

Systematic Theology II

Taught by Dr. Luke Johnson

Mondays, June 15th - July 20th

6:30-8pm in the Education Center

SCHEDULE FOR COURSE AND EVENING

SCHEDULE FOR THE COURSE:

WEEK 1: PNEUMATOLOGY I

WEEK 2: PNEUMATOLOGY II

WEEK 3: ECCLESIOLOGY I

WEEK 4: ECCLESIOLOGY II

WEEK 5: ESCHATOLOGY I

WEEK 6: ESCHATOLOGY II

SCHEDULE FOR THE EVENING:

6:30-7:10 LECTURE

7:10-7:15 BREAK

7:15-8:00 LECTURE

THEOLOGICAL TRIAGE

Full Deity and Actual Humanity of Christ

The Trinity

Justification by Faith Alone

Authority of the Scriptures

Ecclesiology

Baptism

Lord's Supper

Gender Roles in the Church

Certain Eschatological Questions

Gospel Freedom Issues

Understanding of Some Difficult Texts

Understanding of Miraculous Gifts

**TIER 1:
DIFFERENT FAITH**

**TIER 2:
DIFFERENT CHURCH**

**TIER 3:
DISAGREE WITH UNITY**

KEY FOUNDATIONAL DOCTRINES

2 Timothy 3:16–17

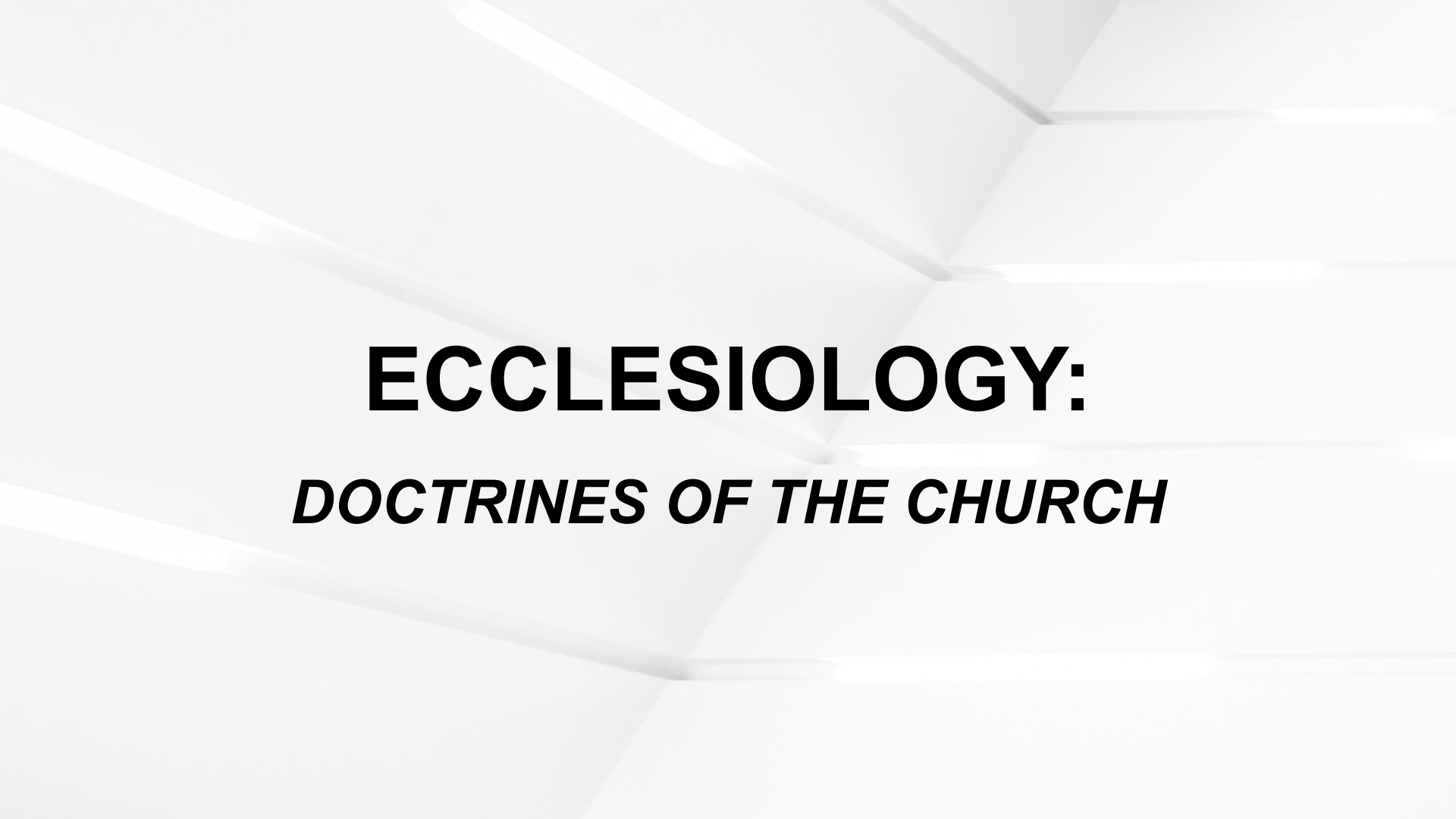
All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Peter 1:19–21

