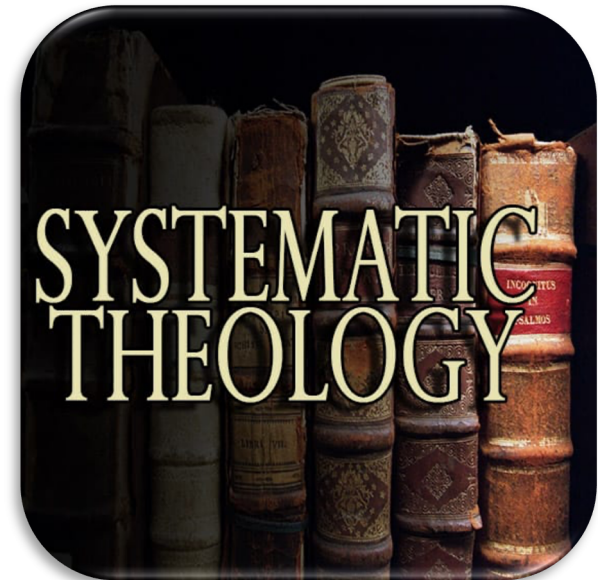
⁹ Pearlman, Myer, 351.

¹⁰ Grudem, W. (2020). (Second Edition, pp. 1070-1071).



MESSAGE GUIDE

*Speaker: Pastor Mark Geer
Sunday: March 10, 2024*



Message Talk Sheet

Date: March 10, 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:

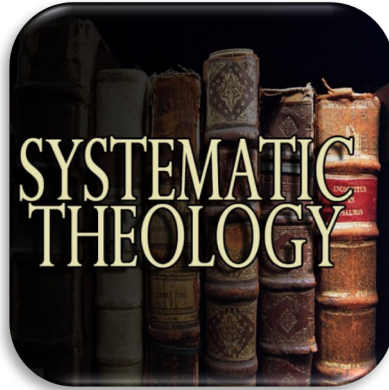
ECCLESIOLOGY (Part 8)

The Doctrine of the New Testament Church:

The Purpose of the Church

[Part A – "It's Mission & Ministry: Lesson #2 – Evangelism, Social Concerns & Responsibilities, A Moral Standard"]

Scriptures: Matthew 5:13-16; 25:31-46; 28:18-20; Luke 10:25-37; Phil. 2:16



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.* ¹

✘ *Our Mission: A Clear Sense of the Purpose of the Church.*

- ↪ *Ministry to God ~ To Worship!* ²
- ↪ *Ministry to Believers ~ To Nurture Disciples / To Purify Itself.* ³
- ↪ *Ministry to the World ~ To Evangelize / Respond to Social Concerns & Responsibilities / To Uphold a Moral Standard*

Ministry to the World



✘ **Purpose #4 – Evangelism**

↪ Matthew 28:18-20 ~ "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations."

↪ "Jesus' ministry was characterized by a loving compassion for the suffering and destitute individuals of this world." ⁴

↪ See Acts 1:8; John 16:8-11; 1 Corinthians 6:3-9; Acts 2:47; 5:14

☆ "Christ has made **salvation possible** by providing it; [now] the church must **make it actual** by proclaiming it." ⁵

✘ **Purpose #5 – Social Concerns & Responsibilities**

↪ The New Testament emphasizes giving material help to those who are part of the church (Acts 11:29; 2 Corinthians 8:4; 1 John 3:17), [but] there is still an affirmation that it is right to help unbelievers even if they do not respond with gratitude or acceptance of the gospel message." ⁶



↪ See Luke 6:35-36; Matthew 25:31-46; Luke 10:25-37

"Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me." ~ Jesus

And Who Is My Neighbor?

"He who showed mercy." / "Go and do likewise" ~ Jesus

☆ Practical Application: Participation in civic activities, influencing governmental policies to align more with biblical moral principles, addressing systematic injustice, praying, speaking out. ⁷

↪ The Need for Balance ~ Such ministries of mercy to the world should never become a substitute for genuine evangelism or for the other areas of ministry to God and to believers. ⁸