

A GOSPEL CHURCH

Acts 2:41-47

XIII. OF A GOSPEL CHURCH

*We believe that a **visible** church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by his laws; and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by his word; that its only scriptural officers are bishops or pastors and deacons whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.*

*“What comes to your mind
when you think about Church?”*

a building to visit...

a building to visit...
an event to experience...

a building to visit...
an event to experience...
a product to be consumed...

a building to visit...
an event to experience...
a product to be consumed...
memories from the past?

*“What did Jesus mean when
he said the word church?”*

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.

Matthew 16:18

ESV

A gospel church is a gathered people whose life together is built on, shaped by, and centered around the gospel of Jesus Christ.

THREATS TO A GOSPEL CHURCH

²⁸ Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹ I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.

Acts 20:28–30

ESV

³ For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

2 Timothy 4:3–4

ESV

⁶ I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— ⁷ not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

Galatians 1:6–8

ESV

Consumerism (what sells)

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Pragmatism (what works)

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Selfism (what we gain... or lose)

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Pragmatism (what works)
Selfism (what we gain... or lose)
Moralism (what we can do)
Traditionalism (what we *assume* is right)

Consumerism (what sells)

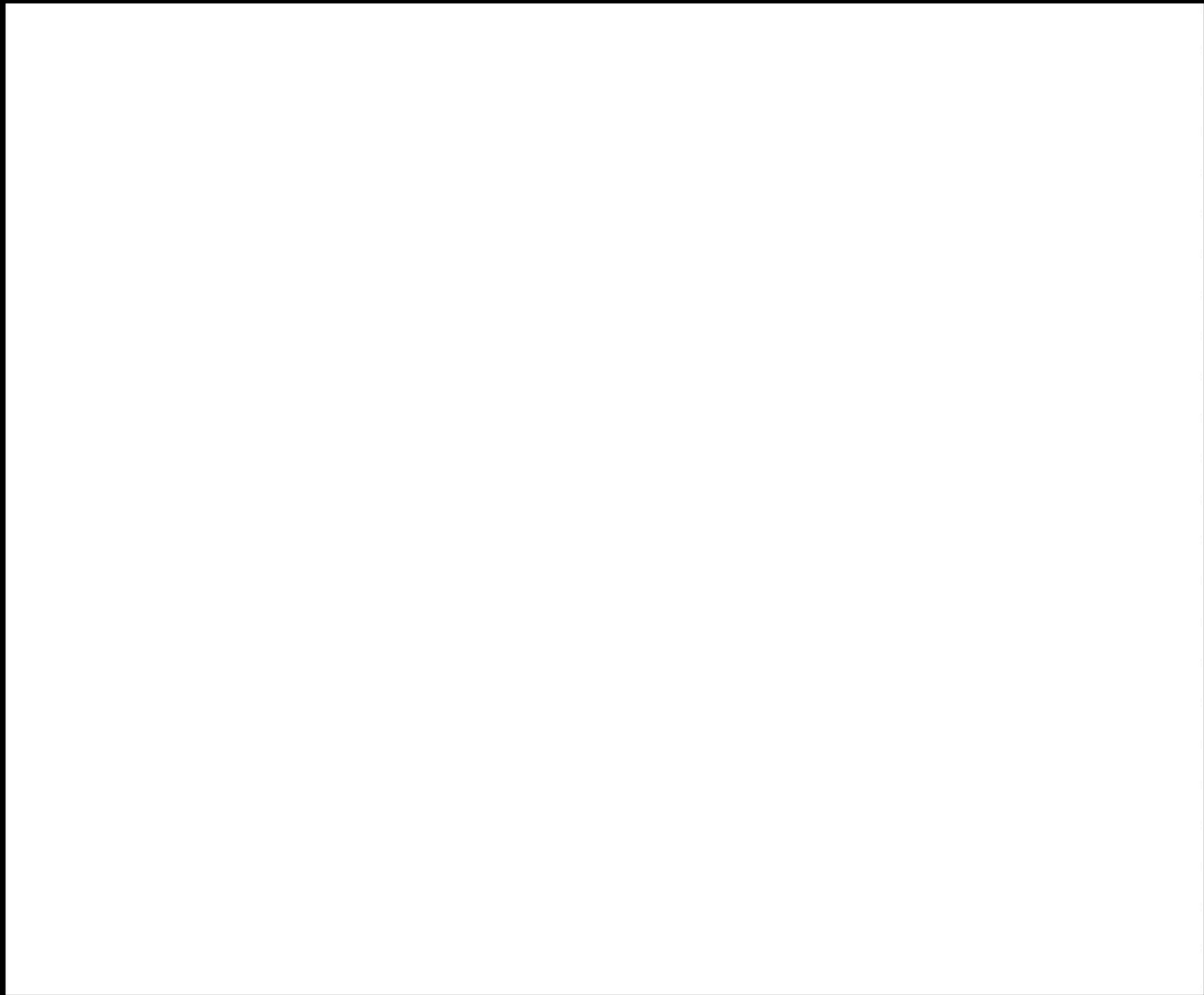
Pragmatism (what works)

Selfism (what we gain... or lose)

Moralism (what we can do)

Traditionalism (what we *assume* is right)

Pluralism (what is right, can shift)



MARKS OF A GOSPEL CHURCH

1. A People Saved by the Gospel

2. A People Devoted to Christ's Word

3. A People Devoted to Fellowship

“It is grace, nothing but grace, that we are allowed to live in community with Christian brothers and sisters” Dietrich Bonhoeffer

4. A People Devoted to the Ordinances

*The Ordinances Display the gospel visibly,
and strengthen the church spiritually.*

5. A People Devoted to Prayer

6. A People Devoted to Biblical Polity

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Questions to Consider:

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Am I truly part of Christ's Church?

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What is the Purpose and Priority of Church?

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Am I devoted to the things a Gospel Church is?

Are we?

