

"THE CHURCH"

I. THE PREDICTION OF THE "CHURCH" (Matthew 16:13-18)

A. The MEANING of "Ekklesia."

1. The *literal meaning* of "ekklesia" is "the _____ assembly of people."
2. In a *general sense*, "ekklesia" is used of an _____ of any kind.
(Acts 19:32, 39, 41, 7:38)
3. In a *technical sense*, "ekklesia" is used of the Universal and _____.
(Acts 11:22, 13:1; Ephesians 1:22-23, 2:14-16)

* How is "ekklesia" distributed in the New Testament?

- 110 times: it is used of Christians
- 3 times: the nation of Israel or those in Israel
- 2 times: a gathering of mainly unsaved Gentiles

B. The PREDICTION of the Church. (Matthew 16:18)

1. The *Foundation* of the Church is _____... "*upon this rock.*"

* Who does this "*rock*" not refer to?

- 1) Peter
 - a. because of the shift from "_____" (Peter) to "_____" (rock) (Matthew 16:18)
 - b. because of Matthew 16:21-23
 - c. because Peter tells us who the Rock is in Acts 4:5-12 & 1 Peter 2:4-9
 - d. Because Paul tells us who the _____ is in 1 Cor.3:11
- 2) Any _____ whether pastor or church-planter

2. The *Builder* of the Church is _____... "*I.*"

* What does this mean to church leaders?

3. The *Beginning* of the Church would be _____ beginning on the day of _____... "*will build.*"

Key Verse(s):

Key Word(s):

* What does this debunk?

That the Church ...

- 1) Started with _____ – some in Covenant/ Reformed Theology
- 2) Started with _____ – most in Covenant/ Reformed Theology
- 3) Started with _____ The Baptist – some Baptists
- 4) Existed during _____ earthly ministry - others

4. The *Owner* of the Church is _____ ... “my church.”

* Whose “flock” is the church?

5. The Centrality of the Church is seen by the promise “I will build by my _____.”

6. The *Durability* of the Church is guaranteed as “*the gates of Hades* _____ *prevail against it.*”

* Is this referring to the local church or universal church?

7. The Importance of the Church is seen by it being the “_____ and ground of the _____.” (1 Timothy 3:15)

C. The CLARIFICATION About the Church.

1. The Church is never referred to as a _____. (Colossians 4:15)
2. The Church is never referred to as a _____. (Revelation 2-3)
3. The Church is not a different name for _____.
4. The Church is not synonymous with the Messianic _____.
5. The Church is not the same as _____.

II. THE UNIQUENESS OF THE “CHURCH”

A. In _____ to ISRAEL.

<u>ISRAEL</u>	<u>CHURCH</u>
Entered by physical birth (<i>Gen. 17:6-8; Romans 9:3</i>)	Entered by spiritual birth (<i>1 Peter 1:23</i>)
Under Law (<i>Exodus 20</i>)	Under grace (<i>Romans 6:14</i>)
Citizenship on earth (<i>Matt. 6:10</i>)	Citizenship in Heaven (<i>Phil. 3:20-21</i>)
Earthly temple (<i>2 Sam. 7:13</i>)	Heavenly temple (<i>1 Corinthians 3:16</i>)
Earthly promises (<i>Matt. 5:3-9</i>)	Heavenly promises (<i>Jn. 14:1-3; Phil. 3:20; Col. 1:5; 1 Pt. 1:4</i>)
Involves one nation (<i>Ps. 147:19-20</i>)	Involves many nations (<i>Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8</i>)

Key Verse(s):

Key Word(s):

B. In its _____ Orientation.

The Church is the...

1. heavenly _____ of God. (Hebrews 3:1, 12:23)
2. with a heavenly _____. (Ephesians 1:20-23)
3. with a heavenly _____. (John 14:3; Acts 1:11)
4. with a heavenly _____. (Ephesians 2:6)
5. with a heavenly _____. (Phil. 3:20)
6. with a heavenly _____ and _____. (Eph. 1:3; 1 Pet. 1:3-5)
7. that should have a heavenly _____. (Col. 3:1-2)
8. with a heavenly _____ of a heavenly _____ at the rapture. (Colossians 3:3-4; Philippians 3:20-21; 1Thessalonians 1:10, 4:13-17)

III. THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH

A. As to _____ CHURCHES.

1. The local church when perfected in organization consists of...
 - a. _____ / _____ (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
 - b. _____ / _____ (1 Timothy 3:8-13)
 - c. _____ / spiritually _____ congregations. (Philippians 1:1)
2. There are local churches during this age that are like...
 - a. Ephesus – who are doctrinally strong and serving, but _____ their first _____. (Rev. 2:1-7)
 - b. Smyrna – who are willing to _____ for the _____. (Rev. 2:8-11)
 - c. Pergamos – who are _____ to the _____. (Rev. 2:12-17)
 - d. Thyatira – who tolerated _____ teaching. (Rev. 2:18-29)
 - e. Sardis – who are _____ and _____, but had a name. (Rev. 3:1-6)

Key Verse(s):

Key Word(s):

- f. Philadelphia – who God _____ a door that _____ one can close. (Rev. 3:7-13)
- g. Laodicea – who are _____ and _____ - _____. (Rev. 3:14-22)

B. As to the _____ CHURCH.

1. There will be a future _____ of all dead believers in Christ. (1 Thess. 4:16; 1 Cor. 15:20-23; 1 Cor. 15:51-52a)
2. There will be a future _____ of all living believers in Christ. (1 Cor. 15:52b; 1 Thess. 4:17)
3. There will be a future judgment of all church-age saints call the Judgment _____ of _____. (1 Cor. 4:5; 2 Cor. 5:10)
4. There will be a future _____ with Christ in the Kingdom due the believer's position in Christ. (Rev. 1:5b-6; Rev. 2:26-27; Rev. 3:21)

*** Who are the 24 elders?**

*** Who can't they be?**

- 1) _____ (5:11)
- 2) Seraphim / living _____ (5:11)
- 3) Tribulation _____ (7:11-14)

*** They are representatives of the Raptured Church!**

- 1) They are in _____. (Raptured! / John 14:3)
- 2) They are sitting on _____. (Rev. 3:21)
- 3) They are called _____. (1 Peter 5:4)
- 4) They are clothed in _____ raiment. (Rev. 3:5)
- 5) They have _____ on their heads. (rewarded at the Bema)
- 6) They are _____ in number. (representative #)
- 7) They have been _____ by Christ's blood. (Rev. 1:5)

Key Verse(s):

Key Word(s):

8) They are _____ and _____. (Rev. 1:6)

9) They shall _____ on the earth. (Rev. 2:26-27)

*** Why is this important?**

- It shows us where the _____ is when the tribulation breaks out.
- In order to be in _____ it has to be pre-tribulational.
- The church is _____ by the 24 elders.
- This is also where _____ come in.

Key Verse(s):

Key Word(s):