And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY II

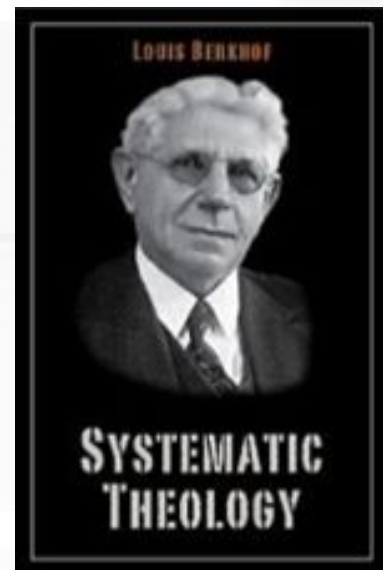
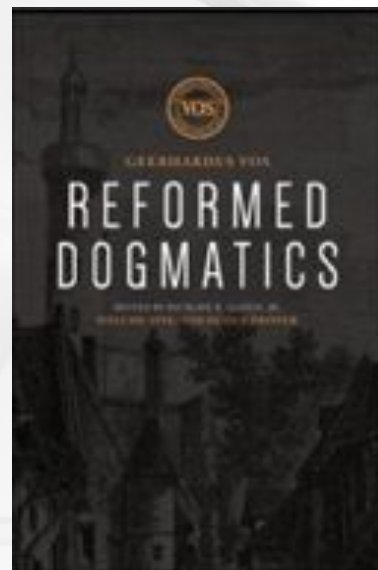
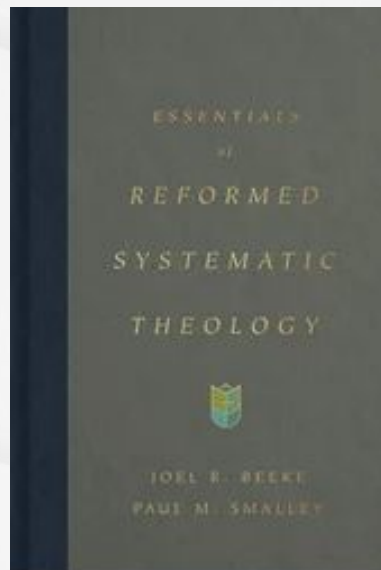
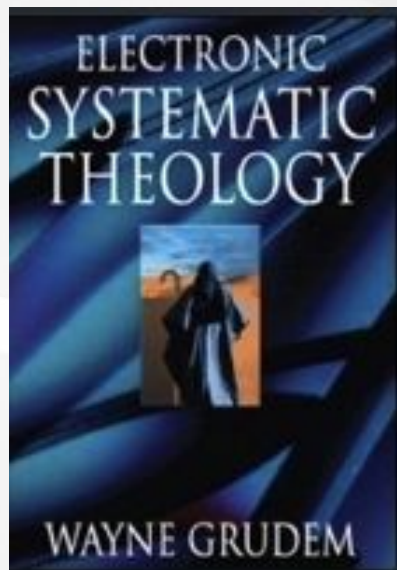
PNEUMATOLOGY | **ECCLESIOLOGY** | ESCHATOLOGY



