

THE NATURE OF THE "CHURCH"

A. The SCRIPTURAL BASICS of the "CHURCH". (Matthew 16:13-18)

B. The BIRTHDAY of the CHURCH.

C. The NATURE of the CHURCH.

1. The Church is referred to in a _____ sense. (Eph. 1:22-23; 2:14-16; 3:5-10)
2. The Church is referred to in a _____ sense. (Col. 4:15-16; Phil. 1:1)

The Universal vs. Local Church		
	Universal	Local
Number	One	Many
Members	All believers from Pentecost to the Rapture	Local gathering
Spiritual status	Believers only	Believers and unbelievers
Living or dead	Living and dead	Living only
Assembly	Cannot assemble at one place and time	Can assemble at one place and time
Visibility	Invisible	Visible
NT Material	Minority	Majority
Joining	Faith alone	Unique requirements

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3. The Church is a subset in the _____. (John 1:12-12, 3:3; Eph. 3:14)
4. The Church is never referred to as a _____ or the _____. (1 Cor. 3:16; Eph. 2:19-22; 1 Tim. 3:15) What was the OT house of the Lord?
5. The Church is never referred to as _____. Instead, you find in the New Testament the planting and establishing of _____ local churches that support & fellowship with other local churches in Christ, with each church _____ giving an account to the Lord Jesus Christ. (Rev. 2 & 3)
6. The Church is not the same as the _____.
7. The Church is not the same as _____, nor has the Church _____ Israel, as God has a separate plan & program for each of these entities. (1 Cor. 10:32)

Rightly Dividing ISRAEL vs the CHURCH

Replacement Theology teaches that the Church has completely _____ Israel in God's plan while Dispensational Theology teaches that the Church is a _____ entity from Israel and remains distinct from Israel. Which theology is biblically correct?

Israel

Church

- 1) Entered by _____ birth (Gen. 17:6-8; Rom. 9:3) - Entered by _____ birth (1 Pet. 1:23)
- 2) Jesus is Israel's _____. (Jn 1:41, 4:21-26) - Jesus is the Church's _____. (Eph. 1:22-23, 4:15)
- 3) Under _____ as its governing principle (Ex. 20) – Under _____. (Rom. 6:14)
- 4) The _____ is to be set up (2 Sam. 7:12-16) – the _____ is to be built up. (Eph. 4:11-12)
- 5) Citizenship on _____ (Matt. 6:10) – Citizenship in _____. (Phil. 3:20-21)
- 6) _____ Christ's death is a _____ (Rom. 9:30-33) – Christ's death is a foundation _____ (1 Cor. 3:11, 1 Pet. 2:5-8)
- 7) _____ In a _____ (1 Sam. 8:1-7; Rom. 9:30-33) – in _____ (Eph. 1:6, Col. 1:2)
- 8) _____ sp. baptized by the HS (Lk. 3:16; Acts 1:4-5) - _____ believers are sp. baptized by the HS into Christ. (1 Cor. 12:13)
- 9) _____ blessed with all sp. blessings (Deut.28) - _____ with all sp. blessings (Eph. 1:3; Col. 2:10)
- 10) Related to the Day of the _____. (Joel 2; Zech. 12-14) – related to the Day of Christ (Phil. 1:6,10)
- 11) _____ temple (2 Sam. 7:13) - _____ temple (1 Cor. 3:16)
- 12) The temple is a _____ (1 Kings 5-8) – the temple is the believer's _____ (1 Cor. 6:19)
- 13) _____ priesthood (Lev. 8) - _____ priesthood (1 Pet. 2:5; Rev. 5:10)
- 14) _____ animal sacrifices (Lev. 1-3; Heb. 10:11) - _____ final sacrifice (Heb. 10:10-12)

- 15) _____ promises (Matt. 5:3-9) - _____ promises (John 14:1-3, 1 Pet. 1:4)
- 16) OT _____ (Gen. 12 – Malachi) – OT _____ (Eph. 3:1-12; Col. 1:24-29)

- For an even more thorough explanation of Israel vs the Church, watch the two lessons on Israel vs the Church in the GTBC series on BIBLICAL DISTINCTIONS found at:
<https://gracetruthbible.org/media/kcq67nm/bd-13-israel-vs-the-church-pt-1>

What about Galatians 6:16?

- What can you learn from this?
 - a) That the Universal Church finds _____ in genuine local churches.
 - b) That the Church is both an _____ [universal] and an _____ [local].
 - c) That the local church is of _____ in the plan of God for this present age under the dispensation of grace.
 - d) That we should recognize and appreciate the universal church but _____ in a doctrinally sound local church! (Hebrews 10:24-25)