

“WHEN DID THE CHURCH BEGIN?”

A. The MEANING, PREDICTION, and FOUNDATION of the Universal Church (Matt. 16:13-18)

B. The NATURE and BIRTHDAY of the Church

1. The Church began on Pentecost because Jesus _____ to build His Church in the _____ (from His standpoint in His earthly ministry). (Matt. 16:18)
2. The Church began on Pentecost because there could be no Church _____ Jesus died in order to _____ her _____. (Acts 20:28; Eph. 5:25)
3. The Church began on Pentecost because Christ's _____ over the Church required that He was _____ and _____ into heaven. (Eph. 1:20-23; 4:8, 11-15)
4. The Church began on Pentecost because the divine means of placing believers _____ the _____ of Christ began via the _____ by the Holy Spirit. (Acts 1:4-5; 11:15-18; Rom. 16:7; 1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:26-27)
5. The Church began on Pentecost because the word “*Church*” is used to refer to believers who are “_____” immediately _____ the Day of Pentecost. (Acts 2:47; 5:11; 8:1-3; 11:22; 12:1, 5; 13:1; 20:28; Rom. 16:7; Gal. 1:13; 1 Cor. 1:2; 15:9; 10:32; 1 Tim. 3:5)
6. The Church began on Pentecost because it was an Old Testament “_____” which could _____ before the New Testament apostles and prophets. (Eph. 2:19-20; 3:5-8)

7. If you choose to NOT interpret the Scriptures with a consistent, normal, historical, grammatical hermeneutic, you will inevitably end up wrongly dividing the Word of God (2 Tim. 2:15) ...
- a. If you view the Church as being synonymous with _____ in the Old Testament, numerous problems result in _____.
 - b. If you fail to distinguish the beginning and birthday of the Church as occurring _____ the death, resurrection and ascension of Christ, you will end up with _____.
 - c. If in an effort to "*rightly divide the Word of truth*" you end up wrongly dividing it by starting the Church _____-Pentecost, you will be a _____ dispensationalist.
8. What the Church is NOT...
- a. ...a physical _____
 - b. ...a religious _____
 - c. ...another name for _____
 - d. ...synonymous with the future Messianic _____
 - e. ...the same thing as _____
 - f. ... the same thing as a _____ - _____

* What does all of this mean to you practically?