ECCLESIOLOGY:

DOCTRINES OF THE CHURCH

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES:



ECCELSIOLOGY:

DOCTRINES OF THE CHURCH

- **Session 1: God's People in the Old & New Testaments**
- **Session 2: The Church's Identity, Form, and Function**

DEFINITIONS

TERMS DESCRIBING GOD'S PEOPLE

HEBREW- ETHNIC DESCENDANT OF ABRAHAM, ISAAC, AND JACOB WITH AN EMPHASIS ON ETHNIC & CULTURAL IDENTITY IN CONTRAST TO THE SURROUNDING NATIONS

ISRAEL- *DESCENDANTS OF JACOB, WITH AN EMPHASIS ON THE COVENANT NATION INAUGURATED WITH THE MOSAIC COVENANT*

JEW- *ETHNIC DESCENDANT OF ABRAHAM, ISAAC, AND JACOB WITH AN EMPHASIS ON THE RELIGIOUS IDENTITY PRESERVED THROUGH THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM OF JUDAH AFTER THE BABYLONIAN EXILE (IN CONTRAST TO A SAMARITAN)*

TERMS DESCRIBING GOD'S PEOPLE

CHURCH- (GREEK: *EKKLESIA*- “CALLED OUT ONES”) *THE NEW TESTAMENT DESIGNATION OF THE NEW COVENANT PEOPLE OF GOD UNITED TO CHRIST BY THE HOLY SPIRIT THROUGH FAITH*

INVISIBLE CHURCH- A REFERENCE TO THE TOTAL PEOPLE OF GOD'S ELECT—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE—WHO WILL RECEIVE THE ETERNAL INHERITANCE OF GLORY (ALSO KNOWN AS THE catholic church OR THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH)

COVENANTS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

CREATION MANDATE: GOD'S ORIGINAL COMMISSION TO HUMANITY AS HIS IMAGE-BEARERS TO BE FRUITFUL, MULTIPLY, HAVE RULE AND DOMINION, AND CULTIVATE EDENIC GOODNESS OVER THE EARTH (SEE GENESIS 1:26-28; 2:15)

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT: GOD'S GRACIOUS PROMISE TO ABRAHAM TO CREATE A COVENANT PEOPLE THROUGH HIS DESCENDANTS WHO WOULD BE NUMEROUS, HAVE LAND, BECOME A NATION, AND BRING A BLESSING TO ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH (SEE GENESIS 12:1-3, 15, 17, 22:17-18)

COVENANTS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

MOSAIC COVENANT: *THE COVENANT ESTABLISHED BY GOD WITH NATIONAL ISRAEL DESIGNATING ISRAEL AS HIS PEOPLE WITH LAWS TO GOVERN AND GUIDE THE NATION AND BLESSINGS THAT COME THROUGH OBEDIENCE (SEE EXODUS 19-24; DEUTERONOMY 28-30)*

DAVIDIC COVENANT: *GOD'S PROMISE TO ESTABLISH A ROYAL DYNASTY FROM DAVID'S LINE THAT WOULD BE AN ETERNAL KINGDOM OF PEACE FOR GOD'S PEOPLE (SEE 2 SAMUEL 7)*

NEW COVENANT: *THE ETERNAL COVENANT OF GRACE THROUGH JESUS ESTABLISHING HIS REDEEMED COVENANT COMMUNITY (SEE JEREMIAH 31; EZEKIEL 36)*

GOD'S PEOPLE AS FAMILY

GOD'S PEOPLE AS FAMILY

THE ORIGINAL DESIGN:

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

***²⁷ So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.***

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

(Gen 1:26–28)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS FAMILY

THE PROTOEVANGELIUM (FIRST GOSPEL), OR GOD'S REDEMPTION PLAN:

¹⁴ The Lord God said to the serpent,

*“Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.*

*¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”*

(Gen 3:14–15)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS FAMILY

THE RESTART:

Then the Lord said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation.

(Gen 7:1)

And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.

