

THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

A Workbook prepared by Charles Lewis, Gary Calton and Paul Turner

This workbook uses the New International Version. The reason for this is that the NIV has been the largest selling version of the Scriptures since 1990. I recognize that there are errors within this translation, but all must agree that there are errors in any of the translations made by men. I personally use the NIV as another version with which to check the King James Version and the New American Standard Version, these being the versions I use as I preach and teach. I have not used the New American Standard Version as it has not gained wide acceptance although I believe it to be an excellent study Bible in modern English. I use these new translations because of my concern that those who read should understand what they read and not put their trust in me as I translate ancient English. Our schools become ever more lenient in their teaching of the English language and thus render the KJV an ancient version, much like the Latin that the Catholics once used. Regardless of your conviction on these matters, I pray that you will enjoy God's richest blessings as you study his word. – Gary Calton, July 27, 2002

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I. The Glory of the Church

- a. God established three divinely approved institutions on earth.
 - A. Church - Home – Government
 1. How do you view the church?
 2. How do you view the home?
 3. How do you view the government?
- b. The church has become tarnished through the centuries, largely due to two factors:
 - A. Division over doctrinal matters
 - B. Division over personal preferences

John 17:20 "My _____ is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the _____ may believe that you have sent me.

1 Cor 1:10 I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no _____ among you and that you may be _____ united in mind and thought.

- c. Reasons the church, as God gave it, is the most glorious institution on earth.
 - A. Its origin.
 - B. Its foundation.
 - C. Its beginning.
 - D. Its relationship to God and Christ.
 - E. Its universality.
 - F. Its work.
 - G. Its simplicity.
 - H. Its destiny.

What are the seven analogs of the church in Matt 13?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____
- f. _____
- g. _____

II. Definitions of the "Church"

- a. The Greek word "*ekklesia*"--church--literally means "the called out." The word church in the New Testament, therefore, means, "a called out body of people." The church is composed of the people.

Acts 2:47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their _____ daily those who were being saved.

Acts 5:11 Great fear seized the whole _____ and all who heard about these events.

- b. The word church is used in two senses in the New Testament.

A. Universal

Matthew 16:18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this _____ I will build my _____, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Ephesians 5:23 For the _____ is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the _____, his body, of which he is the Savior. 24 Now as the _____ submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the _____ and gave himself up for her

B. Local

1 Corinthians 1:2 To the _____ of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be _____, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ - their Lord and ours:

1 Thessalonians 1:1 Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the _____ of the Thessalonians in God the _____ and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you.

- c. The nature of our calling – "What's in a name?"

A. Called of God--divine calling.

1 Peter 5:10 And the God of all _____, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and _____.

1 Corinthians 7:15 But if the _____ leaves, let him do so. A believing man or woman is not bound in such circumstances; God has called us to live in peace.

2 Timothy 1:9 who has saved us and called us to a _____ life - not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and _____. This _____ was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time,

B. Called into the fellowship of Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:9 God, who has called you into _____ with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is _____.

C. Called to be saints.

Romans 1:7 To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be _____: _____ and peace to you from God our _____ and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

D. A holy calling.

1 Peter 1:15 But just as he who called you is _____, so be _____ in all you do;

1 Corinthians 1:1 Paul, _____ to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, 2 To the _____ of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be _____, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ - their Lord and ours:

1 Thessalonians 4:7 For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a _____ life.

2 Timothy 1:9 who has saved us and called us to a _____ life - not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and _____. This _____ was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time,

E. A heavenly calling.

Hebrews 3:1 Therefore, _____ brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high _____ whom we confess.

F. Out of darkness into light.

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal _____, a _____ nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of _____ into his wonderful light.

G. Called by the gospel of Christ.

2 Thessalonians 2:14 He called you to this through our _____, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

H. Be worthy of calling.

Ephesians 4:1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life _____ of the calling you have received.

I. Make your calling sure.

2 Peter 1:10 Therefore, my _____, be all the more eager to make your _____ and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall,

d. Members are called by different names.

A. Christians

Acts 11:26 and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the _____ and taught great _____ of people. The _____ were called Christians first at Antioch.

B. Saints

Phil 1:1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the _____ in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons:

C. Disciples

Acts 11:26 and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the _____ and taught great _____ of people. The _____ were called Christians first at Antioch.

D. Brethren

Acts 15:36 Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit the _____ in all the towns where we _____ the word of the Lord and see how they are doing."

E. Believers

Acts 5:12 The apostles performed many _____ signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade.

F. Priests

Rev 1:6 and has made us to be a kingdom and _____ to serve his God and _____ -- to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

- e. The church is not an organization separate and apart from its members.
- A. We remain children of God outside the local assembly.
 - B. We need to be concerned about the whole church, the body of Christ, rather than just one congregation.

Matt 16:18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this _____ I will build my _____, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Eph 1:22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the _____, 23 which is his _____, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

- f. However, even though the church is composed of individual Christians, there is a difference between individual actions and church actions and authority for individual actions and church actions.
- A. The body is composed of many members; therefore, a single member does not constitute the church.

1 Corinthians 12:12 The _____ is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one _____. So it is with Christ. 14 Now the _____ is not made up of one part but of many..... 20 As it is, there are many parts, but one _____..... 27 Now you are the _____ of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

- B. Fellowship is between God and the individual Christian, not between God and all the members of a local church and certainly not between churches.

1 Jn 1:6 If we claim to have _____ with him yet walk in the _____, we lie and do not live by the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have _____ with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

Rev 3:4 Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are _____. 5 He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my _____ and his angels.

1 Pet 5:2 Be _____ of God's _____ that is under your care, serving as overseers-- not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve;

- C. Christians differ from the church in their responsibilities. The family (individuals) has the responsibility for caring for widows, but the church has responsibility for widows "indeed".

1 Timothy 5:4 But if a widow has children or _____, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God..... 8 If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an 16 If any woman who is a believer has widows in her family, she should help them and not let the _____ be burdened with them, so that the _____ can help those widows who are really in need.

- D. Family members who are Christians have responsibilities to family members that the church does not have as either the universal or local body of Christ as shown by the Scriptures dealing with husbands and wives as well as parents and children.

Ephesians 5:22 Wives, submit to your _____ as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the _____, his body, of which he is the Savior. 24 Now as the _____ submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the _____ and gave himself up for her 26 to make her _____, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant _____, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but _____ and blameless. 28 In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the _____ - 30 for we are _____ of his body. 31 "For this reason a man will leave his _____ and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." 32 This is a profound mystery - but I am talking about Christ and the _____. 33 However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

Ephesians 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 "Honor your _____ and mother" - which is the first commandment with a promise - 3 "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." 4 _____, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

1 Corinthians 7:1 Now for the matters you wrote about: It is good for a man not to marry. 2 But since there is so much _____, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. 3 The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. 4 The wife's _____ does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband's _____ does not belong to him alone but also to his wife. 5 Do not deprive each other except by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to _____. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

Hebrews 13:4 Marriage should be honored by all, and the _____ bed kept pure, for God will judge the _____ and all the sexually immoral.

- E. Christians have individual responsibilities to the government that are not church responsibilities .

Romans 13:1 Everyone must _____ himself to the governing authorities, for there is no _____ except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. 2 Consequently, he who rebels against the _____ is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. 3 For _____ hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in _____? Then do what is right and he will commend you. 4 For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's _____, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. 5 Therefore, it is necessary to _____ to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also because of conscience. 6 This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's _____, who give their full time to governing. 7 Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

- g. Individuals have responsibilities to provide for their families, love their spouses, raise their children, care for their widowed parents, and pay their taxes. All of these are individual actions that do not involve the collective action of the church in any way. Even when individual Christians act together jointly, this is not necessarily "church" action. For instance, individual Christians may join together in the PTA, own a business together, serve together in some civic organization, eat a meal together, or go fishing together. However, these are not collective actions of the body of Christ, but collective actions of individuals who, coincidentally, happen to be members of the body of Christ.

III. Relation of the Church to:

- a. God.

A. House of God.

1 Timothy 3:15 if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the _____ of the living God, the pillar and _____ of the truth.

Hebrews 3:6 But Christ is _____ as a son over God's house. And we are his house, if we hold on to our courage and the hope of which we boast.

Ephesians 2:19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and _____ of God's household,

B. Family of God.

Ephesians 3:15 from whom his _____ family in heaven and on earth derives its name.

C. Children of God.

Romans 8:16 The Spirit himself _____ with our spirit that we are God's children.

Galatians 4:7 So you are no longer a _____, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

Galatians 3:26 You are all _____ of God through faith in Christ Jesus,

D. Our Father.

Ephesians 3:14 For this reason I kneel before the _____,

Ephesians 4:6 one God and _____ of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Matthew 23:9 And do not call anyone on earth '_____', for you have one _____, and he is in heaven.

