

## Ecclesiology – The Doctrine of the Church

- What is the definition of the church?
  - Is Israel the Church? Is the Church Israel?
  - Does the Church inherit any of the promises given to Israel? i.e. Jeremiah 29:11
  - Is the promise of the Holy Spirit in Isaiah 32:15 to the future Nation of Israel one and the same promise for the Church?
- Why was the church a Mystery?
- Who is in the church?
  - Are OT Saints part of the church? Are Tribulation Saints part of the church? Are Millennial Believers part of the Church?
  - Is there such a thing as the Universal Church? Is the Church through time? – i.e. once someone dies, are they still part of the Church?
  - Is it a temporary membership?
  - Are believers and unbelievers in the church?
  - Are Old Testament believers in the church?
  - Will believers after the rapture be part of the church?
  - Is the church the “Spiritual Israel?”
- Other names for the church? Are these synonymous?
  - Building of Christ
  - Body of Christ
  - Temple of the Spirit
  - Wife or Bride of Christ / Lamb of God
- What is the purpose of the church?
- The Unity of the Body of Christ – a look at Ephesians

**Definition of the church - see page Two.**

The called out and together assembly belonging to Jesus.

### **Why was the church a Mystery?**

Matthew 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not <sup>(a)</sup>prevail against it.

This is the first time the term church is used in the English Bible but particularly it is the first time Jesus refers to “My Church” meaning His called together assembly. Up until then the Nation of Israel was the only concept in the mind of the people. The idea of a church belonging to Jesus was brand new and confusing to the people at first.

## **The purpose of the church**

Ephesians chapters One and Two

## **The unity of the Body of Christ**

Ephesians 4

An Analogy – Sports Team or Orchestra.

The value of the Christian and the value of the Church.

- What promises have been given to the Christian?
- What promises have been given to the Church?
- How does this affect our decisions?
  - o How do we use our time?
  - o How do we use our money?
  - o Who do we hang out with and what do we do together?
  - o What career or job do we pursue?
  - o How do we choose a spouse?
  - o What impact will this have on my reputation?
  - o What impact does it have for my earthly future? Eternal future?

# The KJV New Testament Greek Lexicon<sup>1</sup>

Strong's Number: 1577	Browse Lexicon	KJV Verse Count
<b>Original Word</b>	<b>Word Origin</b>	<b>Matthew</b> 2
	from a compound of (1537) and a derivative of (2564)	<b>Acts</b> 24
<b>Transliterated Word</b>	<b>TDNT Entry</b>	<b>Romans</b> 6
Ekklesia	3:501,394	<b>1 Corinthians</b> 21
<b>Phonetic Spelling</b>	<b>Parts of Speech</b>	<b>2 Corinthians</b> 9
ek-klay-see'-ah	Noun Feminine	<b>Galatians</b> 3
		<b>Ephesians</b> 9
		<b>Philippians</b> 2
		<b>Colossians</b> 4
<b>Definition</b>		<b>1 Thessalonians</b> 2
		<b>2 Thessalonians</b> 2
		<b>1 Timothy</b> 3
		<b>2 Timothy</b> 1
1. a gathering of citizens called out from their homes into some public place, an assembly		<b>Titus</b> 1
a. an assembly of the people convened at the public place of the council for the purpose of deliberating		<b>Philemon</b> 1
b. the assembly of the Israelites		<b>Hebrews</b> 2
c. any gathering or throng of men assembled by chance, tumultuously		<b>James</b> 1
d. in a Christian sense		<b>3 John</b> 3
1. an assembly of Christians gathered for worship in a religious meeting		<b>Revelation</b> 19
2. a company of Christians, or of those who, hoping for eternal salvation through Jesus Christ, observe their own religious rites, hold their own religious meetings, and manage their own affairs, according to regulations prescribed for the body for order's sake		
3. those who anywhere, in a city, village, constitute such a company and are united into one body		
4. the whole body of Christians scattered throughout the earth		
5. the assembly of faithful Christians already dead and received into heaven		

King James Word Usage - Total: 118

church 115, assembly 3

Greek lexicon based on Thayer's and Smith's Bible Dictionary plus others; this is keyed to the large Kittel and the "Theological Dictionary of the New Testament." These files are public domain.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.biblestudytools.com/lexicons/greek/kjv/ekklesia.html>