(Gen 9:1)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS FAMILY

THE PROMISE TO A FAMILY

⁵ No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. ⁶ I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. ⁷ And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. ⁸ And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.”

(Gen 17:5–8)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS FAMILY

THE FAMILY PROMISE REAFFIRMED:

TO ISAAC: ³ Sojourn in this land, and I will be with you and will bless you, for to you and to your offspring I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath that I swore to Abraham your father. ⁴ I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands. And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, ⁵ because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws." (Gen 26:3–5)

TO JACOB: ¹³ And behold, the Lord stood above it and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. ¹⁴ Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. ¹⁵ Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." (Gen 28:13–15)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS FAMILY

THE FAMILY'S MISSION

TO TEACH RIGHTEOUSNESS AND DO JUSTICE

¹⁹ For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.”

(Gen 18:19)

TO BRING WORLDWIDE BLESSING (REMEMBER GENESIS 1:26-28)

³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

(Gen 12:2–3)

¹⁸ and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

(Gen 22:18)

SUMMARY OF GOD'S PEOPLE AS FAMILY

- **FOUNDATION: CREATION DESIGN**
- **FORMATION: COVENANTALLY CONFIRMED AND SEALED**
- **IDENTITY: A PRESERVED FAMILIAL LINE**
- **COVENANT BLESSINGS:**
 - **LAND**
 - **OFFSPRING**
 - **BLESSING TO THE NATIONS**
- **LEADERSHIP: PATRIARCHS**
- **MISSION: TEACH RIGHTEOUSNESS & DO JUSTICE**
- **PURPOSE: BRING GLOBAL BLESSING**

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

A NEW MOVEMENT

⁶ And he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ Then the Lord said, “I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, ⁸ and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹ And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”

¹³ Then Moses said to God, “If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you.’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” ¹⁴ God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I am has sent me to you.’ ” (Ex 3:6-10, 13–14)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

A NEW DESIGNATION

⁴ ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. ⁵ Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; ⁶ and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.”

(Ex 19:4–6)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL BELONGS TO GOD

⁴⁵ I will dwell among the people of Israel and will be their God. ⁴⁶ And they shall know that I am the Lord their God, who brought them out of the land of Egypt that I might dwell among them. I am the Lord their God.

((Ex 29:45–46))

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL BELONGS TO GOD

⁶ “For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷ It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸ but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

(Deut 7:6–8)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL BELONGS TO GOD

***7 Remember the days of old;
consider the years of many generations;
ask your father, and he will show you,
your elders, and they will tell you.***

***8 When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance,
when he divided mankind,
he fixed the borders of the peoples
according to the number of the sons of God.***

***9 But the Lord's portion is his people,
Jacob his allotted heritage.***

(Deut 32:7–9)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL AS A HOLY NATION

⁴⁴ For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy.

(Lev 11:44)

²⁴ But I have said to you, 'You shall inherit their land, and I will give it to you to possess, a land flowing with milk and honey.' I am the Lord your God, who has separated you from the peoples.

(Lev 20:24)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL AS A HOLY NATION WITH LAWS AND COMMANDS

³ ***"If you walk in my statutes and observe my commandments and do them,*** ⁴ ***then I will give you your rains in their season, and the land shall yield its increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit.*** ⁵ ***Your threshing shall last to the time of the grape harvest, and the grape harvest shall last to the time for sowing. And you shall eat your bread to the full and dwell in your land securely.*** ⁶ ***I will give peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and none shall make you afraid. And I will remove harmful beasts from the land, and the sword shall not go through your land.*** ⁷ ***You shall chase your enemies, and they shall fall before you by the sword.*** ⁸ ***Five of you shall chase a hundred, and a hundred of you shall chase ten thousand, and your enemies shall fall before you by the sword.*** ⁹ ***I will turn to you and make you fruitful and multiply you and will confirm my covenant with you.*** ¹⁰ ***You shall eat old store long kept, and you shall clear out the old to make way for the new.*** ¹¹ ***I will make my dwelling among you,*** and my soul shall not abhor you. ¹² ***And I will walk among you and will be your God, and you shall be my people.*** ¹³ ***I am the Lord your God,*** who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that you should not be their slaves. And I have broken the bars of your yoke and made you walk erect. (Lev 26:3–13)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL AS A HOLY NATION GOVERNED BY COMMANDS OF LOVE

“Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, ² that you may fear the Lord your God, you and your son and your son’s son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. ³ Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.