1 Corinthians 8:6 yet for us there is but one God, the _____, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.

F. Syllogism:

1. God's family contains all of God's children.
2. The church is God's family.
3. The church contains all of God's children.

b. Christ.

A. Head.

Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the _____, his _____, of which he is the Savior.

Colossians 1:18 And he is the head of the _____, the _____; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in _____ he might have the supremacy.

B. Foundation.

1 Corinthians 3:11 For no one can lay any _____ other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Matthew 16:16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my _____ in heaven. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this _____ I will build my _____, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

C. Purchaser and owner.

Acts 20:28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the _____ Spirit has made you overseers. Be _____ of the _____ of God, which he bought with his own blood.

D. Savior.

Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the _____, his _____, of which he is the Savior.

c. Christians.

A. Christianity is a way of life and of salvation.

1 Pet 1:17 Since you call on a _____ who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. 18 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your _____, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Rom 6:1 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that _____ may increase? 2 By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? 3 Or don't you know that all of us who were _____ into Christ Jesus were _____ into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the _____, we too may live a new life.

B. The local congregation is the working unit in each locality.

Acts 20:28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the _____ of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the _____ of God, which he bought with his own blood.

1 Pet 5:2 Be _____ of God's _____ that is under your care, serving as overseers-- not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; 3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the _____.

C. Christianity is the all-inclusive name of our religion.

1 Pet 4:15 If you suffer, it should not be as a _____ or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. 16 However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. 17 For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the _____ of God?

D. Each person who becomes a Christian automatically becomes a member of the church.

Acts 2:47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their _____ daily those who were being saved.

IV. Misconceptions of the Church.

a. The church is a building.

1 Peter 2:5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a _____, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal _____, a _____ nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of _____ into his wonderful light.

1 Corinthians 3:9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.

b. The church is a human organization.

Matthew 16:18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this _____ I will build my _____, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Ephesians 3:10 His intent was that now, through the _____, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the _____ and authorities in the heavenly realms, 11 according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

c. The church is perfect.

A. Divine side. The church includes all believers who have put on Christ.

Ephesians 3:8 Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this _____ was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. 10 His intent was that now, through the _____, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the _____ and authorities in the heavenly realms, 11 according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Acts 2:47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their _____ daily those who were being saved.

John 15:1 "I am the true vine, and my _____ is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 "I am the vine; you are the _____. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such _____ are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

d. Human side. We are not yet perfect but we strive toward that goal.

1 Corinthians 1:10 I appeal to you, _____, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no _____ among you and that you may be _____ united in mind and thought. 11 My _____, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. 12 What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ." 13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you _____ into the name of Paul?

Ephesians 1:22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the _____, 23 which is his _____, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Acts 23:1 Paul looked straight at the Sanhedrin and said, "My _____, I have fulfilled my duty to God in all good conscience to this day."

1 Timothy 1:15 Here is a trust _____ saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the _____ to save sinners - of whom I am the worst. 16 But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life.

Rev 3:4 Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not _____ their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are _____.

V. The Nature of the Church

a. The church is divine, part of God's eternal purpose

Ephesians 3:8 Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this _____ was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. 10 His intent was that now, through the _____, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the _____ and authorities in the heavenly realms, 11

according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. 12 In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. 13 I ask you, therefore, not to be discouraged because of my sufferings for you, which are your glory. 14 For this reason I kneel before the _____, 15 from whom his _____ family in heaven and on earth derives its name.

- b. The church is the pillar and support of the truth.

1 Timothy 3:15 if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the _____ of the living God, the pillar and _____ of the truth.

- c. The church is like a physical body.

- A. Christ is the head of the body.

Colossians 1:18 And he is the head of the _____, the _____; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in _____ he might have the supremacy.

- B. Christians are the members of the body.

1 Corinthians 12:27 Now you are the _____ of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

- d. The church is a kingdom.

Daniel 2:44 "In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a _____ that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those _____ and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever.

Matthew 16:19 I will give you the keys of the _____ of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

- A. Christ is the king.

Acts 2:30 But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his _____ on his throne.

Revelation 17:14 They will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will overcome them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings - and with him will be his called, chosen and _____ followers."

- B. Christians are the subjects.

Ephesians 5:24 Now as the _____ submits to Christ, so also wives should _____ to their husbands in everything.

- C. The subjects are under Christ the king.

Ephesians 1:22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the _____, 23 which is his _____, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

- D. The church is not a democracy. We do not legislate, nor vote.

Matthew 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All _____ in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

- e. The church is like a building.

Ephesians 2:19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and _____ of God's household, 20 built on the _____ of the _____ and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. 21 In him the _____ building is joined together and rises to become a _____ temple in the Lord. 22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

A. The stones depend on Christ as the foundation.

1 Corinthians 3:11 For no one can lay any _____ other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 4:16 From him the _____, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

f. The church is like a family.

1 Timothy 3:15 if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the _____ of the living God, the pillar and _____ of the truth.

A. God is the Father, Christ is the Son and the Holy Spirit guides Christians on earth through the word.

Matthew 17:5 While he was still speaking, a bright _____ enveloped them, and a voice from the _____ said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

1 Pet 1:12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have _____ the _____ to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.

John 14:26 But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the _____ will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of _____ I have said to you.

B. Christians are the children.

Galatians 3:26 You are all _____ of God through faith in Christ Jesus,

C. Christians must be submissive to their Father.

1 Pet 5:6 _____ yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

VI. Authority in the Church

a. There are two types of authority.

A. External (Pope, King, any man)

B. Internal (Conscience, feelings, judgment, reason)

b. Jesus recognized two sources of authority – heaven and man

Luke 20:1 One day as he was teaching the people in the temple courts and preaching the _____, the chief _____ and the teachers of the law, together with the elders, came up to him. 2 "Tell us by what _____ you are doing these things," they said. "Who gave you this _____?" 3 He replied, "I will also ask you a question. Tell

me, 4 John's baptism - was it from heaven, or from men?" 5 They discussed it among themselves and said, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask, 'Why didn't you believe him?' 6 But if we say, 'From men,' all the people will stone us, because they are persuaded that John was a prophet." 7 So they answered, "We don't know where it was from." 8 Jesus said, "Neither will I tell you by what _____ I am doing these things."

c. Our authority is external: CHRIST

Matthew 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All _____ in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

d. Order of Our Authority.

A. God

1 Corinthians 15:27 For he "has put everything under his feet." Now when it says that "_____" has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put _____ under Christ.

B. Christ

Matthew 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All _____ in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

C. The Holy Spirit

John 16:13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all _____. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my _____ in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

e. Human Messengers

Acts 2:4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other _____ as the Spirit enabled them.

1 Thessalonians 4:2 For you know what instructions we gave you by the _____ of the Lord Jesus.

f. False Authorities

A. Pope

2 Thessalonians 2:4 He will oppose and will exalt himself over _____ that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

B. Feelings

Acts 23:1 Paul looked straight at the Sanhedrin and said, "My _____, I have fulfilled my duty to God in all good conscience to this day."

C. Preachers

2 Timothy 4:10 for Demas, because he loved this _____, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia.

D. The Majority

Acts 5:29 Peter and the other _____ replied: "We must obey God rather than men!"

E. Opinions of Men

1 Corinthians 1:10 I appeal to you, _____, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no _____ among you and that you may be _____ united in mind and thought.

F. Ancestors

G. Human Creeds

Matthew 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the _____ of heaven, but only he who does the will of my _____ who is in heaven.

VII. The Beginning of the Church

- a. Terms: "Church"--"Kingdom of Heaven"--"Kingdom of God." Kingdom of Heaven and Kingdom of God are used interchangeably in the scriptures.

Matthew 21:43 "Therefore I tell you that the _____ of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.

Matthew 22:2 "The _____ of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son.

- b. Whenever either of these terms refers to an institution the church is meant.

Matthew 16:18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this _____ I will build my _____, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. 19 I will give you the keys of the _____ of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

- c. The word "church" occurs only twice in the gospel narratives.

Matthew 16:18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this _____ I will build my _____, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Matthew 18:17 If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the _____; and if he refuses to listen even to the _____, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

- d. The terms "kingdom of heaven" and "kingdom of God" are used 36 times in Matthew alone, and also throughout the New Testament, to mean the sovereign rule Jesus came to establish.

- e. The term "church" cannot always be substituted for "kingdom of God."

Luke 17:21 nor will _____ say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the _____ of God is within you."

Matthew 8:11 I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the _____ of heaven.

However, the kingdom can always be equated with “sovereign rule”.

- f. The original idea of the *ekklesia* is a body of people meeting together.

Acts 19:32 The _____ was in confusion: Some were shouting one thing, some another. Most of the people did not even know why they were there.

- g. *Ekklesia* is translated as church (e.g., Matt 16:18), congregation (Heb 2:12), and assembly (Acts 19:31, 39, 41) in the New Testament.

A. The word church is used in two senses in the New Testament.

- 1. The entire body of believers.

Matthew 16:18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this _____ I will build my _____, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Galatians 1:13 For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the _____ of God and tried to destroy it.

B. The church in the local sense.

1 Corinthians 1:2 To the _____ of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be _____, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ - their Lord and ours:

- h. The kingdom of God is compared to a power, a realm, a treasure, etc., in the New Testament.

- i. The date of the establishment of the first congregation upon the earth.

The New Testament points forward and backward to Acts 2 and the first Pentecost after Christ’s resurrection.

Matt 16:18 | Acts 2:47 Acts 4:4 Acts 5 Acts 8
>>>>>>> ! <<<<<<< <<<<<< <<<<< <<<<<

A. Prediction as to time:

Daniel 2:44 "In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a _____ that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those _____ and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever.

Four kingdoms of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream (Dan 2:31-45)

Babylonia	(gold)	600 B.C. -536 BC	Nebuchadnezzar.
Medo-Persian	(silver)	fell in 330 BC	Cyrus and Darius.
Macedonian	(brass)	divided 323 BC	Alexander the Great.
Roman	(iron and clay)	30 B.C. to 476 AD	Octavius Caesar.

B. Pentecost A.D. 30 fits the prediction. Tiberius Caesar was reigning.

C. The kingdom was to come with power in the lifetime of some who heard Jesus.

Mark 9:1 And he said to them, "I tell you the _____, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the _____ of God come with power."

D. The power was to come with the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my _____ in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

E. The Holy Spirit came on Pentecost A.D. 30.

Acts 2:1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the _____ house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be _____ of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other _____ as the Spirit enabled them. 5 Now there were staying in _____ God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. 6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language.

F. The law was to go forth and the apostles were to wait in Jerusalem.

Acts 1:4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave _____, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. 5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be _____ with the Holy Spirit." 6 So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the _____ to Israel?" 7 He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the _____ has set by his own _____. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my _____ in _____, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Isaiah 2:2 In the last days the mountain of the LORD'S temple will be established as _____ among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it. 3 Many _____ will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from _____.

Luke 24:47 and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be _____ in his name to all nations, beginning at _____. 48 You are _____ of these things. 49 I am going to send you what my _____ has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Mark 16:15 He said to them, "Go into all the _____ and preach the good news to all creation. 16 Whoever believes and is _____ will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

G. The gospel, the law of the kingdom or church, was first preached in fact on Pentecost A.D. 30, Acts 2 After Pentecost the church or kingdom is always spoken of as being in existence.

Col 1:13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of _____ and brought us into the _____ of the Son he loves,

Acts 5:11 Great fear seized the _____ and all who heard about these events.

H. Pentecost A.D. 30 is spoken of as "the beginning."

Acts 11:15 "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the _____.

j. The kingdom or church is discussed in the New Testament, in promise, in preparation and in actuality.

A. In promise.

Matthew 21:43 "Therefore I tell you that the _____ of God will be taken away from you and given to a _____ who will produce its fruit.

B. In preparation.

Matthew 3:2 and saying, "Repent, for the _____ of heaven is near."

C. In actuality.

Acts 28:23 They arranged to meet Paul on a certain day, and came in even larger _____ to the place where he was staying. From morning till evening he explained and declared to them the _____ of God and tried to convince them about Jesus from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets.

Revelation 1:6 and has made us to be a kingdom and _____ to serve his God and _____ - to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

VIII. Mission of the Church

Ephesians 4:11 It was he who gave some to be _____, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God's _____ for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the _____ measure of the fullness of Christ.

1 Timothy 3:15 if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the _____ of the living God, the pillar and _____ of the _____.

a. Evangelism: The primary mission of the church is the same as the primary mission of Christ, the saving of souls.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the _____ that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Matthew 1:21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his _____ from their sins."

Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was _____."

Romans 1:16 I am not ashamed of the _____, because it is the power of God for the _____ of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. 17 For in the _____ a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

1 Corinthians 15:1 Now, _____, I want to remind you of the _____ I _____ to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. 2 By this _____ you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I _____ to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

Romans 10:13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." 14 How, then, can they call on the one they have not _____ in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone _____ to them? 15 And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

A. Local churches were the media through which this was done in apostolic times. They are the only missionary organizations of the New Testament.

a. Church at Antioch.

Acts 13:1 In the _____ at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. 2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me _____ and Saul for the work to which I have _____ them." 3 So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.

Acts 14:27 On arriving there, they gathered the _____ together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. 28 And they stayed there a long time with the _____.

B. Churches of Macedonia.

2 Corinthians 11:8 I robbed other _____ by receiving support from them so as to serve you. 9 And when I was with you and needed something, I was not a burden to anyone, for the _____ who came from Macedonia supplied what I needed. I have kept myself from being a burden to you in any way, and will continue to do so.

C. Church at Thessalonica.

1 Thessalonians 1:2 We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our _____. 3 We continually remember before our God and _____ your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4 For we know, _____ loved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our _____ came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. 6 You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. 7 And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. 8 The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia - your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it,

D. Church at Philippi.

Philippians 1:3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my _____ for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the _____ from the first day until now,

Philippians 2:25 But I think it is necessary to send back to you _____ my brother, fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs. 26 For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill. 27 Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow. 28 Therefore I am all the more eager to send him, so that when you see

him again you may be glad and I may have less anxiety. 29 Welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honor men like him, 30 because he almost died for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for the help you could not give me.

Philippians 4:14 Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. 15 Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the _____, when I set out from Macedonia, not one _____ shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; 16 for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid again and again when I was in need. 17 Not that I am looking for a gift, but I am looking for what may be credited to your account. 18 I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from _____ the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. 19 And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. 20 To our God and _____ be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

- E. The New Testament plan was _____, Judea and Samaria, unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my _____ in _____, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

- b. Edification. "For the perfecting of the saints"

Ephesians 4:12 to prepare God's _____ for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

- A. The elders are to watch after the souls of the saved.

Acts 20:28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the _____ of God, which he bought with his own blood. 29 I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. 30 Even from your own _____ men will arise and distort the _____ in order to draw away _____ after them. 31 So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

Hebrews 13:7 Remember your _____, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

Hebrews 13:17 Obey your leaders and _____ to their _____. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

- B. Worship

Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the _____' teaching and to the _____, to the breaking of bread and to _____.

1 Cor 11:26 For whenever you eat this _____ and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Hebrews 10:25 Let us not give up _____ together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another - and all the more as you see the _____ approaching.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and _____ one another with all wisdom, and as you sing _____, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

C. Teaching

Matthew 28:19 Therefore go and make _____ of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the _____ and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey _____ I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

2 Timothy 2:2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many _____ entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.

Titus 2:1 You must teach what is in _____ with sound doctrine.

D. Benevolence. Compassion and caring for the needy charged **first** to the **individual** Christian.

1. For the needy in general.

2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. 10 And here is my advice about what is best for you in this matter: Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. 11 Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, _____ to your means. 12 For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable _____ to what one has, not _____ to what he does not have. 13 Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. 14 At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be equality, 15 as it is written: "He who gathered much did not have too much, and he who gathered little did not have too little."

1 John 3:17 If anyone has material _____ and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? 18 Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in _____.

1 Timothy 6:17 Command those who are rich in this present _____ not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with _____ for our enjoyment. 18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 19 In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm _____ for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. Hebrews 13:16 And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Care for orphans and widows

James 1:27 Religion that God our _____ accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the _____.

E. Whereas the individual Christian is charged with caring for whomever they can (ability and occasion = opportunity), the church is charged with caring only for its own.

1 Timothy 5:16 If any woman who is a believer has widows in her family, she should help them and not let the _____ be burdened with them, so that the _____ can help those widows who are really in need.

F. The church cared for the needy saints in _____. Acts 6.

1. A need.
2. A common fund.
3. Men to investigate the matter.

G. The church is charged with caring for widows indeed.

1 Timothy 5:3 Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need. 4 But if a widow has children or _____, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God. 5 The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and to ask God for help. 6 But the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. 7 Give the _____ these instructions, too, so that no one may be open to blame. 8 If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an _____. 9 No widow may be put on the list of widows unless she is over sixty, has been _____ to her husband, 10 and is well known for her good deeds, such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the _____, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of good deeds. 11 As for younger widows, do not put them on such a list. For when their sensual desires overcome their dedication to Christ, they want to marry.

H. Cooperation between churches in caring for the needy saints.

1. Between Antioch and the churches in Judea (about AD 40)

Acts 11:27 During this time some prophets came down from _____ to Antioch. 28 One of them, named Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman _____. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.) 29 The _____, each _____ to his ability, decided to provide help for the _____ living in Judea. 30 This they did, sending their gift to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.

2. Between Philippi, Corinth and other churches in Greece for Jerusalem (about AD 55)

1 Corinthians 16:1 Now about the collection for God's _____: Do what I told the Galatian _____ to do. 2 On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made. 3 Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve and send them with your gift to _____.

2 Corinthians 8:1 And now, _____, we want you to know about the _____ that God has given the Macedonian _____. 2 Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. 3 For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even

beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, 4 they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the _____. 5 And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will.

2 Corinthians 8:18 And we are sending along with him the brother who is praised by all the _____ for his service to the _____. 19 What is more, he was chosen by the _____ to accompany us as we carry the offering, which we administer in order to honor the Lord himself and to show our eagerness to help. 20 We want to avoid any _____ of the way we administer this liberal gift. 21 For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men.

2 Corinthians 9:1 There is no need for me to write to you about this service to the _____. 2 For I know your eagerness to help, and I have been boasting about it to the Macedonians, telling them that since last year you in Achaia were ready to give; and your enthusiasm has stirred most of them to action. 3 But I am sending the _____ in order that our boasting about you in this matter should not prove hollow, but that you may be ready, as I said you would be. 4 For if any Macedonians come with me and find you unprepared, we - not to say anything about you - would be ashamed of having been so confident. 5 So I thought it necessary to urge the _____ to visit you in advance and finish the arrangements for the generous gift you had promised. Then it will be ready as a generous gift, not as one grudgingly given. 6 Remember this: Whoever sows _____ will also reap _____, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 7 Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under _____, for God loves a cheerful giver.

J. The New Testament pattern for one or more churches cooperating in providing benevolence to other churches shows that churches did not pool their funds under any single church or organization. Each church collected its own contribution from its own members as they had prospered and as they had purposed in their hearts and sent directly to the need.

1. The contribution was intended for the needy saints
2. Each church chose its own messenger(s) to deliver the contribution
3. The contribution was delivered directly to the needy church (or churches)
4. Each church cooperated together, yet worked independently from all others to achieve a common effect – the relief of the needy saints. This is in keeping with God's plan for each church to be an independent, autonomous group with no organization larger than the local congregation. It stops the Roman Catholic system at its beginning.

IX. The Name

- a. Those who follow Christ are "Christians".
 - A. Name foretold.

Isaiah 62:2 The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory; you will be _____ by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will bestow.

Not Brethren (Matthew 23:8) -- used in Psalms 133:1

Not Disciples (Matthew 5:1) -- used in Isaiah 8:16.

Not "Children (sons) of God" (John 3:1) -- used in Genesis 6:2.

Not "Saints" (Acts 9:13) -- used in Deuteronomy 33:2.
Not "witnesses" (Acts 1:8) -- used in Isaiah 43:10.

B. Disciples called Christians.

Acts 11:26 and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a _____ year Barnabas and Saul met with the _____ and taught great _____ of people. The _____ were called Christians first at Antioch.

C. Name used by Paul.

Acts 26:28 Then Agrippa said to Paul, "Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a _____?" 29 Paul replied, "Short time or long - I pray God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains."

D. Glorify God in this name.

1 Peter 4:14 If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. 15 If you suffer, it should not be as a _____ or thief or any other kind of _____, or even as a meddler. 16 However, if you suffer as a _____, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.

E. Names applied to the church.

1. "The church of God"

1 Corinthians 1:2 To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be _____, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ - their Lord and ours:

2. "Churches of Christ"

Romans 16:16 Greet one another with a _____ kiss. All the _____ of Christ send greetings.

3. Kingdom of God

Matthew 13:24 Jesus told them another parable: "The _____ of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.

Matthew 13:31 He told them another parable: "The _____ of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field.

Matthew 13:33 He told them still another parable: "The _____ of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all through the dough."

Matthew 13:44 "The _____ of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. 45 "Again, the _____ of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. 46 When he found one of great value, he went away and sold _____ he had and bought it. 47 "Once again, the _____ of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish.

4. "Body of Christ"

Ephesians 1:22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the _____, 23 which is his _____, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Colossians 1:18 And he is the head of the _____, the _____; he is the _____ and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in _____ he might have the supremacy.

5. "My Church"

Matthew 16:18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this _____ I will build my _____, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

6. "Church of the Lord"

Acts 20:28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the _____ of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be _____ of the _____ of God, which he bought with his own blood.

7. Church of the firstborn"

Hebrews 12:23 to the _____ of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect,

8. "Church of the Saints"

1 Corinthians 14:33 For God is not a God of disorder but of peace. As in all the congregations of the _____,

9. "The church"

Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the _____, his _____, of which he is the Savior.

10. "The Way"

Acts 9:2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues in _____, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to _____.

F. Names applied to individual members.

1. "Christians"

Acts 11:26 and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a _____ year Barnabas and Saul met with the _____ and taught great _____ of people. The _____ were called Christians first at Antioch.

2. "Saints"

Philippians 4:21 Greet all the _____ in Christ Jesus. The _____ who are with me send greetings.

3. "Disciples"

Acts 16:1 He came to Derbe and then to Lystra, where a disciple named Timothy lived, whose mother was a Jewess and a believer, but whose _____ was a Greek.

4. "Brethren"

Colossians 1:2 To the _____ and faithful brothers in Christ at Colosse: _____ and peace to you from God our _____.

5. "Priests"

1 Peter 2:5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a _____, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

6. Only the names in the scriptures are worthy of being worn.

7. In no other name is there salvation.

Acts 4:12 _____ is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

G. The church is the bride of Christ and should wear his name.

2 Corinthians 11:2 I am _____ for you with a godly _____. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him.

I. The church is God's family and should wear his name.

1 Timothy 3:15 if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the _____ of the living God, the pillar and _____ of the truth.

J. Do all things in the name of the Lord.

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the _____ through him.

X. Government of the Church

a. The church universal

A. Every saved person is a member of the church universal.

Acts 2:41 Those who accepted his message were _____, and about three thousand were added to their _____ that day.

B. Each member is a _____ under Christ.

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal _____, a _____ nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of _____ into his wonderful light.

Revelation 1:6 and has made us to be a kingdom and _____ to serve his God and _____ - to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

Hebrews 4:14 Therefore, since we have a great high _____ who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. 15 For we do not have a high _____ who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we

have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin. 16 Let us then approach the throne of _____ with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find _____ to help us in our time of need.

b. The local church

A. Organization is provided.

Philippians 1:1 Paul and Timothy, _____ of Christ Jesus, To all the _____ in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons:

1. Elders are the overseers in each church.

Acts 20:28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be _____ of the _____ of God, which he bought with his own blood.

2. Should we have elders?

Titus 1:5 The reason I left you in Crete was that you might _____ out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.

Acts 14:23 Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each _____ and, with _____ and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.

3. The elder's work is given by the Holy Spirit:

1 Peter 5:1 To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: 2 Be _____ of God's _____ that is under your care, serving as overseers - not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; 3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the _____. 4 And when the _____ Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

4. Their qualifications are given in:

1 Timothy 3:1 Here is a trust _____ saying: If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task. 2 Now the overseer must be above reproach, the _____ of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3 not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. 4 He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. 5 (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's _____?) 6 He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. 7 He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into dis_____ and into the devil's trap.

Titus 1:5 The reason I left you in Crete was that you might _____ out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you. 6 An elder must be _____, the husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. 7 Since an overseer is entrusted with God's work, he must be _____ - not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. 8 Rather he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is

self-controlled, upright, _____ and disciplined. 9 He must hold firmly to the trust _____ message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.

5. Definition of elder

- a. "Episkopos" overseer, bishop, a man charged with the duty of seeing that things done by others are done correctly. In the New Testament he is a "guardian of souls," one who watches over the welfare of others.
- b. Presbuteros" (1)of age, elder, advanced in life, a senior. (2) A term of rank or office. Among Christians those who preside over the assemblies.

Acts 11:30 This they did, sending their gift to the elders by _____ and Saul.

Acts 14:23 Paul and _____ appointed elders for them in each _____ and, with _____ and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.

Acts 15:22 Then the _____ and elders, with the _____, decided to choose some of their own men and send them to Antioch with Paul and _____. They chose Judas (called Barsabbas) and Silas, two men who were leaders among the _____.

- c. "Episkopos" overseer, bishop gives the function. "Presbuteros", elder gives the dignity. The two words are used interchangeably.
- d. "Poimen", pastor, feeder, shepherd indicates the function.

Ephesians 4:11 It was he who gave some to be _____, some to be prophets, some to be _____, and some to be pastors and teachers,

Acts 20:28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the _____ of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the _____ of God, which he bought with his own blood.

Titus 1:5 The reason I left you in Crete was that you might _____ out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.

Titus 1:7 Since an overseer is entrusted with God's work, he must be _____ - not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain.

- e. There was a plurality of elders in each New Testament church.

Acts 14:23 Paul and _____ appointed elders for them in each _____ and, with _____ and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.

Acts 20:17 From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the elders of the _____.

6. There were also deacons in the New Testament church. General meaning. "*diakonos*" attendant, servant, minister. In this sense it includes all who serve actively in the church.

Romans 16:1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a _____ of the _____ in Cenchrea.

7. Special meaning. The word deacon is also used in an official sense and qualifications are given for those who serve in this capacity.

Philippians 1:1 Paul and Timothy, _____ of Christ Jesus, To all the _____ in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons:

1Tim 3:8 Deacons, likewise, are to be men _____ of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. 9 They must keep hold of the deep _____ of the faith with a clear conscience. 10 They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons. 11 In the same way, their wives are to be women _____ of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trust _____ in everything. 12 A deacon must be the _____ of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well. 13 Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ

8. The deacon is a "helper" or "minister" or "servant" in the church in contrast to the elder who is an "overseer". He is responsible to the church.

Acts 6:1 In those days when the _____ of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. 2 So the Twelve gathered all the _____ together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. 3 _____, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to _____ and the ministry of the word." 5 This proposal pleased the _____ group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. 6 They presented these men to the _____, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

In this passage the Greek word translated as deacon is used and translated as serve and ministry. Two services were made, one for tables and one for the word. Deacons serve in physical things to relieve a burden from those who serve in spiritual things – then the apostles, now the elders.

9. There are also evangelists in the New Testament church. "Proclaimer of good news"

Ephesians 4:11 It was he who gave some to be _____, some to be prophets, some to be _____, and some to be pastors and teachers,

Acts 21:8 Leaving the next day, we reached Caesarea and stayed at the house of Philip the _____, one of the Seven.

2 Timothy 4:5 But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an _____, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

10. The work of the evangelist.

a. Preach the word.

2 Timothy 2:2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many _____ entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.

2 Timothy 4:1 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his _____, I give you this charge: 2 Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, _____ and encourage - with great patience and careful instruction. 3 For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great _____ of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4 They will turn their ears away from the _____ and turn aside to myths. 5 But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an _____, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

b. Guard the faith.

1 Timothy 6:20 Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, 21 which some have professed and in so doing have wandered from the faith. _____ be with you.

Titus 1:13 This testimony is true. Therefore, _____ them sharply, so that they will be sound in the faith 14 and will pay no attention to Jewish myths or to the commands of those who reject the _____.

c. Build up the church.

Titus 1:3 and at his appointed season he brought his word to light through the _____ entrusted to me by the command of God our Savior, ... 5 The reason I left you in Crete was that you might _____ out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.

B. The local church was the medium through which the early Christians worked.

Acts 13:1 In the _____ at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: _____, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. 2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me _____ and Saul for the work to which I have called them." 3 So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.

Acts 14:25 and when they had _____ the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. 26 From Attalia they sailed back to Antioch, where they had been committed to the _____ of God for the work they had now completed. 27 On arriving there, they gathered the _____ together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. 28 And they stayed there a long time with the _____.

C. Charity was dispensed through the deacons of the church.

Acts 6:1 In those days when the _____ of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. 2 So the Twelve gathered all the _____ together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. 3 _____, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to _____ and the ministry of the word."

D. Local churches cooperated in doing their work.

Romans 15:25 Now, however, I am on my way to _____ in the service of the _____ there. 26 For Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the _____ in _____.

2 Corinthians 8:1 And now, brothers, we want you to know about the _____ that God has given the Macedonian _____. 2 Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. 3 For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, 4 they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the _____. 5 And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will.

E. Cooperation toward a common goal was always carried out independently by each local church even though they may have supported the same goal. They never pooled their funds or sent money to a sponsoring church or missionary organization or benevolent society

1. The church at Philippi supported Paul in Thessalonica.

Philippians 1:5 because of your partnership in the _____ from the first day until now,

Philippians 4:15 Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the _____, when I set out from Macedonia, not one _____ shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; 16 for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid again and again when I was in need.

2. The church at Philippi sent its own funds by its own messenger.

Philippians 2:25 But I think it is necessary to send back to you _____ my brother, fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs.

Philippians 4:18 I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from _____ the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.

3. Churches in Macedonia (which includes Philippi) supported Paul in Corinth.

2 Corinthians 11:8 I robbed other _____ by receiving support from them so as to serve you. 2 Corinthians 11:9 And when I was with you and needed something, I was not a burden to anyone, for the _____ who came from Macedonia supplied what I needed. I have kept myself from being a burden to you in any way, and will continue to do so.

4. Each church collected its own benevolent contributions from its own members as each had prospered and purposed in their hearts.

Acts 11:29 The _____, each _____ to his ability, decided to provide help for the _____ living in Judea.

1 Corinthians 16:1 Now about the collection for God's _____: Do what I told the Galatian _____ to do. 2 On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.

2 Corinthians 8:12 For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable _____ to what one has, not _____ to what he does not have.

2 Corinthians 9:7 Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under _____, for God loves a cheerful giver.

5. Each church chose its own messenger.

1 Corinthians 16:3 Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve and send them with your gift to _____.

2 Corinthians 8:19 What is more, he was chosen by the _____ to accompany us as we carry the offering, which we administer in order to honor the Lord himself and to show our eagerness to help. 20 We want to avoid any _____ of the way we administer this liberal gift. 21 For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men. 22 In addition, we are sending with them our brother who has often proved to us in many ways that he is zealous, and now even more so because of his great confidence in you. 23 As for Titus, he is my partner and fellow worker among you; as for our _____, they are representatives of the _____ and an honor to Christ.

6. Contributions were sent directly to the churches in need.

Acts 11:29 The _____, each _____ to his ability, decided to provide help for the _____ living in Judea.

1 Corinthians 16:1 Now about the collection for God's _____: Do what I told the Galatian _____ to do.

7. Every church would have followed this example since Paul taught the same thing in every church.

1 Corinthians 4:16 Therefore I urge you to imitate me. 17 For this reason I am sending to you Timothy, my son whom I love, who is _____ in the Lord. He will remind you of my way of life in Christ Jesus, which agrees with what I teach everywhere in every _____.

1 Corinthians 7:17 Nevertheless, each one should retain the place in life that the Lord assigned to him and to which God has _____ him. This is the rule I lay down in all the _____.

1 Corinthians 16:1 Now about the collection for God's _____: Do what I told the Galatian _____ to do.

XI. Qualification of Elders

I Tim 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9

- A. Positive qualifications
 1. blameless
 2. temperate
 3. self-controlled
 4. respectable
 5. hospitable
 6. gentle
 7. manage his family well
 8. good reputation with outsiders
 9. temperate
 10. disciplined
 11. holy
 12. wife must be dignified.
- B. Negative qualifications
 1. not given to drunkenness
 2. not violent
 3. not pursuing dishonest gain
 4. not overbearing
 5. not quick tempered
 6. not self-willed
 7. not a recent convert
- C. Special qualifications
 1. Husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe
 2. hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it

b. Work of Elders

Jeremiah 3:15 Then I will give you _____ after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding.

A. Oversight – Watch and Care

Acts 20: 17 From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the elders of the _____. ... 28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the _____ of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be _____ of the _____ of God, which he bought with his own blood.

1 Peter 5:1 To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: 2 Be _____ of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers - not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; 3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the _____. 4 And when the _____ Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

1 Timothy 5:17 The elders who direct the affairs of the _____ well are _____ of double honor, especially those whose work is _____ and teaching.

1 Thessalonians 5:12 Now we ask you, _____, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who _____ you.

B. Work against false teaching.

Acts 20:29 I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. 30 Even from your own _____ men will arise and distort the _____ in order to draw away _____ after them. 31 So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears. 32 "Now I commit you to God and to the word of his _____, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

C. Oversight in material things.

Acts 11:29 The _____, each _____ to his ability, decided to provide help for the _____ living in Judea. 30 This they did, sending their gift to the elders by _____ and Saul.

1. Delegated physical things to deacons.

Acts 6:3 _____, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to _____ and the ministry of the word."

c. Examples to flock

1 Peter 5:3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the _____.

e. Caution to Elders – Internal dangers

Acts 20:30 Even from your own _____ men will arise and distort the _____ in order to draw away _____ after them.

f. Accusations against

1 Timothy 5:19 Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by two or three _____. 20 Those who sin are to be _____d publicly, so that the others may take warning.

g. Authority of Elders. Elders have scriptural authority to perform their God given function.

- A. Urge members to live up to their responsibility.
- B. May lead the church to accomplish the work required.
- C. Can guide the church in the selection of helpers.
- D. Supervise the teaching in the local church.

h. Limitation of Elders.

- A. They have oversight of their home congregation only.

1 Peter 5:2 Be _____ of God's _____ that is under your care, serving as overseers - not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve;

- B. They are bound by the terms in the New Testament.

2 John 1:9 Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the _____ and the Son.

- C. They are servants, not masters, of the congregation.

1 Peter 5:1 To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: 2 Be _____ of God's _____

that is under your care, serving as overseers - not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; 3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the _____.

D. Value of Elders.

1. Scriptural elders keep congregations from drifting away.

1 Peter 5:1 To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: 2 Be _____ of God's _____ that is under your care, serving as overseers - not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; 3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the _____.

2. They keep the brethren in line.

Titus 1:9 He must hold firmly to the trust _____ message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.

3. They maintain a high standard of moral life.

1 Timothy 3:2 Now the overseer must be above reproach, the _____ of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3 not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. 4 He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. 5 (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's _____?) 6 He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. 7 He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into dis _____ and into the devil's trap.

4. They develop an strong program of evangelization.

Ephesians 4:11 It was he who gave some to be _____, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God's _____ for works of service, so that the _____ of Christ may be built up

5. They make certain that the worship is scriptural.

Titus 1:9 He must hold firmly to the trust _____ message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.

E. Respect for Elders.

1 Timothy 5:17 The elders who direct the affairs of the _____ well are _____ of double honor, especially those whose work is _____ and teaching. 18 For the Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages." 19 Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by two or three _____. 20 Those who sin are to be _____d publicly, so that the others may take warning.

XII. Qualifications of Deacons.

I Ti 3:8-13

A. Positive

1. "Grave"
2. "Blameless"
3. "Husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their homes well"

4. "Even so must their wives"--"Woman in like manner"
 5. "Holding the faith in a pure conscience"
 6. "Proved"
- B. Negative
7. "Not doubletongued"
 8. "Not greedy of filthy lucre"
 9. "Not given to much wine"

C. Deacons in the New Testament church were appointed to serve. General meaning. "*diakonos*" attendant, servant, minister. In this sense it includes all who serve actively in the church.

Romans 16:1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a _____ of the _____ in Cenchrea.

D. Special meaning. The word deacon is also used in an official sense.

Philippians 1:1 Paul and Timothy, _____ of Christ Jesus, To all the _____ in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons:

1 Timothy 3:8 Deacons, likewise, are to be men _____ of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. 9 They must keep hold of the deep _____ of the faith with a clear conscience. 10 They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons. 11 In the same way, their wives are to be women _____ of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trust _____ in everything. 12 A deacon must be the _____ of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well. 13 Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ

E. The deacon is a "helper" or "minister" or "servant" in the church in contrast to the elder who is an "overseer". He works under the oversight of the church.

Acts 6:1 In those days when the _____ of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. 2 So the Twelve gathered all the _____ together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. 3 _____, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to _____ and the ministry of the word." 5 This proposal pleased the _____ group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. 6 They presented these men to the _____, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

XIII. How to become a Member of the Church

- a. Pentecost
 - A. Peter _____ Christ.

Acts 2:14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in _____, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. 15 These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! 16 No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

B. The people were "pricked in their hearts."

Acts 2:37 When the _____ heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other _____, "Brothers, what shall we do?" 38 Peter replied, "Repent and be

_____, 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.

C. 3,000 were added to the church.

Acts 2:41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their _____ that day. 42 They devoted themselves to the _____' teaching and to the _____, to the breaking of bread and to _____. 43 Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and _____ signs were done by the _____. 44 All the believers were together and had _____ in common. 45 Selling their _____ and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke _____ in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the _____. And the Lord added to their _____ daily those who were being saved.

b. Samaritans

A. They heard the gospel of Christ.

Acts 8:5 Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Christ there. 6 When the crowds heard Philip and saw the _____ signs he did, they all paid close attention to what he said.

B. They believed and were baptized.

Acts 8:12 But when they _____ Philip as he _____ the good news of the _____ of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

c. Ethiopian nobleman

A. Philip _____ Christ.

Acts 8:35 Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

B. Faith, confession, baptism.

Acts 8:36 As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be _____?" [some ancient manuscripts insert v. 37 Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." The eunuch answered, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."] 38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip _____ him. 39 When they came up out of the _____, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.

d. Saul of Tarsus

A. He believed in Christ.

Acts 9:3 As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" 5 "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. 6 "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

B. Repentance.

Acts 26:19 "So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven. 20 First to those in Damascus, then to those in _____ and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, I _____ that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds

C. He was baptized for the forgiveness of sins.

Acts 22:16 And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be _____ and wash your sins away, _____ on his name.'

e. Cornelius

A. He was a good man, but not saved.

Acts 10:1 At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. 2 He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly. 3 One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, "Cornelius!" 4 Cornelius stared at him in fear. "What is it, Lord?" he asked. The angel answered, "Your _____ and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God. 5 Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is _____ Peter. 6 He is staying with Simon the tanner, whose house is by the sea."

Acts 11:14 He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved.'

B. Peter _____ Christ.

Acts 10:34 Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism 35 but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right. 36 You know the message God sent to the _____ of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. 37 You know what has happened throughout Judea, _____ in Galilee after the baptism that John _____ - 38 how God anointed Jesus of _____ with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. 39 "We are _____ of _____ he did in the country of the Jews and in _____. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, 40 but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. 41 He was not seen by all the people, but by _____ whom God had already chosen - by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 He commanded us to preach to the _____ and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. 43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

C. Belief was required.

Acts 10:43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

D. They were baptized for the forgiveness of sins.

Acts 10:47 "Can anyone keep these _____ from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have." 48 So he ordered that they be _____ in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

f. Lydia

A. Paul _____.

Acts 16:13 On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of _____. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there.

B. She heard, believed, and was baptized.

Acts 16:13 On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of _____. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. 14 One of those listening was a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. 15 When she and the _____ of her household were _____, she invited us to her home. "If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

g. Philippian Jailer

A. He asked "What must I do to be saved?"

Acts 16:30 He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what _____ I do to be saved?"

B. The Jailer and his family heard, believed, and were baptized.

Acts 16:29 The jailer _____ for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. 30 He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" 31 They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved - you and your household." 32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. 33 At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were _____. 34 The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God - he and his _____ family.

(He did not have infant children in his household because they were told to "believe" which an infant could not do.)

h. Corinthians

A. Paul preached.

Acts 18:4 Every Sabbath he _____ in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

B. They believed and were baptized.

Acts 18:8 Crispus, the synagogue ruler, and his entire household _____ in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard him _____ and were baptized.

i. Summary of the conversions in the New Testament.

A. They heard the word

Romans 10:13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." 14 How, then, can they call on the one they have not _____ in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone _____ to them? 15 And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" 16 But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has _____ our message?" 17 Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

B. They believed

Mark 16:15 He said to them, "Go into all the _____ and preach the good news to all creation. 16 Whoever believes and is _____ will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

C. They repented.

Acts 17:30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all _____ everywhere to repent.

D. They confessed Jesus as the Christ.

Romans 10:9 That if you _____ with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your _____ that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you _____ and are saved.

E. They were baptized for the remission of their sins.

John 3:5 Jesus answered, "I tell you the _____, no one can enter the _____ of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

1 Peter 3:21 and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also - not the removal of dirt from the _____ but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

In all cases they were baptized immediately! They did not put it off.
No infants or nonbelievers were baptized.

XIV. Stewardship in the New Testament Church (Handling properly that which belongs to another)

a. How the early church shared its possessions.

Acts 2:44 All the believers were together and had _____ in common. 45 Selling their _____ and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.

Acts 4:32 All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his _____ was his own, but they shared _____ they had. 33 With great power the _____ continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much _____ was upon them all. 34 There were no needy per_____ among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales 35 and put it at the _____' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.

b. When Christians are in need, other Christians must be willing to share with them until the need is supplied.

Acts 11:27 During this time some prophets came down from _____ to Antioch. 28 One of them, named Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman _____. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.) 29 The _____, each _____ to his ability, decided to provide help for the _____ living in Judea. 30 This they did, sending their gift to the elders by _____ and Saul.

2 Corinthians 8:1 And now, brothers, we want you to know about the _____ that God has given the Macedonian _____. 2 Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. 3 For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, 4 they urgently pleaded with us for the

privilege of sharing in this service to the _____. 5 And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will.

c. Attitude No. 1

It's Mine. "By my own intelligence and industry I have earned my income. I will give to God a portion of what's mine."

A. This flies in the teeth of everything in the scripture

1. giving, on this basis, usually means one dollar when it should be ten.
2. It becomes a gesture of good will, like giving to some good community drive or some charity. It usually depends upon the effectiveness of the promotional scheme.

d. Attitude No. 2 It's Thine.

"My income is a trust from the Lord. I will use a necessary portion of it wisely and discreetly for the support of myself and family, but it really belongs to God."

Psalms 24:1 The earth is the LORD'S, and everything in it, the _____, and all who live in it;

2 Corinthians 8:2 Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme _____ welled up in rich generosity. 3 For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, 4 they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the _____. 5 And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will.

e. When we realize we are stewards, we are blessed.

Philippians 4:17 Not that I am looking for a gift, but I am looking for what may be credited to your account. 18 I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from _____ the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. 19 And my God will meet all your needs _____ to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

2 Corinthians 9:6 Remember this: Whoever sows _____ will also reap _____, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. :10 Now he who supplies seed to the sower and _____ for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.

1 Corinthians 4:2 Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove _____.

XV. Fellowship in the church

Used in the sense of Christians jointly sharing or participating in spiritual matters or benevolent works. Fellowship is never used in a social or recreational sense. The Greek words are used once of a partnership in a business venture (Lk 5:7, 10).

a. Definition: Love, trust, and devotion built upon agreement.

1 John 1:1 That which was from the _____, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched - this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. 2 The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the _____ and has appeared to us. 3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have _____ with us. And our _____ is with the _____ and with his Son, Jesus Christ. 4 We write this to make our joy complete. 5 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no _____ at all. 6 If we claim to have _____ with

him yet walk in the _____, we lie and do not live by the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have _____ with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

b. Pictures of fellowship.

Acts 2:43 Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and _____ signs were done by the _____. 44 All the believers were together and had _____ in common. 45 Selling their _____ and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke _____ in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their _____ daily those who were being saved.

1 Corinthians 1:10 I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no _____ among you and that you may be _____ united in mind and thought.

1 Corinthians 10:16 Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the _____ that we break a **participation** in the _____ of Christ?

2 Corinthians 8:4 they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of **sharing** in this service to the _____.

Hebrews 3:1 Therefore, _____ brothers, who share in the heavenly _____, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high _____ whom we confess. :14 We have come to **share** in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first.

c. Submission is a key to fellowship.

John 17:20 "My _____ is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, _____, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the _____ may believe that you have sent me.

Ephesians 5:21 _____ to one another out of reverence for Christ.

d. Absence of fellowship.

1 Corinthians 1:10 I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no _____ among you and that you may be _____ united in mind and thought. 11 My _____, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. 12 What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ." 13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you _____ into the name of Paul?

Galatians 1:6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the _____ of Christ and are turning to a different _____ - 7 which is really no _____ at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the _____ of Christ. 8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a _____ other than the one we _____ to you, let him be eternally condemned! 9 As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a _____ other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!

Romans 16:17 I urge you, _____, to watch out for those who cause _____ and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them.

e. Degrees of fellowship.

A. Full.

1Jn 1:5 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no _____ at all. 6 If we claim to have _____ with him yet walk in the _____, we lie and do not live by the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have _____ with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the _____, to the breaking of bread and to _____.

B. Absence.

2 John 1:9 Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the _____ and the Son.

C. Partial.

Acts 15:37 _____ wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, 38 but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. 39 They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. _____ took Mark and sailed for Cyprus, 40 but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the brothers to the _____ of the Lord. 41 He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the _____.

D. When should full fellowship be withdrawn?

1. _____ to the principles taught in God's word.

1 Corinthians 5:9 I have written you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people - 10 not at all meaning the people of this _____ who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this _____. 11 But now I am writing you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat.

Romans 15:17 Therefore I _____ in Christ Jesus in my service to God. 18 I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has _____ through me in leading the Gentiles to obey God by what I have said and done -

2. When the individual needs the action to help save his soul.

1 Corinthians 5:1 It is actually reported that there is sexual _____ among you, and of a kind that does not occur even among pagans: A man has his father's wife. 2 And you are proud! Shouldn't you rather have been filled with grief and have put out of your _____ the man who did this? 3 Even though I am not physically present, I am with you in spirit. And I have already passed judgment on the one who did this, just as if I were present. 4 When you are assembled in the name of our Lord Jesus and I am with you in spirit, and the power of our Lord Jesus is present, 5 hand this man over to Satan, so that the sinful nature may be destroyed and his spirit saved on the day of the Lord. 6 Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast works through the _____ batch of dough? 7 Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast - as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. 8 Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with _____ without yeast, the bread of sincerity and _____.

XVI Christ's plan for making people one.

- a. God the Father and Jesus the Son are One.

John 17:20 "My _____ is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, _____, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the _____ may believe that you have sent me.

1 Corinthians 1:10 I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no _____ among you and that you may be _____ united in mind and thought.

Ephesians 2:14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, 15 by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, 16 and in this one _____ to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.

- b. The church is the house of God and therefore, contains the family of God.

1 Timothy 3:15 if I am delayed, you will know how _____ ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the _____ of the living God, the pillar and _____ of the truth.

Ephesians 4:4 There is one _____ and one Spirit - just as you were called to one hope when you were called - 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and _____ of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

- c. God's family is not judged or divided by nation, race, sex, or economic position.

Galatians 3:26 You are all _____ of God through faith in Christ Jesus, 27 for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, _____ nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs _____ to the promise.

- A. Philemon – owner of the slave Onesimus

Philemon 1:10 I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. 11 Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me. 12 I am sending him - who is my very heart - back to you. 13 I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the _____. 14 But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favor you do will be spontaneous and not forced. 15 Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back for good - 16 no longer as a _____, but better than a _____, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a man and as a brother in the Lord.

XVII The Church at Jerusalem (A Pattern).

- a. The preparation for planting the seed.
A. Law of Moses. Gal 3
B. John the Baptist. Matt 3
C. Coming of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2.

- b. Planting the seed.

Acts 2:22 "Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of _____ was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. 23 This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. 24 But God raised him from the dead, _____ him from the agony of death, because it was _____ for death to keep its hold on him. 25 David said about him: "'I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. 26 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my _____ also will live in hope, 27 because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your _____ One see decay. 28 You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.' 29 "Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. 30 But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his _____ on his throne. 31 Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his _____ see decay.

A. Facts of Christ _____ by Peter.

Acts 2:32 God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all _____ of the fact. 33 Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the _____ the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. 34 For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, "'The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand 35 until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.'" 36 "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

B. Believers told what to do.

Acts 2:27 because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. 28 You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.' 29 "Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. 30 But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his _____ on his throne. 31 Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his _____ see decay. 32 God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all _____ of the fact. 33 Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the _____ the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. 34 For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, "'The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand 35 until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.'" 36 "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." 37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other _____, "Brothers, what shall we do?" 38 Peter replied, "Repent and be _____, 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.

C. People exhorted to be saved.

Acts 2:39 The promise is for you and your _____ and for all who are far off - for all whom the Lord our God will call." 40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save _____ from this corrupt generation."

D. Harvest reaped.

1. Those who gladly received the word were baptized.

Acts 2:41 Those who accepted his message were _____, and about three thousand were added to their _____ that day.

c. Church established.

Acts 2:47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the _____. And the Lord added to their _____ daily those who were being saved.

A. Manner of life in this church. Acts 2:42-47.

1. Loyal to apostles teaching
2. Respect (fear) of God.
3. United
4. Liberal
5. Enthusiastic
6. Sociable
7. Thankful
8. Of good reputation.

B. Problems which appeared in the Jerusalem church:

1. Murmuring – Acts 6:1
2. Lying Acts 5:1-11
3. Persecution. Acts 4:1-12; 18-20; 5:17-18, 29; 7:54-8:3.
4. Growth. Acts 2:41; 4:4; 5:14; 6:1; 6:7.
5. Hypocrisy. Acts 5:1-11.
6. Division. Acts 6:1-6.

XVIII. Old Testament Scriptures are valuable to the Church.

a. Value of Old Testament scriptures.

A. Evidence of the divinity of Christ.

Acts 2:22 "Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of _____ was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. 23 This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. 24 But God raised him from the dead, _____ him from the agony of death, because it was _____ for death to keep its hold on him.

B. For our example.

Romans 15:4 For _____ that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

Hebrews 12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great _____ of witnesses, let us throw off _____ that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

1 Corinthians 10:11 These things happened to them as _____ and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come.

C. To give us hope.

Romans 15:4 For _____ that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

D. To warn of the consequences of disobedience.

1 Corinthians 10:1 For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, _____, that our forefathers were all under the _____ and that they all passed through the sea. 2 They were all baptized into Moses in the _____ and in the sea. 3 They all ate the same spiritual food 4

and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual _____ that accompanied them, and that _____ was Christ. 5 Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered over the desert. 6 Now these things occurred as _____ to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. 7 Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The _____ sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry." 8 We should not commit sexual _____, as some of them did - and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. 9 We should not test the Lord, as some of them did - and were killed by snakes. 10 And do not grumble, as some of them did - and were killed by the destroying angel. 11 These things happened to them as _____ and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come.

b. Three basic principles applicable to Christians are based upon the Old Testament.

A. God always rewarded and blessed those who obey him.

Exodus 15:26 He said, "If you listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay _____ to his commands and keep all his _____, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you."

B. God condemned and punished those who were disobedient.

Deuteronomy 32:49 "Go up into the Abarim Range to Mount Nebo in Moab, across from Jericho, and view Canaan, the land I am giving the Israelites as their own possession. 50 There on the mountain that you have climbed you will die and be gathered to your _____, just as your brother _____ died on Mount Hor and was gathered to his _____. 51 This is because both of you broke faith with me in the presence of the Israelites at the waters of Meribah Kadesh in the Desert of Zin and because you did not uphold my holiness among the Israelites.

C. God's word is steadfast and we must not trifle with it.

Deuteronomy 4:2 Do not add to what I _____ you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you.

Deuteronomy 12:32 See that you do all I _____ you; do not add to it or take away from it.

c. Old Testament scriptures are not our basis of authority today.

A. Moses' covenant is dead.

Romans 7:4 So, my _____, you also died to the law through the _____ of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God. 5 For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death. 6 But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the _____ code.

B. One way of salvation and that way is Christ.

John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the _____ and the life. No one comes to the _____ except through me.

C. God now speaks to us through His Son Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 1:1 In the past God spoke to our _____ through the prophets at many times and in various ways, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.

D. God commands us to hear Christ.

Matthew 17:1 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. 2 There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. 3 Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. 4 Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters - one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." 5 While he was still speaking, a bright _____ enveloped them, and a voice from the _____ said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

E. Old covenant taken away, that Jew and Gentile might become one in the church.

Ephesians 2:11 Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the _____ by the hands of men) - 12 remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the _____. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, 15 by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, 16 and in this one _____ to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. 17 He came and _____ peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access to the _____ by one Spirit. 19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and _____ of God's household,

d. Attitudes toward God which have been commanded.

A. Faith

Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is _____ to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

B. Love

1 John 4:7 Dear friends, let us _____ one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been _____ of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

C. Submission

James 4:6 But he gives us more _____. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives _____ to the humble." 7 _____ yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

D. Obedience.

1 Peter 4:17 For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the _____ of God?

XIX What does it mean to be a Member of the Church?

a. Membership means being:

A. a member of the body of which Christ is the head.

1 Corinthians 12:12 The _____ is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one _____. So it is with Christ. 13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one _____ - whether Jews or Greeks, _____ or free - and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

B. a member of the body Jesus loved enough to die for.

Ephesians 5:25 _____, love your wives, just as Christ loved the _____ and gave himself up for her

C. a living stone in the spiritual temple of God.

1 Corinthians 3:16 Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?

1 Peter 2:5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a _____, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

D. married to Christ.

Romans 7:4 So, my _____, you also died to the law through the _____ of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God.

E. a citizen of Christ's kingdom.

Colossians 1:12 giving thanks to the _____, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the _____ in the kingdom of light. 13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of _____ and brought us into the _____ of the Son he loves,

F. a child in God's family.

Galatians 3:27 for all of you who were _____ into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, _____ nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

G. a worker in the vineyard of the Lord.

Matt 20:1 "For the _____ of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire men to work in his vineyard .

Ephesians 4:11 It was he who gave some to be _____, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the _____ of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the _____ measure of the fullness of Christ. 14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the _____ in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the _____, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

b. Privileges of being a member.

A. Fatherly care and protection.

1 Peter 3:12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their _____, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

1 Peter 5:6 _____ yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

1 Corinthians 10:12 So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! 13 No _____ has seized you except what is common to man. And God is _____; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

B. Fatherly correction and chastisement.

Hebrews 12:5 And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as _____: "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he _____ you,

C. Right to appeal to God as a Father.

Romans 8:15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a _____ again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, _____." 16 The Spirit himself _____ with our spirit that we are God's children.

D. Fellowship with the saints.

Philippians 2:1 If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any _____ with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Romans 12:10 Be _____ to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.

E. Hope of an eternal inheritance.

1 Peter 1:3 Praise be to the God and _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade - kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the _____ that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

Galatians 3:29 If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs _____ to the promise.

C. Membership in the church means a way of life.

A. Called to be saints.

1 Corinthians 1:2 To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be _____, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ - their Lord and ours:

Eph 3:17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the _____, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ

B. A holy calling.

Ephesians 4:1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life _____ of the _____ you have received.

C. Washed, sanctified, justified.

1 Corinthians 6:11 And that is what some of you were. But you were _____, you were sanctified, you were _____ in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the _____ of our God.

D. Departing from unrighteousness.

2 Timothy 2:19 Nevertheless, God's solid _____ stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."

E. Live the way of the spirit.

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 _____ and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have _____ the sinful nature with its passions and desires.

d. Local church membership.

- A. Congregation only unit of organization.
- B. Christians need elders to guard souls.
- C. Paul associated himself with a congregation.
- D. The only place where communion is taken.

Acts 9:26 When he came to _____, he tried to join the _____, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he really was a disciple. 27 But _____ took him and brought him to the _____. He told them how Saul on his journey had seen the Lord and that the Lord had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had _____ fearlessly in the name of Jesus. 28 So Saul stayed with them and moved about freely in _____, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord. 29 He talked and debated with the Grecian Jews, but they tried to kill him. 30 When the _____ learned of this, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus.

Acts 13:1 In the _____ at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: _____, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. 2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me _____ and Saul for the work to which I have _____ them." 3 So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.

Acts 14: 23 Paul and _____ appointed elders for them in each church and, with _____ and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.

1Co 11:20 When you come _____, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat, ... 26 For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you _____ the Lord's death until he comes.

1Co 10:16 Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the _____ that we break a participation in the _____ of Christ? 17 Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one _____, for we all partake of the one loaf.

e. Subjection to elders.

A. They exercise oversight.

1 Peter 5:1 To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: 2 Be _____ of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers - not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; 3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being _____ to the flock. 4 And when the _____ Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. 5 Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but gives _____ to the _____."

B. We are taught to obey them as they follow Christ.

1 Timothy 5:17 The elders who direct the affairs of the _____ well are _____ of double honor, especially those whose work is _____ and teaching. 18 For the Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages." 19 Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by two or three _____. 20 Those who sin are to be _____d publicly, so that the others may take warning. 21 I charge you, in the sight of God and Christ Jesus and the elect angels, to keep these instructions without partiality, and to do nothing out of favoritism. 22 Do not be _____ in the laying on of hands, and do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure. 23 Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses. 24 The sins of some men are obvious, reaching the place of judgment ahead of them; the sins of others trail behind them. 25 In the same way, good deeds are obvious, and even those that are not cannot be hidden.

Hebrews 13:17 Obey your leaders and _____ to their _____. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Acts 20:29 I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the _____.

f. Joint participation in the work of the church.

A. Ready unto every good work.

Titus 3:1 Remind the people to be subject to _____ and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, 2 to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men.

B. Every joint supplied.

Ephesians 4:16 From him the _____ _____, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

C. A tree is known by its fruit.

James 3:12 My _____, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water. 13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

g. Preservation of unity, peace, and harmony of the body.

A. There shall be no division.

1 Corinthians 1:10 I appeal to you, _____, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no _____ among you and that you may be _____ united in mind and thought.

B. There shall be no factions.

1 Corinthians 12:24 while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the _____ of the _____ and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, 25 so that there should be no division in the _____, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.

C. Avoid them that cause division.

Romans 16:17 I urge you, _____, to watch out for those who cause _____ and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them. 18 For such _____ are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive _____.

2 John 1:9 Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the _____ and the Son. 10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take him into your house or welcome him. 11 Anyone who welcomes him shares in his wicked work.

D. Make definite effort to keep the unity of the spirit and the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life _____ of the _____ you have received. 2 Be completely _____ and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. 3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

h. Preserve and maintain the purity of the church by keeping yourself pure.

2 Timothy 2:19 Nevertheless, God's solid _____ stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness." 20 In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. 21 If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made _____, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work. 22 Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

1 Timothy 4:12 Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an _____ for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in _____.

1 Timothy 5:22 Do not be _____ in the laying on of hands, and do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure.

1 Timothy 6:11 But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue _____, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

- i. Help in the mission of the church as an individual member.
 - A. Bring forth fruit.

Romans 7:4 So, my _____, you also died to the law through the _____ of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God.

Philippians 1:10 so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and _____ until the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ - to the glory and praise of God.

- B. An unfruitful branch will be taken off.

Jn 15:1 "I am the true vine, and my _____ is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 "I am the vine; you are the _____. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such _____ are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

- C. Means of fulfilling this personal responsibility.
 - 1. Preach the gospel privately and publicly.

Acts 20:20 You know that I have not _____ to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have _____ you publicly and from house to house.

1 John 1:3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have _____ with us. And our fellowship is with the _____ and with his Son, Jesus Christ. 4 We write this to make our joy complete.

- 2. Sending others and holding up their hands.

Philippians 1:3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my _____ for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the _____ from the first day until now,

Philippians 4:15 Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the _____, when I set out from Macedonia, not one _____ shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; 16 for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid again and again when I was in need.

- 3. The influence of righteous lives.

2 Corinthians 3:2 You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by _____. 3 You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on _____ of stone but on _____ of human hearts.

- 4. Examples of influencing others

Andrew

John 1:40 Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. 41 The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the _____" (that is, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be _____ Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter).

Phillip.

John 1:43 The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me." 44 Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. 45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote - Jesus of _____, the son of Joseph."