⁴ “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

(Deut 6:1–6)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL AS A HOLY NATION GOVERNED BY COMMANDS OF LOVE

“Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, ² that you may fear the Lord your God, you and your son and your son’s son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. ³ Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.

⁴ “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

(Deut 6:1–6)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL AS A HOLY NATION WITH LEADERS

MOSES

¹⁰ Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”

(Ex 3:10)

ELDERS

¹⁶ Then the Lord said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you. ¹⁷ And I will come down and talk with you there. And I will take some of the Spirit that is on you and put it on them, and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, so that you may not bear it yourself alone.

(Num 11:16–17)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL AS A HOLY NATION WITH LEADERS

JUDGES

⁹ “At that time I said to you, ‘I am not able to bear you by myself. ¹⁰ The Lord your God has multiplied you, and behold, you are today as numerous as the stars of heaven. ¹¹ May the Lord, the God of your fathers, make you a thousand times as many as you are and bless you, as he has promised you! ¹² How can I bear by myself the weight and burden of you and your strife? ¹³ Choose for your tribes wise, understanding, and experienced men, and I will appoint them as your heads.’ ¹⁴ And you answered me, ‘The thing that you have spoken is good for us to do.’ ¹⁵ So I took the heads of your tribes, wise and experienced men, and set them as heads over you, commanders of thousands, commanders of hundreds, commanders of fifties, commanders of tens, and officers, throughout your tribes. ¹⁶ And I charged your judges at that time, ‘Hear the cases between your brothers, and judge righteously between a man and his brother or the alien who is with him. ¹⁷ You shall not be partial in judgment. You shall hear the small and the great alike. You shall not be intimidated by anyone, for the judgment is God’s. And the case that is too hard for you, you shall bring to me, and I will hear it.’ ¹⁸ And I commanded you at that time all the things that you should do.

(Deut 1:9–19)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL AS A HOLY NATION WITH LEADERS KINGS

¹⁴ “When you come to the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you possess it and dwell in it and then say, ‘I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,’ ¹⁵ you may indeed set a king over you whom the Lord your God will choose. One from among your brothers you shall set as king over you. You may not put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. ¹⁶ Only he must not acquire many horses for himself or cause the people to return to Egypt in order to acquire many horses, since the Lord has said to you, ‘You shall never return that way again.’ ¹⁷ And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold. ¹⁸ “And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests. ¹⁹ And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them, ²⁰ that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.

(Deut 17:14-20)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL AS A HOLY NATION WITH LEADERS

PRIESTS

⁵ And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ⁶ “Bring the tribe of Levi near, and set them before Aaron the priest, that they may minister to him. ⁷ They shall keep guard over him and over the whole congregation before the tent of meeting, as they minister at the tabernacle. ⁸ They shall guard all the furnishings of the tent of meeting, and keep guard over the people of Israel as they minister at the tabernacle. ⁹ And you shall give the Levites to Aaron and his sons; they are wholly given to him from among the people of Israel. ¹⁰ And you shall appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall guard their priesthood. But if any outsider comes near, he shall be put to death.”

(Num 3:5-10)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL AS A HOLY NATION WITH LEADERS

PROPHETS

¹⁵ “The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— ¹⁶ just as you desired of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ ¹⁷ And the Lord said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. ¹⁹ And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. ²⁰ But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’ ²¹ And if you say in your heart, ‘How may we know the word that the Lord has not spoken?’— ²² when a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the word does not come to pass or come true, that is a word that the Lord has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You need not be afraid of him.

(Deut 19:15-22)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL AS A HOLY NATION WITH A MISSION

TO DISPLAY WISDOM, RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND PRESENCE OF GOD TO THE NATIONS

⁵ See, I have taught you statutes and rules, as the Lord my God commanded me, that you should do them in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ⁶ Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.' ⁷ For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? ⁸ And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?
(Deut 4:5–8)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL AS A HOLY NATION WITH A MISSION

TO SERVE GOD BY MEDIATING HIS JUSTICE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS

¹² “And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good? ¹⁴ Behold, to the Lord your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it. ¹⁵ Yet the Lord set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day. ¹⁶ Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn. ¹⁷ For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe. ¹⁸ He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. ¹⁹ Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. ²⁰ You shall fear the Lord your God. You shall serve him and hold fast to him, and by his name you shall swear. ²¹ He is your praise. He is your God, who has done for you these great and terrifying things that your eyes have seen. ²² Your fathers went down to Egypt seventy persons, and now the Lord your God has made you as numerous as the stars of heaven.

(Deut 10:12-22)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

ISRAEL AS A HOLY NATION WITH A MISSION

THAT ALL PEOPLES OF THE EARTH MAY KNOW YAHWEH

⁴¹ “Likewise, when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a far country for your name’s sake ⁴² (for they shall hear of your great name and your mighty hand, and of your outstretched arm), when he comes and prays toward this house, ⁴³ hear in heaven your dwelling place and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to you, in order that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and that they may know that this house that I have built is called by your name.

(1 Ki 8:41–43)

SUMMARY OF GOD'S PEOPLE AS NATION

- **FOUNDATION: COVENANT PROMISE**
- **FORMATION: DELIVERANCE FROM BONDAGE AND SLAVERY**
- **IDENTITY: NATION GOVERNED BY GOD AND HIS LAW**
- **COVENANT BLESSINGS:**
 - **LAND**
 - **PROSPERITY**
 - **BLESSING TO THE NATIONS**
- **LEADERSHIP: ELDERS, JUDGES, PRIESTS, PROPHETS, AND KINGS**
- **MISSION: TEACH RIGHTEOUSNESS, DO JUSTICE, BE A WITNESS TO THE WORLD**
- **PURPOSE: WORSHIP GOD AND BRING GLOBAL BLESSING**

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

The Greek word which is translated 'church' is the term ekklesia, and ekklesia means 'those who are called out', not necessarily called out of the world, but called out of society for some particular function or purpose; they are 'called together'

D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE ORIGIN OF THE CHURCH: BUILT BY CHRIST

¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”
(Matt 16:15-19)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE ORIGIN OF THE CHURCH: BUILT UPON CHRIST

⁶ For it stands in Scripture:

**“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”**

⁷ So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

**“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”**

⁸ and

**“A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense.”**

(1 Pet 2:6-8)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE INERTIA OF THE CHURCH: AN UNSTOPPABLE MOVEMENT

³⁷ Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" ³⁸ And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." ⁴⁰ And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." ⁴¹ So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.
(Acts 2:37-41, 46-47)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH: SERPENT-STOMPERS (see Gen. 3:16)

⁷ To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints
(Rom 1:7)

²⁰ The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.
(Rom 16:20)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH: A SPIRITUAL KINGDOM

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. ¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles
(1 Pet 2:9-11)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH: A SPIRITUAL FAMILY

**¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ
(Rom 8:15–17)**

¹⁰ For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. ¹¹ For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, ¹² saying,

“I will tell of your name to my brothers;

in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.”

(Heb 2:10–12)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH: A UNIFIED BODY

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

(1 Cor 12:12)

⁶ This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

(Eph 3:6)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH: A MULTIETHNIC & DIVERSE PEOPLE

¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

(1 Cor 12:13)

²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

(Gal 3:28)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE GATHERING OF THE CHURCH: LOCALLY ASSEMBLED

² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

(1 Cor 1:2)

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

(1 Thess 1:1)

To Philemon our beloved fellow worker ² and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house

(Phm 1–2)

³ Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, ⁴ who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks but all the churches of the Gentiles give thanks as well. ⁵ Greet also the church in their house.

(Rom 16:3–5)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE GATHERING OF THE CHURCH: ORGANIZED & ORGANIC

⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

(Acts 2:42–47)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE GATHERING OF THE CHURCH: ORGANIZED & ORGANIC

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ² And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴ But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵ And what they said pleased the whole gathering
(Acts 6:1-5)

It is a mistake to think that the Church becomes visible only in the offices, in the administration of the Word and the sacraments, and in a certain form of Church government. Even if all these things were absent, the Church would still be visible in the communal life and profession of the believers, and in their joint opposition to the world.

LOUIS BERKHOF

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE SIGNS OF THE CHURCH: BAPTISM

***¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit
(Matt 28:19)***

***³⁷ Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” ³⁸ And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
(Acts 2:37-38)***

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE SIGNS OF THE CHURCH: THE LORD'S SUPPER (COMMUNION)

¹⁹ And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
(Luke 22:19)

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
(1 Cor 11:23-26)

Evidently connected with this doctrine is that of the sacraments, for they, too, do not have an individual character. They are inseparable from the Church, proceed from it, and point to it. By baptism a relationship to the Church is represented and established. One is not baptized as a solitary individual but in connection with the Church of Christ. Likewise, no one can hold the Lord's Supper by himself and for himself; the Supper refers to the communion of the saints.

GEERHARDUS VOS REFORMED DOGMATICS



GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE PRACTICES OF THE CHURCH: PRAISING GOD

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

(Col 3:16)

¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

(Eph 5:18–21)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE PRACTICES OF THE CHURCH: MATURING THE SAINTS

²⁸ Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

(Col 1:28)

¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

(Eph 4:11-16)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE PRACTICES OF THE CHURCH: ADVANCING THE KINGDOM

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

(Matt 28:18-20)

⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

(Acts 1:8)

²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

(2 Co 5:20)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CHURCH: APOSTLES & PROPHETS

*²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers
(1 Cor 12:28)*

*¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the
saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and
prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,
(Eph 2:19–20)*

*¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹²
to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ
(Eph 4:11–12)*

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CHURCH: ELDERS/OVERSEERS

²³ And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

(Acts 14:23)

The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task.

(1 Tim 3:1)

⁵ This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you

(Titus 1:5)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CHURCH: DEACONS

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution.² And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve (Greek: "diakoneo") tables.³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.⁴ But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.

(Acts 6:1–4)

⁸ Deacons (Greek: "diakonos") likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain.⁹ They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.¹⁰ And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless.

(1 Tim 3:8–10)

GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CHURCH: PASTORS?

¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers (or pastor-teachers)
(Eph 4:11)

MORE ON THIS NEXT WEEK!

SUMMARY OF GOD'S PEOPLE AS CHURCH

- **FOUNDATION: PERSON AND WORK OF JESUS**
- **FORMATION: GRACE THROUGH FAITH**
- **IDENTITY: SPIRITUAL FAMILY & KINGDOM**
- **COVENANT BLESSINGS:**
 - **HOLY SPIRIT**
 - **ADOPTION**
 - **BLESSING TO THE NATIONS**
- **LEADERSHIP: APOSTLES, PROPHETS, ELDERS, PASTORS(?)**
- **PURPOSE: WORSHIP GOD AND BRING GLOBAL BLESSING**

SUMMARY OF GOD'S PEOPLE COMPARED

- **FOUNDATION:**

- CREATION MANDATE
- COVENANT PROMISE
- PERSON AND WORK OF JESUS

- **FORMATION:**

- COVENANTALLY CONFIRMED AND SEALED
- DELIVERANCE FROM BONDAGE AND SLAVERY
- GRACE THROUGH FAITH

- **IDENTITY:**

- PRESERVED FAMILIAL LINE
- NATION (KINGDOM) GOVERNED BY GOD AND HIS LAW
- SPIRITUAL FAMILY & KINGDOM

- **PURPOSE: WORSHIP GOD AND BRING GLOBAL BLESSING**



The New Testament defines the church in terms of the fulfillment of Old Testament hopes and patterns through a relationship to all three Persons of the Godhead, brought about by the mediatorial ministry of Jesus Christ.

J. I. PACKER

GOD'S PEOPLE ETERNALLY

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶ And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. ⁷ The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son...

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. ³ No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. ⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

(Rev 21:1-7; 22:1-5)

COMING NEXT WEEK:

ECCLESIOLOGY PT. 2- DEBATED DOCTRINES OF THE CHURCH

- **DOES THE CHURCH REPLACE ISRAEL?**
- **MEMBERSHIP IN THE LOCAL CHURCH**
- **CHURCH STRUCTURES**
- **WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP**