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**INTRODUCTION TO
ECCLESIOLOGY**

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This Syllabus is Approved for
Baptist International University School of the Scriptures

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CLASS 220 INTRODUCTION TO ECCLESIOLOGY

This Syllabus is an *Introduction to Ecclesiology*. A man who is in the ministry must understand the workings and doctrines of the church. He must practice right things as a leader of or a servant in a church. The study of God's word is never exhaustive. Isaiah 28:10 says, "here a little, and there a little," for we are never able to do *much* when studying God's word. It is infinite in wisdom and knowledge. We can only "scratch the surface" of God's understanding. Therefore, we strive for two things: 1. That we do the necessary due diligence to properly study a subject and cover the major things for a student to learn; and 2. That we thoroughly present a study that will be helpful and applicable, even if the number of class hours exceed the minimum requirements.

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CLASS 220 INTRODUCTION TO ECCLESIOLOGY

CLASS 220 – INTRODUCTION TO ECCLESIOLOGY

A Syllabus Approved for Baptist International University School of the Scriptures – 1 Credit.
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February 3, 2021

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Scripture References

111 Verses using the word “church.”

Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Matthew 18:17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

Acts 2:47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Acts 5:11 And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.

Acts 7:38 This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:

Acts 8:1 And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.
3 As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into

every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison.

Acts 9:31 Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

Acts 11:22 Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.

26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

Acts 12:1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.

5 Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

Acts 13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

Acts 14:23 And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

27 And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

Acts 15:3 And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.

4 And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.

22 Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren:

41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.

Acts 16:5 And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.

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Acts 18:22 And when he had landed at Caesarea, and gone up, and saluted the church, he went down to Antioch.

Acts 19:37 For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither robbers of churches, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess.

Acts 20:17 And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church.

28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

Romans 16:1 I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea:

4 Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.

5 Likewise greet the church that is in their house. Salute my wellbeloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia unto Christ.

16 Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.

23 Gaius mine host, and of the whole church, saluteth you. Erastus the chamberlain of the city saluteth you, and Quartus a brother.

1 Corinthians 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus,

called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

1 Corinthians 4:17 For this cause have I sent unto you Timotheus, who is my beloved son, and faithful in the Lord, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways which be in Christ, as I teach every where in every church.

1 Corinthians 6:4 If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life, set them to judge who are least esteemed in the church.

1 Corinthians 7:17 But as God hath distributed to every man, as the Lord hath called every one, so let him walk. And so ordain I in all churches.

1 Corinthians 10:32 Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God:

1 Corinthians 11:16 But if any man seem to be contentious, we have no such custom, neither the churches of God.

18 For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it.

22 What? have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? or despise ye the church of God, and shame them that have not? What shall I say to you? shall I praise you in this? I praise you not.

1 Corinthians 12:28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

1 Corinthians 14:4 He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.

5 I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.

12 Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.

19 Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.

23 If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad?

28 But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.

33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

34 Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to

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speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law.

35 And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.

1 Corinthians 15:9 For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

1 Corinthians 16:1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye.

19 The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.

2 Corinthians 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, unto the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints which are in all Achaia:

2 Corinthians 8:1 Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia;

18 And we have sent with him the brother, whose praise is in the gospel throughout all the churches;

19 And not that only, but who was also chosen of the churches to travel with us with this grace, which is administered by us to the glory of the same Lord, and

declaration of your ready mind:

23 Whether any do inquire of Titus, he is my partner and fellowhelper concerning you: or our brethren be inquired of, they are the messengers of the churches, and the glory of Christ.

24 Wherefore shew ye to them, and before the churches, the proof of your love, and of our boasting on your behalf.

2 Corinthians 11:8 I robbed other churches, taking wages of them, to do you service.

28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.

2 Corinthians 12:13 For what is it wherein ye were inferior to other churches, except it be that I myself was not burdensome to you? forgive me this wrong.

Galatians 1:2 And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia:

13 For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:

22 And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judaea which were in Christ:

Ephesians 1:22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

Ephesians 3:10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,
21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Philippians 3:6 Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

Philippians 4:15 Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as

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concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.

Colossians 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

Colossians 4:15 Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house.

16 And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.

1 Thessalonians 1:1 Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 2:14 For ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they have of the Jews:

2 Thessalonians 1:1 Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus,

unto the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

4 So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure:

1 Timothy 3:5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

1 Timothy 5:16 If any man or woman that believeth have widows, let them relieve them, and let not the church be charged; that it may relieve them that are widows indeed.

Philemon 1:2 And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house:

Hebrews 2:12 Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.

Hebrews 12:23 To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,

James 5:14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them

pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

1 Peter 5:13 The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son.

3 John 1:6 Which have borne witness of thy charity before the church: whom if thou bring forward on their journey after a godly sort, thou shalt do well:

9 I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not.

10 Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church.

Revelation 1:4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;

11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my

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right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

Revelation 2:1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

Revelation 2:7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

8 And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;

11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

12 And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which

hath the sharp sword with two edges;

17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

18 And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass;

23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 3:1 And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou

hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.

6 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;

13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 22:16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

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Introduction

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1 credit

February 3, 2021

Ecclesiology is the study of the New Testament church. The Greek word *ekklésia* is the term used extensively in the New Testament for the word translated *church*.

Over the last 2,000 years a multitude of men and groups have started their own version of Christianity or their own idea of a *church*. However, we cannot just accept these groups as New Testament churches simply upon their word. Just because they claim one thing does not mean we have to recognize the thing as such. Especially when we are expected to honor their erroneous ways and their version of salvation and baptism.

Speaking on the subject of the gospel and baptism, just by these two elements we can identify 90 percent of the false churches. As we examine other elements such as organization, history, and salvation; we can identify the remainder.

One of the curious things we see in this *Laodicean Age* is the almost absolute disregard for the *scriptural requirements* of a New Testament church. I am speaking in respect to religious leaders. People who should know better go with whatever looks or sounds good, rather than do their due diligence to prove all things.

What is a true New Testament church?

We shall go to the testimony of Christ and the apostles. The New Testament defines for us all that we need to know in respect to the subject.

The main scope of our study is in respect to the church that Jesus built. However, we shall first make note of three places where the word *church* refers otherwise.

1. When quoting the Old Testament, Hebrews 2:12 reads: "Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee." However, the place in Psalms 22:22 that is quoted reads: "I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee."

Besides the intriguing study on why Hebrews adds singing to the verse, we learn the word *church* means *congregation* or *assembly*.

2. Similar to the use in Acts 7:38: "This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us," the word church here refers to the Israelite congregation.
3. Additionally, in Acts 19:37 where the scriptures read: "For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither robbers of churches, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess," we find the Greek word for

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robbers of churches to be the Greek word *hierosylous*, which is a combination of *hieros* and *sulao* – *hieros* meaning sacred, holy thing, temple; and *sulao* meaning to rob, plunder, take spoil. Here, the scriptures use a generic use of the word church, not speaking of the church that Jesus built.

However, by this translation we learn that a church is something holy, sacred and a temple of God, but we also learn this verse could apply to *any* religious temple – a church in a *generic* sense, and not directly referring to any New Testament in particular.

Keep in mind Ephesus was an important Greek city and trading post. The Greeks there understood the close similarities between temples and churches and “religious” assemblies.

The word *church* is used 114 times in 111 verses, and only in the New Testament. Matthew 18:17, 1 Corinthians 16:19 and Revelation 1:20 use the word twice.

Of the 114 times the word *church* is used, here is the breakdown of the Greek root words used:

<i>Ekklesia</i>	111	Translated <i>church</i>
<i>Auto</i>	1	Acts 2:47 – self
<i>Ierosulous</i>	1	Acts 19:37 – <i>robbers of churches</i>
<i>Italics</i>	1	1 Peter 5:13 – <i>she</i>
-----	-----	-----
Total	114	

God used the root word *Ekklesia* 97% of the time for the word *church*, always referring to a local assembly (including the words used in Ephesians and Colossians). This shows a consistency in meaning and use.

Sowers, Seed, and Senders

New Testament churches *teach and preach, train and ordain, then send men to do the same*. Reproduction is the work of the Lord. We glorify the Father by bearing much fruit.

Churches are the Senders of men – Romans 1:15: “And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” The men who are sent are the Sowers. These men must sow the Seed to fulfill their objective – note in 1 Peter 1:23: “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”

As we focus our study to review not only what a New Testament church is, but also what her duties are (doctrine), we must do our part for the kingdom in supporting, serving, and in some cases leading the church to do what is required of her.

A Good Definition of the Church

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A New Testament church is a body of baptized believers who have covenanted with the Lord Jesus Christ to carry out his commandments (i.e., doctrine). This definition should be memorized by students as it supplies all the necessary components of what a New testament church is.

Notice first, it is *a Body* – this is a local body. This is a congregation that assembles together. This body belongs to Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:22-23).

Second, this is a body of *Baptized Believers*. Not just believers, but *baptized* believers. This requirement for *scriptural* baptism necessitates that there be a sending church when a church is started – for the authority to baptize must come from an existing church. This requirement also shows that members are baptized into this body – see 1 Corinthians 12:13 – and that it is God that sets these members into the body (verses 18 and 28).

Third, there must be a *Covenant*. Baptism is (or should be) an individual's commitment to be a disciple and follow the Lord in obedience under the authority of the church, but also as a whole, the church should have a formal covenant that shows she is married to Christ (Ephesians 5:23) and obeys him (verse 24). This requirement is exemplified in church independence and autonomy. Malachi 2:14 shows us a covenant is involved in a marriage.

If an assembly is lacking one of these elements, they are not a church built by the Lord. Usually, it is the third component that is lacking. In all seriousness, we find in the vast majority of formalized religions that *head*-quarters have authority over *their* individual assemblies under *their* denomination. Not only do these *head*-quarters exercise leadership over the churches, but they also tend to make laws (doctrines) for their assemblies to follow.

We also find with independent bodies that many lack scriptural baptism. The authority to baptize lies in no man, but in his sending church. If a man is not sent under authority (Luke 7:8; John 20:21), he can do nothing that is authorized. A man who baptizes in his own name (that is, without being authorized by an existing New testament church) creates a cult following, of which we have seen the damage.

The requirement of *baptized believers* also necessitates an unbroken chain of church perpetuity from the *First Baptist Church of Jerusalem* started by Jesus Christ during his earthy ministry. This succession has been documented multiple times. Those who deny it probably do not have it. But they can get it if they are willing to be submissive to a sending church.

Another anomaly we see is churches who will accept other denominational “baptisms” (whatever the manner they are) are admitting they lack scriptural baptism themselves. For why should they prove the validity of baptism in others if they do not have valid baptism themselves? They readily accept any claim of baptism because they claim the same for themselves.

A key understanding in respect to baptism is that, when a church accepts baptism from another group, they are admitting in doing so that the other group has equal authority as they do to baptize.

When a Baptist church accepts an immersion from a – let us say a – Mormon group, they are admitting the Mormon group has equal authority to baptize as they do. Furthermore, if the Mormon group has equal authority, they also can baptize in place of the Baptist church (why not?). And if they can baptize in place of the Baptist church, why is there any need of a Baptist church? We should just support the Mormon work.

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A person may say that would never happen. But this preacher has experienced exactly that. A well-known Baptist church (I shall not say which, but she is advertised in large ads in the Sword of the Lord) had a member desiring to unite with our church. Although she was a member in good standing, when I asked her of her baptism, she explained she was immersed by the Latter-Day Saints. I asked if her Baptist church knew this, and she admitted her church accepted her unscriptural immersion because she was a believer at the time. I explained the disservice her church had done is accepting that heretical identification, and we baptized her scripturally.

We know all non-scriptural churches accept *Baptist baptism* – even Catholics – but this is because they know who has the authority. But the reverse should never happen. Our forefathers were killed because they refused to accept immersions from other groups. These groups hate Baptists because when their immersions are not recognized, and this is the same as declaring that they are not a scriptural churches.

Baptism Identifies a Person's Doctrine

Then we have another element of the identifying doctrine. I know a lot of charismatic brethren who I believe are truly saved. But if they were immersed by one of their Pentecostal churches, that is their identifying mark. They are basically representing that denomination whether they agree with its doctrine or not. They submitted to their baptism. They became member of that group. They professed agreement with their doctrine when they were baptized. Should not brethren who have realized the truth of Bible be allowed the opportunity to receive Baptist baptism and identify with a sound church?

Furthermore, if a brother from that charismatic group comes to join a Baptist church, and the church receives their non-Baptist immersion, from that point forward they must accept any other denomination's immersion if the person is saved. For consistency's sake, they cannot pick and choose which immersion can or cannot be accepted.

So, if a brother from a bible church comes, then another brother from a new covenant church comes, then a born-again Lutheran comes who was immersed, then a saved Calvinists comes; the church must accept all their immersions, because they accepted the first and drew no line. In short time, that church will be a *hodge-podge* of mixed doctrines and will soon cease to be a Baptist church. In fact, why not accept anyone from anywhere as long as they were immersed – even if it was a by himself or family member? If the church does not require a *scriptural administrator* for one, they should not require it for another. If the church starts down this *slippery-slope*, the non-Baptists will soon outnumber the true Baptists.

In contrast, if a Baptist church remains firm, and requires believers from other denominations to be scripturally baptized, by doing so that new member now submits to the Baptist doctrine, he now identifies with a Baptist church, he now has scriptural Baptism, and he will require the same from future candidates. Basically, he says, "If I had to be scripturally baptized to be a member because it is the right and correct thing to do, we require the same of others." This is a *self-purifying* fountain. All this, of course, requires that the pastor be a good and compassionate teacher who explains the reasons why there is only "one baptism," even as there is only one faith and one Lord (Ephesians 4:5).

When a brother or sister is submissive to baptism, they will likely be good members henceforth. And for those who being taught the truth and reject it, the church is better off without that member. For the rebellion against baptism would be one of many more issues down the road. But a pastor can spare himself.

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New Testament Churches are the International Embassies of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Jesus' churches are his embassies, the preachers are the ambassadors for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20; Ephesians 6:20). The churches are candlesticks, the stars (pastors) are the angels (messengers). See Revelation 1:20. When Jesus lights a candle, he expects the light to light all who come in (Matthew 5:15; Luke 8:16; 11:33). That Light is Jesus (John 1:4-9; 12:46) and the light of the Gospel (2 Corinthians 4:4-6).

Our New Testament churches represent the Kingdom of Heaven; they represent Jesus Christ as the King of kings and the Lord of lords; and they follow the laws of Christ's Kingdom. Thus, we pray, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven (Matthew 6:10).

The laws of Christ's Kingdom are his Doctrine, in respect to we have spoken much in previous classes. His word *is* Law. We ought to obey God rather than men (Acts 5:29). The Great Commission is the overarching mandate for the churches. Accordingly, we have a high vision, a long vision, and a world vision.

Furthermore, the New Testament Embassies (churches) operate independently of one another and report to this King of kings. They send out their ambassadors as led by God (Acts 13:1-3). The ambassadors are the men trained and authorized to do her work, under her authority, for the glory of Jesus Christ.

And how does a believer become a citizen of this kingdom? It is by scriptural baptism:

- 1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea,
- 2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Matthew 3:1-2

John – who came in the spirit and power of Elijah (Matthew 11:14; Luke 1:17) – prepared the way for the Lord, and by his baptism people entered the kingdom of heaven. Note Matthew 11:11-13:

- 11 Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.
- 12 And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.
- 13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John.

Baptism does not save – we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8-10). Those who are saved are part of the spiritual kingdom called the *Kingdom of God* (John 3:1-7; 1 Peter 1:23; Matthew 6:33). Baptism is an outward act of obedience that identifies the believer with Christ and is the beginning of a walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4): "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." Baptism is the answer of a good conscience toward God (1 Peter 3:21).

Scriptural Baptism is intended to take a believer and identify him with a *physical* kingdom by means of a physical immersion in physical water. If one is to be granted citizenship into a kingdom, it is done by those who are already in the kingdom. A person cannot just force his way in and claim what he wants.

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We enter the spiritual kingdom (i.e., the kingdom of God) through Jesus Christ by faith in him. Jesus gives us the gift of salvation and we shall never perish.

We enter the physical kingdom (i.e., the kingdom of heaven) through the church that Jesus built by baptism.

Because of error or intentional means, there are many in the physical kingdom that do not know Christ – they are not truly saved. They *profess* him, but they do not *possess* him. Hence the Lord gave us his parabolic discourse in Matthew 13 so we can understand there will be tares among the wheat.

These tares are entered in through a false means. Many are deceived and need to be truly saved. This must be the reason why Jesus allows the tares and wheat to grow together – as there may be some chance the professors indeed get saved through their association with true believers. That is our hope.

But what do we say to these who were lost when they were first baptized? We say they must be truly baptized, for baptism without being saved is out of order. One must believe first, then be baptized (Mark 16:16).

Now, their baptism is scriptural. Now they should understand the validity of baptism. Now they can be true representatives of Christ's kingdoms.

Sowers and Senders

Ordination is the means by which a New Testament church recognizes and formally authorizes a man to do the work of the Great Commission.

The men ordained are men who are not novices (1 Timothy 3:6), but who have been proved to be faithful (2 Corinthians 8:22; 1 Corinthians 4:2). These men have been trained well to *observe all things* whatsoever Christ commanded. These men have learned to follow the Holy Ghost in liberty.

A New Testament church is the place for scriptural ordination. But who does that today? I expect the religious *denominations* all have a process by which they authorize their ministers. I expect there are a few Bible colleges and seminaries that send men out. I expect even a few men just set out on their own. But none of these is scriptural. It must be the New Testament church that authorizes and ordains her ministers.

And when we look at the state of *Christianity* today, I believe that it is the independent Baptist churches that are fulfilling this thing rightly. Of all the groups sending ministers, the scriptural method is found in independent Baptist churches. We praise God for this.

However, we can also agree not all of these good churches indeed do the work. How many men have been sent out from every church? Some probably have many, but others have none.

We speak to those that have none. ***Why is there no training and ordaining going on?***

It comes down to a lack of *desire* or a lack of *men* or a lack of *confidence*. I do not say it is a lack of knowledge.

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But for this we have the answer from the word of God. In respect to the lack of men, the Lord commanded us in Matthew 9:38 to, “Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.” See also Luke 10:2.

In respect to the lack of desire, he commanded us to, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations” (Matthew 28:19).

In respect to a lack of process, Jesus gave us the training program: “Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you” (v. 20).

If you are reading this, you have already understood that the *Baptist International School of the Scriptures* is a wonderful process to follow.

The Seed

We must never forget the responsibility of the New Testament churches to be keepers of the word of God. Jesus shows his approval of this work in his message to the angel of the Philadelphian church – “I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name” (Revelation 3:8).

We can learn that the amount of strength is not at issue when keeping God’s word. Also, keeping God’s word is akin to not denying his name.

We also learn there is an open door for those who keep his word. Is this open door the one in the parable of the virgins in Mathew 25, where five go into the wedding because their lights were burning? Or is it the open door symbolizing answer to prayer (Luke 11:7)? Or is it an open door to preach the gospel (2 Corinthians 2:12; Colossians 4:3)?

Whichever we choose, this open door is a good thing and God will keep it open, for no man can shut a door that God opens.

Every New Testament church should be involved in the scripture work and the ministry of the word. The very least entry point in the scripture work is the distribution of John and Romans (or just the Gospel of John) to those in their community (Jerusalem). Being faithful in this work will help men to see the need to be *Sowers*. Then the church can train, ordain, and send them out.

Without the Seed, there is no need for Sowers.

There is No Universal or Invisible Church

Besides the most obvious meaning of words like congregation, temple, and synagogue applying to local assemblies; the plural use of *churches* in the New Testament should prove to any honest student of the word of God that *churches* are always local congregations. The error of an invisible or universal will be discussed in Lesson 11, and we will show clearly that this concept is indeed erroneous.

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The apostle Paul wrote his epistles to *churches* – not to some invisible body (see Galatians 1:2). Jesus had the apostle John write his *Revelation* and send it to the seven churches in Asia Minor – not to some universal congregation.

The reverse of this is usage also shows truth – Paul when he speaks of all churches, he does not use a universal church reference. Note 2 Corinthians 11:28: “Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.”

Confusion from not understanding the generic use of the word *church* in the New Testament.

The apostles sometimes used the word *church* in a general sense, and not in the sense of any *particular* church. But this usage does not mean the church is universal or invisible.

Paul used it in the same sense that he did a wife and husband – a general sense in Ephesians 5:23: “For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.”

What husband and wife *in particular* does Paul speaking of? None. He is speaking of the wife in general and a husband in general. And just as there is no universal invisible husband and wife, we should not conclude the church is such. Paul is speaking of the church in general.

Notice how James uses the word in a general sense in James 5:14: “Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord....” The word can apply to *any* church, but it is still a local congregation. How else would there be elders to call?

What is also interesting is that James 2:2 uses the Greek word *synagōgēn* for the word assembly: “For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment....” James wrote to the twelve tribes, and we see the word for synagogue was used for their Christian assemblies.

Similarly, Paul used the word *church* in a general sense in Philippians 3:6: “Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.” Obvious again is that this refers to a local congregation (probably Jerusalem), but it does not necessarily need to be any specific church – for how could he persecute something invisible or universal?

Comparing with Acts 8:1, we see the church in Philippians 3:6 is likely the Jerusalem church: “And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.” Paul persecuted the church in Jerusalem and elsewhere, but the Jerusalem church was the main focus, for this is the first and foremost church of them all.

Acts 8:3 says in respect to the Jerusalem church: “As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison.” Paul is converted in Acts 9 on his way to Damascus shortly thereafter. Acts 9:1 says: “And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest....”

We know Paul’s persecution was widespread and probably affected many churches. Acts 9:31 mentions the following after Paul’s conversion: “Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and

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Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.” This passage tells us Paul’s persecution extended even to churches in Galilee.

Notice Paul’s testimony in Acts 26:10-12:

10 Which thing I also did in Jerusalem: and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them.

11 And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them even unto strange cities.

12 Whereupon as I went to Damascus with authority and commission from the chief priests,

Notice the use of the word *synagogue*. Was Paul referring to their Christian assemblies as synagogues (similar to James), or were the believers meeting in Jewish synagogues, or was Paul bringing the captured believers to synagogues so other non-believing Jews could witness his persecution, or was he going to synagogues to root out hidden believers?

The answer seems to the last – he was looking for believers who still attended synagogue and were vocal witnesses for Christ. Compare with Acts 22:19-21:

19 And I said, Lord, they know that I imprisoned and beat in every synagogue them that believed on thee:

20 And when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by, and consenting unto his death, and kept the raiment of them that slew him.

21 And he said unto me, Depart: for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles.

After his conversion, Paul did similar things in the synagogues – notice these passages:

Acts 13:5: “And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John to their minister.”

Acts 14:1: “And it came to pass in Iconium, that they went both together into the synagogue of the Jews, and so spake, that a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed.”

Acts 17:10: “And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews.”

Acts 18:4: “And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.”

Even Jesus did the same, so it is not stretch to expect his followers to imitate him. Note Luke 4:16: “And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.” See also Matthew 4:23; 9:35; Mark 1:39; 6:12;

Jesus warned of such persecution when he sent his disciples out to preach – “But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues” Matthew 10:17).

Jesus told his disciples in John 16:2: “They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.”

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Peter and John were arrested for preaching in the temple, following their Master's example (Matthew 21:23). Note in Acts 5:19: "But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said, 20 Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life."

Shortly after we read:

25 Then came one and told them, saying, Behold, the men whom ye put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people.

26 Then went the captain with the officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned.

27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them,

28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.

29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

Even our first martyr may have been preaching in the synagogue. Note the passage in Acts 6:

8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

9 Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called the synagogue of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen.

10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.

This is the reason why Paul went "even unto strange cities."

We already mentioned Hebrews 2:12, "Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee" – and how this is a *congregation*. But let us look at Hebrews 12:23: "To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect..."

Some may think this is proof of a universal church, but just a simple reading of the words and context shows this assembly and church is still local *and* visible – but located in heaven. It is still a local assembly. From this passage we can see the membership of a saved church member moves from a church on earth to a church in heaven upon his death.

Analyzing the 111 verses that use the word church, we find then about twelve verses that could possibly be used to show a universal or invisible body. However, considering the use of *Occam's Razor*, why would someone assume zebras instead of horses when hearing hoofbeats? Especially when 99 other passages clearly show the church is local? It is the equivalent of saying, "We know the New testament speaks clearly and unequivocally of churches being local and visible in 90 percent of the places the word is used, but we will assume that the other ten percent means something quite the opposite – that is, an invisible universal non-assembly – and that without substantial proof. They say to just "take our word for it." And this argument being presented with the understanding that the word expressly means a *called-out assembly*, a *congregation*.

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But we shall study those particular passages in Lesson 11 and show there is still no universal invisible church.

Disciples and the church

We should make mention of the relationship of the disciples to the church. We see the use of the word disciple throughout the Gospels and Acts.

The word *disciple* is found in all four gospels and Acts, the last reference being Acts 21:16. The first mention in the New Testament is Matthew 5:1 when he taught his disciples with his Sermon on the Mount. The word is found once in the Old testament is Isaiah 8:16.

We find that John the Baptist had disciples (John 1:35). The Pharisees said they were Moses' disciples (John 9:28). But the vast majority of usage is in respect to those who *outwardly* followed Jesus Christ.

Not all the disciples of Jesus Christ were true and faithful followers. In John 6:66 we read: "From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him." We see in John 12:4: "Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him...."

These are not true disciples of Jesus Christ.

Jesus defines who are really his disciples in Luke 14:

26 If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

27 And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

33 So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

Jesus said in John.8:31: "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and in John.15:8 "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples."

We conclude that the true disciples are those who have given all to follow Christ. And from these disciples Jesus chose his apostles, although Judas Iscariot was among them (Luke 6:13). This was done so the scriptures would be fulfilled (Matthew 27:3-9).

The we have an interesting verse in Acts 11:26: "And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch."

We find the word Christian only used three times in the Bible. The word is found in Acts 11 and also in Acts 26:28 with Agrippa's response to Paul's preaching. Lastly, it is found in 1 Peter 4:16: "Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf."

What is interesting is that the disciples in Antioch "were called" Christians. Since it appears that these disciples were called after his name because of their Christ-like behavior, we ought to use this word in like fashion.

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Many are believers or professors of faith, but many do not live in Christ-like behavior. We should not refer to believer as Christians unless the name is warranted.

A few things are obvious from the use of the word *disciple*:

1. Disciples were outward followers of Jesus Christ (Matthew 10:24-25).
2. They were professed believers (John 8:31).
3. They were baptized (John 4:1-2).
4. They were members of churches (Acts 1:15; 6:7; etc.)

Consequently, when we read the word *disciple* in the book of Acts, we can assume the person is connected with a local church (see Acts 9:10).

The kingdom of heaven is made up of churches, believers, disciples, and Christians. Although all outwardly appear to be followers of Christ, we know there are tares among the wheat, wolves among the sheep, and the dead among the living.

For true Baptists, the teaching of the New Testament on the subject of the church is very important. The truth in respect to the church will help to identify and lead rightly the true New Testament churches.

The Connection to Love Commandment Doctrine

As every class has a connection to Love Commandment Doctrine, we see the love that Jesus has for his church, and the love the church has for her Savior. Furthermore, the churches serve out of love and obey Jesus' doctrine because of love (John 14:15).

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Lesson 1: Definition of Ecclesiology in Respect to the Church

I. Etymological Definition

- A. *Ekklesia* + logos from Greek – church + word
- B. Theological doctrine relating to the church.

II. Baptist Definition of a New Testament

- A. “A *Body of Baptized Believers* who have *Covenanted Together to Carry Out the Commandments* of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- B. All necessary elements included in this definition
- C. A *Body* – a called out assembly, a local body
- D. Baptized Believers – not just believers, but believers who have been scripturally baptized. This requirement necessitates a sending and pre-existing scriptural church as the authority for ordination and sending of men -- sowers.
- E. Believers – this shows the need for the true gospel – the right seed of God.
- F. Covenant – that pact with Christ that formally submits the church to her husband – independent and autonomous
- G. Obedience to Christ as the Head.
- H. Started by Jesus Christ during his earthly ministry
- I. Jesus built his church
- J. 2,000 years of existence
- K. Baptist Churches had different names over the last 2,000 years such as *Waldenses, Novatians, Paulicians, Montanists, Ana-Baptists, Paulicians, Albigenses, Henricians, Arnoldists, Donatists, Paterins*, etc.
- L. See Appendix 4 – *The Trail of Blood Chart*
- M. Jesus is the Rock on which the church was built.

III. Catholic Definition

- A. Catholic – from *Katholicos*, meaning general or universal.
- B. They claim the church to be the *Universal and Visible* Church of Jesus Christ on earth
- C. All other churches are out of the fold and disobedient
- D. Pope sits as head of the church in Christ’s stead –the *Vicar of Christ*
- E. Called the *Great Whore* in Revelation – Revelation 17:1

IV. Protestant Definition

- A. Those who *protested* against the Catholics
- B. They came out of the Great Whore
- C. Their roots and beginnings are in the Great Whore and False Religion
- D. Most “bible” churches and non-denominational churches have their roots in Protestantism.
- E. Most have a Universal Invisible church position.

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- F. They say the church must be invisible and universal since they had to condemn the visible and universal.
- G. The only way to justify their existence
- H. Usually have a Calvinistic or a-millennial positions
- I. Tend to have eldership rulership
- J. May have no membership
- K. They say the “rock” on which the church was built is the “Profession of Peter.”

V. **Puritan Definition**

- A. Stayed inside organized Religion
- B. Try to purify from within
- C. Correct the error rather than separate
- D. Trying to make a crooked thing straight

VI. **Worldly Definition**

- A. Any religious group that tends to recognize Christ in any fashion
- B. Includes cults and any odd-ball group
- C. Any religious building with a cross on it

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Lesson 2: Why Study Ecclesiology

I. Jesus Built his Church – We Should Learn About It

- A. Matthew 16:18 – And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
- B. 1 Corinthians 3:9 – For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.
- C. 10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.
- D. 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
- E. 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;
- F. 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.
- G. 14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.
- H. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.
- I. 16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?
- J. 17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

II. House and Household of God

- A. 1 Timothy 3:15 – But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.
- B. Ephesians 2:19 – Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;
- C. 20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;
- D. 21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:
- E. 22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

III. Jesus is the Head of his Church

- A. Ephesians 1:22 – And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,
- B. Ephesians 4:15 – But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:
- C. Ephesians 5:23 – For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.
- D. Colossians 1:18 – And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

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- E. Colossians 2:10 – And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:
- F. 19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

IV. **Jesus Died for His church**

- A. Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

V. **Jesus Cares His church**

- G. Head
- H. Savior
- I. Gave himself for it
- J. Washes
- K. Nourishes
- L. Cherishes
- M. Ephesians 5:23 – For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.
- N. 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.
- O. 25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;
- P. 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,
- Q. 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.
- R. 28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.
- S. 29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:
- T. 30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.
- U. 31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.
- V. 32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

VI. **Jesus Authorizes His Church to Do His Work**

- A. Sent to preach – Matthew 10
- B. Baptized – John 4:1-2
- C. Great Commission – Matthew 28:18-20

VII. **Jesus and God Get Glory from His Church**

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- A. Ephesians 3:17 – That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,
- B. 18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;
- C. 19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.
- D. 20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,
- E. 21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

VIII. Jesus' Church is the Pillar and Ground of the Truth

- A. 1 Timothy 3:15 – But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

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Lesson 3: The Origin of the Word *Church*

I. Definition Should be Honored

- A. *Ekklesia* means a called-out assembly
- B. A congregating body of people gathering for Kingdom Business
- C. An assembly
- D. Visible
- E. Local
- F. Made up of people
- G. Representatives coming together for Official Business
- H. Saying a church is invisible or universal contradicts the meaning of the word

II. Word in Use Centuries before Christ

- A. Greek word originated in Greek culture as a Civic Assembly
- B. Greek Republic called their assembly of state representatives an *ekklesia*.
- C. People understood the word to be a generic assembly of people
- D. Jesus said he would build *HIS* church – as contrasted to all others.

III. Other Similar Words Used for Local Groups

- A. Congregation – Acts 13:43 – Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.
- B. Synagogue – John 18:20 – Jesus answered him, I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing.
- C. Assembly – James 2:2 – For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment;
- D. Body – Colossians 1:18 – And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.
- E. House, household – Acts 16:31 – And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.
- F. 1 Corinthians 1:16 – And I baptized also the household of Stephanas: besides, I know not whether I baptized any other.
- G. Company – Acts.13:13 – Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem.
- H. Council – Acts.23:1 – And Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.
- I. Citizens – Luke 19:14 – But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us.

IV. Saved are Adopted Children of God, Part of the Family of God, Not Members of an Invisible Church Body

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- A. John.1:12 – But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
- B. 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
- C. Ephesians 3:15 – Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
- D. Romans 8:15 – For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.
- E. 23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.
- F. Romans 9:4 – Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises;
- G. Galatians 4:5 – To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.
- H. Ephesians 1:5 – Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,
- I. 1 Peter 1:23 – Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.
- J. 2 Corinthians 5:17 – Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

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Lesson 4: The Original Church

I. **Built by Jesus Christ Himself**

- A. On the sunny shores of Galilee
- B. Jesus baptized by John
- C. Anointed and has victory over temptation
- D. The Jerusalem Church
- E. Formed with the 12 apostles
- F. 1 Corinthians 12:28 – And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

II. **Built During Earthly Ministry**

- A. Jesus was in the process of building his church in Matthew 16
- B. Jesus finished building by chapter 18
- C. “tell it unto the church....”
- D. Matt.16:18 – And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
- E. Matthew 18:17 – And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

III. **Apostles are the First Members**

- A. Matthew 16:18 – And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
- B. 1 Corinthians 3:11 -- For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
- C. Ephesians 2:20 – And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;
- D. Baptists have the same foundation that the apostles had – Jesus Christ

IV. **Work of the Church**

- A. Evangelism
- B. Baptism
- C. Did and Taught the Doctrine of Christ
- D. Signs and Wonders for Jews
- E. Rendered unto Caesar
- F. Paid tribute lest offend

V. **Jerusalem Not Likely Called the Church that is at Babylon**

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- A. 1 Peter 5:13 – The *church that is* at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so *doth* Marcus my son.
- B. Peter is likely speaking of Rome (not the physical Babylon in Iraq, 53 miles south of Bagdad).
- C. Literally, *she*. The KJV adds *church* in italics, which is correct to show this is church context.
- D. Note the figurative use of the word *Babylon*, similar to Revelation 11:8
- E. Revelation 11:8 – And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.
- F. Revelation 14:8 identifies Babylon as Rome – compare with 17:5, 9.
- G. He mentions Marcus, who was with Paul at Rome – Philemon 1:24, Colossians 4:10
- H. This may be evidence that Peter was in Rome.
- I. No evidence that Peter was calling Jerusalem church the church at Babylon except that Peter was a pillar of the Jerusalem church (Galatians 2:9; Acts 8:1).
- J. Mark was also at Jerusalem – Acts 12:12
- K. Babylon is a term likely referring the city of the pagan Roman Catholic empire (Babylon the Great, Mother of Harlots), meaning Peter was in Rome.
- L. This church that is at Babylon is a good church. The Mother of Harlots does not show up until 300 years later.

VI. **Peter is Not the First Pope, and he is Not the Rock**

- A. Roman Catholicism teaches falsely that Peter was the first pope
- B. Constantine or Gregory was the first pope
- C. Jesus is the Rock in Matthew 16:18 – see also 1 Corinthians 10:4
- D. Peter mentioned church at Babylon 1 Peter 5:13
- E. This is obviously a good church being “elect together with you”
- F. Peter is not teaching this church is Roman Catholicism
- G. Peter is identifying Rome with Babylon – Revelation 17:5-9

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Lesson 5: The Church in Jerusalem – the Church that Jesus Built

I. Jerusalem Chosen for the Original Church

- A. The first and foremost
- B. Best location for the original
- C. Matthew 5:35 – Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King.
- D. Place of the Jews – religious hypocrites Matthew 23
- E. Jews hardest to convert, greatest sinners
- F. Greatest defeat of Satan
- G. Matthew 23:37 – O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!
- H. Luke 23:28 – But Jesus turning unto them said, Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children.
- I. Luke.13:33 – Nevertheless I must walk to day, and to morrow, and the day following: for it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem.
- J. The perfect model of the church
- K. Geographically a central location
- L. Jesus began with the natural olive tree so the grafted in wild branch would live, but also prove to the natural branch that it is the way – Romans 11:17-24
- M. Beginning place of the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Heaven.

II. Built and Led by Jesus Christ

- A. Jesus is the Leader
- B. Follow me
- C. Fishers of men
- D. All the apostles were Jews
- E. Fisherman, zealots, publicans, etc.

III. Witnessed the Death Burial and Resurrection of the Savior

- A. Apostles – John 20
- B. Above 500 brethren at once – 1 Corinthians 15:1-5
- C. Mary – John 20:16

IV. Given the Great Commission

- A. Matthew 28:18-20
- B. Teach all nations
- C. Baptizing them
- D. Teaching them to observe all things commanded by Christ
- E. High Vision – All Power

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- F. Long Vision – All Nations
 - G. World Vision – All the Time – end of the world
- V. Endured Persecution**
- A. Matthew 10:23 – But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come.
 - B. Stephen stoned – Acts 7:39
 - C. James beheaded – Acts 12:2
 - D. Peter imprisoned – Acts 12:3-10
 - E. Acts 1:8 -- And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.
- VI. Church Filled Jerusalem with Christ's Doctrine**
- A. Acts 5:26 – Then went the captain with the officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned.
 - B. 27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them,
 - C. 28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.
 - D. 29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.
- VII. Chose Replacement for Judas**
- A. Acts 1
 - B. Matthias
 - C. Witness of resurrection
 - D. Continued from John's baptism
- VIII. Enjoyed Pentecostal Revival**
- A. Acts 2
 - B. Shall receive power – Acts 1:8
 - C. Gift of tongues
 - D. About 3,000 souls added to the church
- IX. Ananias and Sapphira Judged**
- A. Acts 5:1-11
 - B. Lied unto God – v. 4

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- C. Great fear came upon all the church – v. 11

X. Selected Deacons

- A. Acts 6:1-6
- B. 1 And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.
- C. 2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.
- D. 3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.
- E. 4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.
- F. 5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:
- G. 6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

XI. Divided and Multiplied

- A. Acts.8:1 – And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.
- B. 2 And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him.
- C. 3 As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison.
- D. 4 Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.
- E. Acts 9:31 – Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.
- F. Upon persecution

XII. Acts 1:8 Executed

- A. Judea
- B. Acts 8:1 – And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.
- C. Samaritan revival – Acts 8:1-14
- D. Gentiles Evangelized – Acts 10
- E. Antioch – Acts 11:19-27

XIII. Gentiles Saved

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- A. Acts 10
- B. Peter receives vision
- C. Peter preaches to Cornelius
- D. Gentiles receive the gospel
- E. Received the Holy Ghost
- F. Evidence for decision in Acts 15

XIV. Controversy over Circumcision Decided

- A. Acts 15:1-20
- B. Paul and Barnabas sent to testify
- C. Apostles and elders decided circumcision not required to be saved
- D. Letters sent to Gentiles
- E. Abstain from pollutions of idols
- F. Abstain from fornication
- G. Abstain from things strangled
- H. Abstain from blood.

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Lesson 6: Founder and Foundation Principles as Found in the Gospels

I. Jesus Christ is the True Foundation

- A. He is the Rock
- B. No other foundation can be laid
- C. Jesus' doctrine is authority
- D. Matthew 7:28 – And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine:
- E. 29 For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.
- F. Jesus was baptized by John – Matthew 3:13-17.

II. Jesus is the Way of Salvation

- A. John 3:16
- B. Luke 19:10
- C. John 14:1-6
- D. Author and Finisher of our faith – Hebrews 12:2

III. Believe on Jesus to Be Saved

- A. Luke 18:42 – And Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee.
- B. Mark 16:14 – Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.
- C. 15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.
- D. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
- E. John 3:16

IV. Kingdom of Heaven

- A. Mentioned only in Matthew by name
- B. Physical kingdom
- C. Sermon on the Mount is about the Kingdom of Heaven
- D. Parabolic Discourse is about the Kingdom of Heaven
- E. Made up of churches – Kingdom of Heaven mentioned immediately after use of the church in Matthew 16 and 18
- F. Associated with the Millennial Kingdom
- G. Jesus is King of kings – 1 Timothy 6:15
- H. Jesus is Son of David – Matthew 1:1

V. Kingdom of God

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- A. Spiritual kingdom
- B. To be sought first
- C. Matthew 6:33
- D. Must be born again to see and enter – John 3:1-10
- E. Jesus is High Priest after the order of Melchisedec – Hebrews 6:20
- F. Jesus is the Son of God – John 3:16

VI. Preach the Gospel

- A. Matthew 28:18-20
- B. Mark 16:15
- C. Luke 24:47
- D. John 20:21
- E. Acts 1:8

VII. Baptize Followers of Christ

- A. John 4:1-2
- B. Matthew 28:18-20
- C. Acts 2:38

VIII. Observe Christ's Commandments

- A. Matthew 28:18-20
- B. Matthew 5:19 – Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.
- C. Acts 1:1 – The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,
- D. John 14:15 – If ye love me, keep my commandments.
- E. 23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.
- F. 1 John 5:2 – By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.
- G. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

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Lesson 7: The Great Commission

I. The Great Commission – Our Marching Orders Until the Lord Returns

- A. Overarching Commission
- B. Matthew 28:20 – ...and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.
- C. Luke 19:13 – And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.
- D. 1 Corinthians 4:2 – Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.
- E. Revelation 2:10 – Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

II. Given to Church Leadership

- A. The eleven – Matthew 28:16
- B. Not just any person
- C. Church leadership
- D. Doers of the word
- E. Teachers of the word
- F. Not hypocrites
- G. 1 Corinthians 4:2 – Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.
- H. Ensamples – 1 Peter 5:1-3

III. Evidence and Execution of All the Power Given unto Jesus

- A. Given to Jesus by the Father – Matthew 28:18
- B. Jesus is highly exalted – Philippians 2:9
- C. Matthew 9:6 – But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.
- D. Matthew 22:29 – Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.
- E. Mark 3:15 – And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:
- F. Mark 6:7 – And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits;
- G. Luke 10:19 – Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.
- H. Luke 21:26 – Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.
- I. 27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.
- J. Luke 22:53 – When I was daily with you in the temple, ye stretched forth no hands against me: but this is your hour, and the power of darkness.
- K. 69 Hereafter shall the Son of man sit on the right hand of the power of God.
- L. Luke 24:49 – And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

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- M. Acts.4:7 – And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?
- N. 33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.
- O. Acts 6:8 – And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.
- P. Acts 10:38 – How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.
- Q. Romans 1:4 – And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:
- R. 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

IV. A Commission Grants Authority from an Authority

- A. Go Ye Therefore
- B. “therefore” – because *all power* is given unto Christ
- C. Matthew 8:9 – For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.
- D. Mark 13:34 – For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.
- E. Acts 9:14 – And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.
- F. Acts 26:10 – Which thing I also did in Jerusalem: and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them.
- G. 12 Whereupon as I went to Damascus with authority and commission from the chief priests,
- H. 1 Corinthians 15:24 – Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.
- I. 2 Corinthians 10:8 – For though I should boast somewhat more of our authority, which the Lord hath given us for edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed:

V. The Great Commission Requires a World Vision

- A. Teach All nations
- B. Preach the gospel to every creature
- C. From Jerusalem outward
- D. Your hometown is your “Jerusalem”
- E. Your next town is your “Judea”
- F. Your next country is your “Samaria”
- G. World missions is your “Uttermost”
- H. We are commanded to do all at the same time – “both”

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VI. Steps After Salvation

- A. Baptize Believers
- B. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved
- C. Acts 2:38
- D. John 4:1-2
- E. Observe Commandments of Christ
- F. Doctrine of Christ
- G. All things
- H. Teach to observe

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Lesson 8: World Evangelism and Missions

I. The Commandment

- A. Teach All nations – Matthew 28
- B. Every Creatures – Mark 16
- C. By the Scriptures – Romans 16:26
- D. Ye Shall receive Power – Acts 1:8
- E. Holy Ghost – Acts 1:8

II. The People

- A. Witnesses
- B. Jesus' Life, Death, and Resurrection
- C. Ordained elders – Titus 1:5

III. The Process

- A. Acts 1:8
- B. Jerusalem
- C. Judea
- D. Samaria
- E. Uttermost Part of the Earth
- F.

IV. High Vision

- A. See from God's viewpoint
- B. A vision of faith
- C. A vision of obedience

V. Long Vision

- A. Training and discipleship
- B. Sowing and reaping
- C. Sowers, seed, and senders

VI. World Vision

- A. A church that does not support missions is not a Baptist church
- B. Mission churches should support missions
- C. Go where Christ has not been named
- D. Romans 15:20 – Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation:

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- E. Missions – Acts 1:8
- F. Languages – Acts 2
- G. Scriptures – Romans 16:26
- H. 2 Corinthians 10:16 – To preach the gospel in the regions beyond you, and not to boast in another man's line of things made ready to our hand.

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Lesson 9: All Power (Authority)

I. All Authority Given to Jesus

- A. From the Father
- B. Because Jesus obeyed
- C. God has highly exalted him
- D. Philippians 2:5 – Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:
- E. 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:
- F. 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:
- G. 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.
- H. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:
- I. 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;
- J. 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

II. Jesus is Head of the Church

- A. Founder
- B. Head
- C. Ephesians 1:22 – And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,
- D. Ephesians 4:15 – But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:
- E. Ephesians 5:23 – For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.
- F. Colossians 1:18 – And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.
- G. Alpha and Omega
- H. Author and Finisher

III. Jesus is King of Kings

- A. 1 Timothy 6:15 – Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;
- B. Revelation 19:16 – And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.
- C. Revelation 1:5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,
- D. 6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

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IV. Jesus has the Preeminence in All Things

- A. Colossians 1:18 – And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

V. Jesus is the Savior of the Body

- A. Ephesians 5:23 – For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

VI. The Body of Christ

- A. Physical – died on cross, was buried, rose from the dead – John 2:21; Luke 22:55
- B. Spiritual – his body and blood in communion – bread and the fruit of the vine – Matthew 26:26
- C. Executive – head of the church, which is his body (i.e., his possession) – Colossians 1:24

VII. The Gospel is the Power of God unto Salvation

- A. Romans 1:16
- B. Romans 10:17 – So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
- C. Salvation is not dependent upon the character of the messenger
- D. Salvation is not dependent on predestination – faith comes by hearing, not choosing
- E. Whosoever can be saved – Romans 10:13

VIII. Jesus Rejoices Over One Sinner who Repents

- A. Luke 15:6 And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.
- B. 7 I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.
- C. 10 Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

IX. Jesus Calls Men

- A. Followers of Jesus – Matthew 4:19; John 21:19
- B. Fishers of men – Matthew 4:19
- C. Feeders of sheep – John 10:27; 21:16

X. Mount of Transfiguration

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- A. Matthew 17:1-9
- B. Jesus, Moses, and Elijah
- C. Law, Prophets, and Jesus' Doctrine
- D. This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.
- E. Jesus greater than the law and the prophets
- F. Law and the prophets were until John
- G. Luke 16:16 – The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

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Lesson 10: Organizing a Church

I. Sender

- A. Churches reproduce churches
- B. We reproduce what we are
- C. We reproduce after our kind
- D. Good churches reproduce good churches
- E. Bad churches reproduce bad churches
- F. A man can reproduce children, but not a church
- G. The man must have a sending church
- H. Romans.10:15 – And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

II. Sower

- A. Do and Teach
- B. Go and sow
- C. Men have to be trained and ordained
- D. Sent out – Acts 13:1-3
- E. Meet requirements
- F. Given authority from the church to preach and baptize
- G. Submissive to sending church authority

III. Seed

- A. The seed is the word of God – Luke 8:11
- B. Gospel
- C. Power of God unto Salvation
- D. Scriptures
- E. Romans Road – All Old Testament quotes
- F. 1 Peter 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

IV. Baptism

- A. Credible testimony by candidate
- B. Recommendation by pastor
- C. Church vote approval
- D. Both go in the water
- E. Walk in newness of life
- F. New member to follow covenant

V. Discipleship

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- A. For saved and baptized
- B. Learn precepts
- C. Do and teach
- D. Milk
- E. Babes in Christ
- F. Teach first principles of the doctrine of Christ – Hebrews 6:1-3

VI. Church Documents

- A. Church charter – permission granted by sending church authorizing
- B. Charter Members – first body of baptized believers
- C. Covenant – a Declaration of the church’s duties toward God and man, a record of the church’s covenant relationship with Jesus Christ.
- D. Constitution – documents fundamental principles of operation and church’s name
- E. By-laws – procedures for operating the organization
- F. Statement of Faith
- G. Government and other documents
- H. Appendix 2 – Examples from Historic Baptist Church

VII. The Blessing of the Sending Church

- A. Church being organized should have the blessing of the sending church
- B. Expressed in the church’s Charter
- C. Sending church votes to approve new independent church
- D. Similar to parents’ blessing at a child’s wedding

VIII. The Organization Service

- A. Vote to adopt Covenant and By-Laws
- B. Vote to become independent
- C. Vote to call pastor

IX. Government Involvement

- A. Jerusalem church had no government involvement (Rome)
- B. Jerusalem church had no building
- C. Jerusalem church needed no worldly approval
- D. Jerusalem church had promise of God – the gates of hell would not prevail (Matthew 16:18)
- E. Federal tax exemption request admits need of Government approval
- F. State registration may be needed for banking and other property concerns
- G. A church can operate without building and banks if membership desires

X. Church Splits and Other Issues

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- A. Assemblies after a church split are still churches
- B. Sometimes churches divide up due to location and convenience
- C. Sometimes churches divide services based on building capacity
- D. Sometime churches have separated mid-week groups

XI. The Life of a Church as the Life of a Man

- A. Birth
- B. Infancy
- C. Growth
- D. Independence
- E. Strength
- F. Work
- G. Reproduction
- H. Perpetuity
- I. Candlestick lost
- J. Death

XII. Things Necessary to Maintain Church's Life

- A. Souls saved
- B. Families
- C. Children
- D. Teaching basics and heritage so church does not forget

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Lesson 11: The Church is Not Invisible, Always Local

I. The Word “Church” Found Only in the New Testament

- A. Use of *church* only found in New Testament
- B. Of four gospels, church only found in Matthew (2 places)
- C. Matthew 16:18
- D. Matthew 18:17
- E. Jesus is speaking of the church in Jerusalem
- F. Must be visible and local for how else could anyone “tell it to the church”?

II. Scriptures Self-Define the Word “Church”

- A. Acts 7:38 – This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:
- B. 1 Corinthians 10:32 Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God:
- C. Colossians 4:15 – Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house.
- D. 1 Timothy 3:5 – (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)
- E. Hebrews 2:12 – Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.
- F. Psalms 22:22 – I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.
- G. Hebrews 12:23 – To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,

III. Breakdown of Overall Verses

- A. 114 times the word church is used in the KJV
- B. 111 verses use the word church
- C. Matthew 18:17, 1 Corinthians 16:19 and Revelation 1:20 use the word twice.
- D. 111 in respect to Jesus’ church
- E. 3 times referring to self, robbers of churches, and she
- F. Of the 114 times the word *church* is used, here is the breakdown of the Greek root words used:

<i>Ekklesia</i>	111	Translated <i>church</i>
<i>Auto</i>	1	Acts 2:47 – self
<i>Ierosulous</i>	1	Acts 19:37 – <i>robbers of churches</i>
<i>Italics</i>	1	1 Peter 5:13 – <i>she</i>
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Total	114	

- G. 3 times referring to other than Jesus’ church:
Hebrews 2:12 – quoting Psalm 22:22 – Jewish congregation

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Acts 7:38 – church in the wilderness – Jewish congregation

Acts 19:37 – robbers of churches, referring to religious temples

- H. 99 times the word church is used it is *obviously* a local congregation – see Appendix.
- I. 111 times out of 114 times (97%) God used the root word *Ekklesia* for the word *church*, always referring to a local assembly, and including the words used in Ephesians and Colossians. This shows a consistency in meaning.
- J. There are only 12 verses that use the word church that people can use to try to teach a universal invisible church.
- K. Matthew 16 – Jesus is building his church
- L. Matthew 18 – Jesus says to “tell it unto the church” so it must be built
- M. Revelation chapters 2 -3 – Jesus sends messages to seven churches. Jesus knew his church would multiply into other churches.

IV. The 12 Verses Used Wrongly to Show a Universal Invisible Model

- A. Matthew 16:18 – And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
Matched with Matthew 18:17, this is a local body.
- B. Ephesians 1:22 – And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,
Jesus is the head of the church – this does not teach a universal or invisible church.
- C. Ephesians 3:10 – To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,
Easily applies to the Ephesian church – this does not teach a universal or invisible church.
- D. Ephesians 3:21 – Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.
The church will exist throughout all ages. This can be a general use of the word, and the verse does not teach a universal or invisible church.
- E. Ephesians 5:23 – For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.
24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.
25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;
27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.
29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:
32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.
The verses in Ephesians 5 are comparing Jesus and his church to the husband and the wife. Nothing here teaches a universal or invisible church. There is no universal or invisible husband and wife.
- F. Colossians 1:18 – And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.
This verse teaches Jesus is the head of the church, but no teaching that the church is universal or invisible.

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- G. 24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:
Jesus is God manifest in the flesh. He walked on this earth in a physical and visible form as an individual man. His body was buried and rose again. It did not transform into a universal inviable body that is called the church. The church is Jesus' body in the sense of possession. We say "my wife" and "my husband," showing possession. Note I Corinthians 7:4 – The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. Jesus has power over the church and the church body is his possession. This passage does not teach a universal or invisible church.

V. For More Information

- A. See Class 203B Appendix Y – The Bridegroom Cometh
B. See Class 203C Appendix E – Eight Ill Effects of Promoting the Universal Church Fallacy

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Lesson 12: The Membership of the Church

I. Church Membership Only Found in a Few Passages

- A. Acts 2:41-47
- B. 1 Corinthians 12:1-31
- C. Romans 12:4 – For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:
- D. 5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.
- E. Ephesians 5:30 – For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

II. 1 Corinthians 12 Shows Christ's Body is Local – Verses 25-27

- A. 1 Corinthians 12:12 – For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.
- B. 13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.
- C. 14 For the body is not one member, but many.
- D. 15 If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?
- E. 16 And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?
- F. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling?
- G. 18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.
- H. 19 And if they were all one member, where were the body?
- I. 20 But now are they many members, yet but one body.
- J. 21 And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.
- K. 22 Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary:
- L. 23 And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness.
- M. 24 For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked:
- N. 25 That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.
- O. 26 And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.
- P. 27 Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.
- Q. 28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

III. There are Five Ways to Join a Baptist Church

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- A. Baptism
- B. Letter of recommendation
- C. Restoration
- D. Statement
- E. Watch-care

IV. **Membership by Baptism**

- A. Pastor recommendation to the church after a credible profession of faith
- B. Church's approval – Acts 10:47
- C. Baptism in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost

V. **Four Key Elements to Scriptural Baptism**

- A. Scriptural candidate – one who is truly saved and gives evidence of salvation
- B. Scriptural mode – Immersion in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy Ghost
- C. Scriptural Administrator – Minister approved by the church to do her work of baptizing
- D. Scriptural Action – adding to the church, not for salvation

VI. **Membership by Letter of Recommendation**

- A. Only for a good reason should a member move his membership (i.e., new location, church closes or turns heretical, etc.)
- B. Pastor to do his due diligence to investigate candidate's background and baptism
- C. Pastor recommendation to the church
- D. Church approval

VII. **Membership by Restoration**

- A. Member was judged separated from fellowship, but then repents
- B. Member missed church attendance for a long period and membership was dropped, but now returns.
- C. Pastor recommendation to the church
- D. Church approval

VIII. **Membership by Statement**

- A. Candidate's church is closed.
- B. No way to contact original church
- C. Candidate has a credible testimony
- D. Pastor recommendation to the church
- E. Church approval

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- F. Note: These situations are very rare. Sometimes it is better just to baptize the candidate into membership.

IX. Membership by Watch-care

- A. Candidate is in good standing with current church
- B. Candidate moves membership for a specific amount of time – military stationing, temporary job location, etc.
- C. Candidate has permission from current church
- D. Membership moves to new church
- E. Pastor recommendation to the church
- F. Church approval
- G. New member should tithe to new church, he can minister as a member in the new church, he can partake of the Lord's Supper in the new church.
- H. Membership ends when the member returns to original church.

X. All Believers should be Church Members

- A. No exceptions
- B. Jesus is the head of the church, but he is still a member
- C. Preachers, pastors, evangelists, and Missionaries should all be members of a sound Baptist church
- D. Accountability
- E. Authority to minister
- F. History and background known

XI. Members in Good Standing

- A. All church members should be members in good standing
- B. No outward sins
- C. Faithful to services
- D. Faithful to tithes and offerings
- E. Faithful to the church covenant
- F. Faithful to visitation and other outreach efforts by the church
- G. Faithful to a place of service in the church
- H. No issues preventing the member's partaking of the Lord's Supper

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Lesson 13: The Officers of the Church

I. Ordained Offices

- A. Apostle – Mark 3:14
- B. Evangelist – Philip – Acts 6:5-6; 21:8
- C. Bishop – 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 4:14; Titus 1:5-9
- D. Deacon – Acts 6:5-6; 1 Timothy 3:8-13

II. Non-Ordained Offices

- A. Treasurer
- B. Administrator
- C. Teachers
- D. Song Leader
- E. Ministry Leaders and Directors
- F. Acts 13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.
- G. 1 Corinthians 12:28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.
- H. Ephesians 4:11 – And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

III. Office of Kings and Priests

- A. Revelation 1:5-6
- B. Royal priesthood – 1 Peter 2:9
- C. Priesthood of the Believer
- D. 1 Peter 2:5 – Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.
- E. Revelation 5:10 – And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.
- F. Jesus is King of kings and Lord of Lords – 1 Timothy 6:15
- G. Work of kings: Rule, Judge, Live holy
- H. Work of priests: Preach gospel, Win souls, Pray – make intercession, Connect people to God, Offer up Spiritual Sacrifices

IV. Leaders *Not* to be Called

- A. Master – Matthew 23:8-10
- B. Rabbi
- C. Father
- D. Reverend – see Psalm 111:9

V. **Non-Scriptural Offices Created by World**

- A. Pope
- B. Archbishop
- C. Cardinal
- D. Vicar
- E. Rector
- F. Reverend

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Lesson 14: The Ordinances of the Church

I. Baptism

- A. Matthew 28:18-20
- B. Four scriptural elements
- C. Scriptural Mode: immersion, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost
- D. Scriptural Candidate: One who has credible profession and is a fit member for the church
- E. Scriptural Action: Not for salvation but an answer of a good conscience toward God, adds to the membership of the church
- F. Scriptural Administrator: a man authorized by the church

II. The Lord's Supper

- A. 1 Corinthians 11:17-34
- B. Also called communion
- C. Solemn event
- D. For the church
- E. Self-examination
- F. Partake worthily

III. Head Coverings

- A. 1 Corinthians 11:1-16
- B. Used to show a woman's submission to authority in the church
- C. To be used by a woman when praying or prophesying
- D. To be used when exercising authority in the church
- E. Woman not suffered to teach
- F. Woman to keep silence in the church in respect to speaking in tongues
- G. Women not to exercise authority over the man
- H. Men not to cover their heads when praying or prophesying
- I. Today with New Testament and pastors and teachers, women do not need to prophesy or pray in the church service.

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Lesson 15: The Duties of the Church

I. Honor Christ in All Things

- A. Jesus is the Head of the church as the husband is the head of the wife
- B. Ephesians 3:21
- C. Ephesians 5:24
- D. Revelation 4:11 – Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

II. Be a Lighthouse

- A. A candlestick to the community
- B. Revelation 1:20

III. Love People

- A. Hebrews 10:24 – Provoke unto love and good works
- B. Edify believers
- C. 1 Corinthians 12:25
- D. 3 John 1:6
- E. Acts 9:31

IV. Show the Way of Salvation

- A. Acts 1:8
- B. Evangelize the world

V. Preach the Word

- A. 1 Timothy 3:15; 4:1-2
- B. Teach all nations
- C. Baptizing believers
- D. Teaching them to observe all things Christ commanded

VI. Prayer

- A. Acts 12:5
- B. James 5:14

VII. Support Missions

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- A. Acts 1:8
- B. Acts 13:1-3

VIII. Judge Righteous Judgment

- A. Matthew 18:17
- B. Acts 5:11
- C. 1 Corinthians 6:4

IX. Prepare Members for the Judgment Seat of Christ

- A. James 1:24 – Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,
- B. Ephesians 4:11 – And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
- C. 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
- D. 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
- E. 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
- F. 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:
- G. 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.
- H. Colossians 1:20 – And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.
- I. 21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled
- J. 22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight:
- K. 23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

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Lesson 16: The Relationship of the Church to the Family

I. Family Created First by God

- A. Genesis 1-3
- B. Order of Authority in the Home
- C. God
- D. Father (husband)
- E. Mother (wife)
- F. Children

II. Church Built by Jesus Christ

- A. Matthew 16:18
- B. Order of Authority in the Church
- C. Jesus
- D. Pastor
- E. Membership
- F. Families

III. Women are to Obey Their Husbands

- A. Ephesians 5:22-24
- B. Colossians 3:18
- C. Titus 2:5
- D. 1 Peter 3:1-6

IV. Children are to Obey their Parents

- A. Ephesians 6:1
- B. Colossians 3:20

V. After Family, Members are to Obey the Pastor

- A. Fathers and Husbands come first
- B. Wives to ask her husband, not the pastor – 1 Corinthians 14:35

VI. Single Members to Honor their Pastor

- A. Pastors are to rule – Romans 12:8; Hebrews 13:7, 17, 24
- B. Pastors are to take care of the church – 1 Timothy 3:4-5
- C. Pastors are to take oversight – 1 Peter 5:2
- D. Pastors are to watch over souls – Hebrews 13:17

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- E. Pastors are to feed – 1 Peter 5:2
- F. Pastors are to lead – 1 Peter 5:3
- G. Pastors are not to be lords
- H. Single members should heed their pastor's teaching
- I. Leaders answer to higher expectations – James 3:1-2

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Lesson 17: Church Programs

I. The Church has Liberty to Initiate Various Programs

- A. Liberty in Christ to serve – Galatians 5:13
- B. Liberty in soul-winning

II. All Outreach Ministries Should be for the Redemption of Men

- A. Any ministry outside the church should have at its core the redemption of the lost
- B. Redemption is the only reason to minister to lost people
- C. Soul-winning is the basis for all works involving the lost

III. Ministries for Saved Church Member

- A. The church has liberty to minister to the needs of the members
- B. Edification of church members
- C. Day care for children
- D. K -12 education
- E. Widows
- F. Food pantry
- G. Fellowships
- H. Prayer meetings
- I. Revival meetings
- J. Trips
- K. Couple getaways
- L. Children's camp

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Lesson 18: Financing of the Church

I. Jesus Provide for his Churches

- A. He is the Head
- B. He is the Husband
- C. He provides for his own
- D. He is not an infidel – 1 Timothy 5:8

II. My God Shall Supply all your Need

- A. Philippians 4:14 – Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction.
- B. 15 Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.
- C. 16 For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity.
- D. 17 Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.
- E. 18 But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.
- F. 19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

III. Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

- A. Matthew 6:33 – But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.
- B. Kingdom of God – salvation
- C. His righteousness – by faith, living in holiness
- D. All these things – food and raiment
- E. 1 Timothy 6:8 – And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

IV. Jesus Uses Men to Bless His Work

- A. Tithes
- B. Offerings
- C. Alms
- D. Shall men give – Luke 6:38
- E. Special collections for the poor saints

V. Take Nothing from the Gentiles

- A. 3 John 1:7 – Because that for his name's sake they went forth, taking nothing of the Gentiles.
- B. God's work supported God's way

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C. By God's people

VI. Avoid Debt

- A. Cannot serve God and mammon – Matthew 6:24
- B. Borrower is servant to the lender – Proverbs 22:7
- C. Proverbs 11:29 – He that troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind: and the fool shall be servant to the wise of heart.

VII. Learn to be Content in Every State

- A. Philippians 4:9 – Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.
- B. 10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity.
- C. 11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

VIII. Know How to be Abased and How to Abound, Be Instructed to be Full and Hungry

- A. 12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.
- B. 13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.
- C. 14 Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction.

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Lesson 19: Reproduction of the Church in Acts

I. Jerusalem – The First Church

- A. Built by Jesus Christ – Matthew 16:18
- B. Built on the Rock – 1 Corinthians 3:11; 10:4
- C. Jesus chose the Apostles set them in this church first – Luke 6:13
- D. 1 Corinthians 12:28 – And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.
- E. Given the Great Commission – Matthew 28:18-20
- F. Received the Holy Ghost – John 20:22
- G. Promised the power of Holy Ghost – Acts 1:8
- H. Preached at Pentecost with tongues – Acts 2
- I. Replaced Judas Iscariot – Acts 1
- J. Chose Deacons – Acts 6
- K. Base of the apostles
- L. Witnesses both in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and Gentiles – Acts 1:8 through chapter 10
- M. Decided Gentile requirements – Acts 15
- N. Stephen and James martyred – Acts 7:59; 12:2
- O. Filled Jerusalem with the doctrine of Christ – Acts 5:28

II. Churches in Judea

- A. Place of Jesus' birth – Matthew 2:1, 5
- B. John Baptist preached there – Mathew 3:1; Mark 1:5
- C. Jesus preached there – John 11:7
- D. Persecuted church members scattered to Judea
- E. Acts 8:1 – And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.
- F. Acts 9:31 – Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.
- G. Some men from Judea taught wrongly (Judaizers) – Acts 15:1
- H. Judean churches suffered persecution – 1 Thessalonians 2:14

III. Churches in Samaria

- A. Jesus preached there – John 4
- B. Jesus said to see fields are white unto harvest – John 4:35
- C. Jesus abode there two days – John 4:40
- D. Samaritans needed no sign, believed his word – John 4:41, 48
- E. Persecuted church members from Jerusalem were scattered there – Acts 8:1
- F. Philip preached Christ and baptized there – Acts 8:5, 12
- G. Church of Jerusalem sent Peter and John there to give them the Holy Ghost – Acts 8:14-17

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- H. Acts 9:31 – Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.
- I. Samaritan brethren rejoiced over Gentiles being converted – Acts 15:3

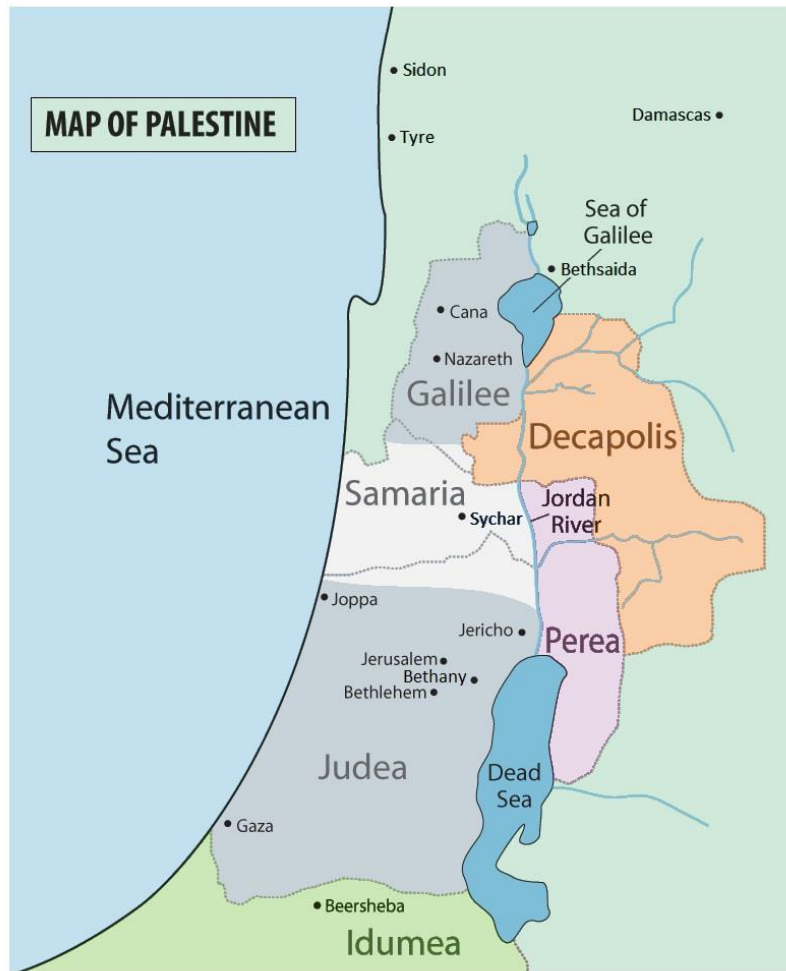
IV. Churches in Galilee (the Uttermost)

- A. Jesus lived in Galilee – Matthew 21:11
- B. Nazareth was in Galilee – Luke 1:26
- C. Bethsaida was in Galilee – John 12:21
- D. Capernaum was in Galilee – Luke 4:31
- E. Cana was in Galilee – John 2:1; 4:46
- F. The sea of Tiberius is also called the sea of Galilee – John 6:1
- G. Jesus preached in Galilee – Matthew 4:12, 23
- H. Jesus chose some apostles from Galilee – Matthew 4:18
- I. Jesus gave the Great Commission from a mountain in Galilee – Matthew 28:7, 10, 16
- J. Galilean churches had rest after Paul's conversion – Acts 9:31 – Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

V. Map of the Five Provinces of Israel in the First Century

- A. The 5 Provinces are: Judea, Samaria, Galilee, Perea, Decapolis (region of Trachonitus, Gentile)
- B. Follow Acts 1:8
- C. Jerusalem
- D. Judea
- E. Samaria
- F. Galilee (Uttermost)
- G. Damascus
- H. See map below for clarity:

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VI. Persecution Multiplies Churches

- A. Acts 8:1 – And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.
- B. 2 And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him.
- C. 3 As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison.
- D. 4 Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.
- E. 5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.
- F. Acts 11:19 – Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only.
- G. 20 And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus.
- H. 21 And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.

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- I. 22 Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.
- J. 23 Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.
- K. 24 For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.
- L. 25 Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul:
- M. 26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

VII. The Church in Antioch

- A. Paul's sending church (Acts 13:1-3)
- B. Paul and Barnabas sent by Holy Ghost and the church
- C. Ordained
- D. Antioch church was a Missions-Minded church
- E. A Gentile church (Galatians 2:11)
- F. Paul reported to the church regularly – Acts 14:26
- G. Nicolas, a proselyte of Antioch, was one of the seven deacons chosen in Acts 6

VIII. Background on Antioch Church

- A. 19 Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only.
- B. 20 And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus.
- C. 21 And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.
- D. 22 Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.
- E. 23 Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.
- F. 24 For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.
- G. 25 Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul:
- H. 26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.
- I. 27 And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch.
- J. 28 And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar.
- K. 29 Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea:
- L. 30 Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

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IX. Peter's Issue at Antioch

- A. Galatians 2:11 – But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.
- B. 12 For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision.
- C. 13 And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation.
- D. 14 But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?

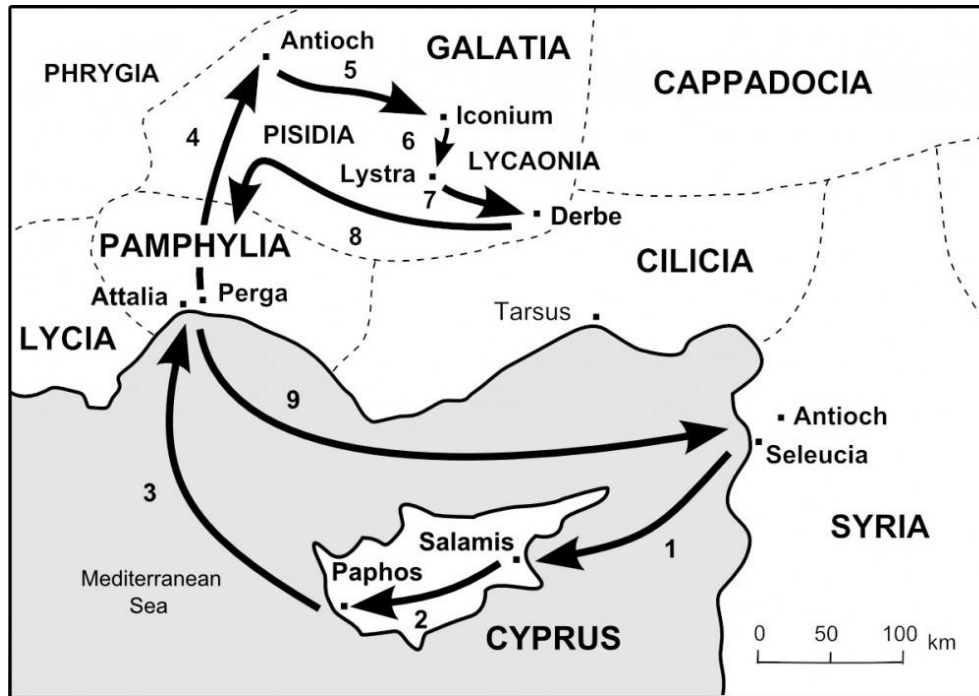
X. Cities Visited and Churches Established During Paul's First Missionary Journey

- A. Paul and Barnabas accompanied one another on the first missionary journey.
- B. See chart below showing places visited.

PLACE	REFERENCE IN ACTS	APPROX. DATE
ANTIOCH, SYRIA	13:1-3	A.D. 47
SELUCIA, SYRIA	13:4	
SALAMIS, CYPRUS	13:5	
PAPHOS, CYPRUS	13:6-12	
PERGA, PAMPHILIA	13:13	
PISIDIA ANTIOCH, GALATIA	13:14-52	A.D. 48
ICONIUM, GALATIA	14:1-7	
LYSTRA, GALATIA	14:8-19	
DERBE, GALATIA	14:20-21	
RETURNS THROUGH GALATIA	14:21-24	A.D. 49
PERGA, LYCIA	14:25	
ATTALIA, LYCIA	14:25	
ANTIOCH, SYRIA	14:26-28	

- C. See map below for clarity

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XI. Cities Visited and Churches Established During Paul's Second Missionary Journey

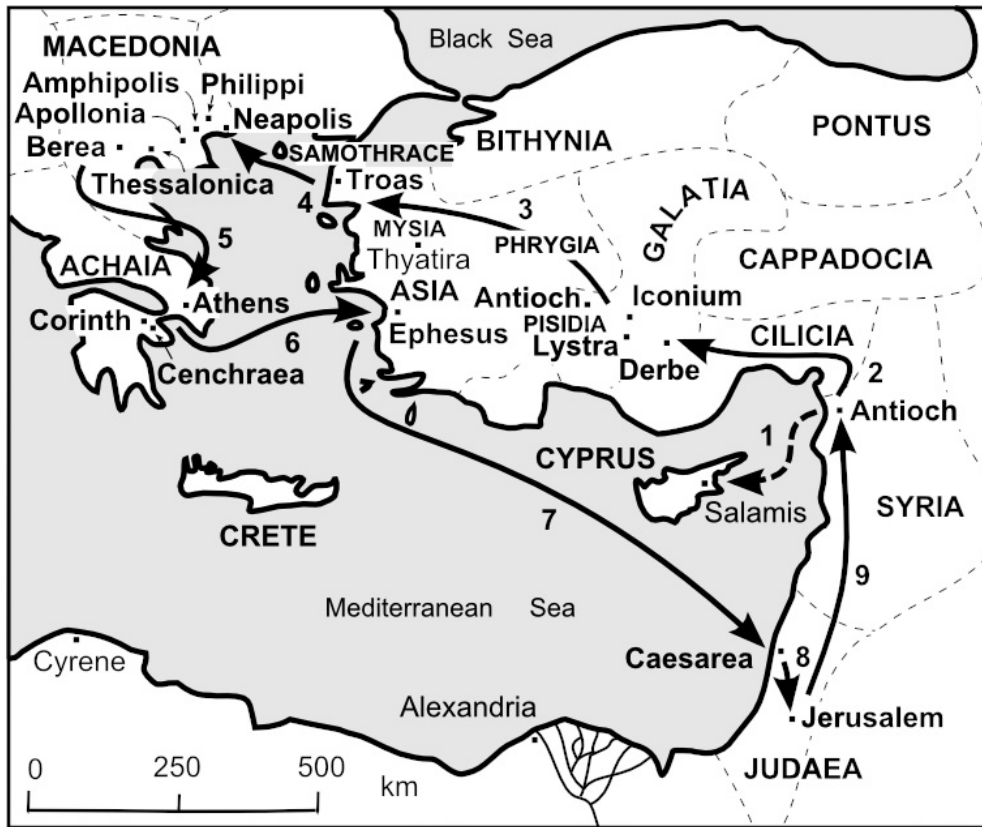
- A. Paul and Silas accompanied one another on the second journey (Acts 15:40)
- B. Titus (a Greek – Galatians 2:3)
- C. Luke (Acts 16:7-10)
- D. Timothy (Acts 16:1)
- E. Ephesus
- F. See chart below showing places visited.

PLACE	REFERENCE IN ACTS	APPROX. DATE
ANTIOCH, SYRIA	15:35	A.D. 50
DERBE, GALATIA	16:1-5	
LYSTRA, GALATIA	16:1-5	
TROAS, ASIA	16:7-10	
SAMOTHRACE, THRACE	16:11	
NEAPOLIS, MACEDONIA	16:11	
PHILIPPI, MACEDONIA	16:12-40	
AMPHIPOLIS, MACEDONIA	17:1	
APOLLONIA, MACEDONIA	17:1	
THESSALONICA, MACEDONIA	17:1-9	
BEREA, MACEDONIA	17:10-14	A.D. 51

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ATHENS, ACHAIA	17:15-32	A.D. 53
CORINTH, ACHAIA	18:1-17	
CENCHREA, ASIA	18:18	
EPHESUS, ASIA	18:19-21	
CAESAREA, PALESTINE	18:22	
ANTIOCH, SYRIA	18:22	

G. See map below for clarity



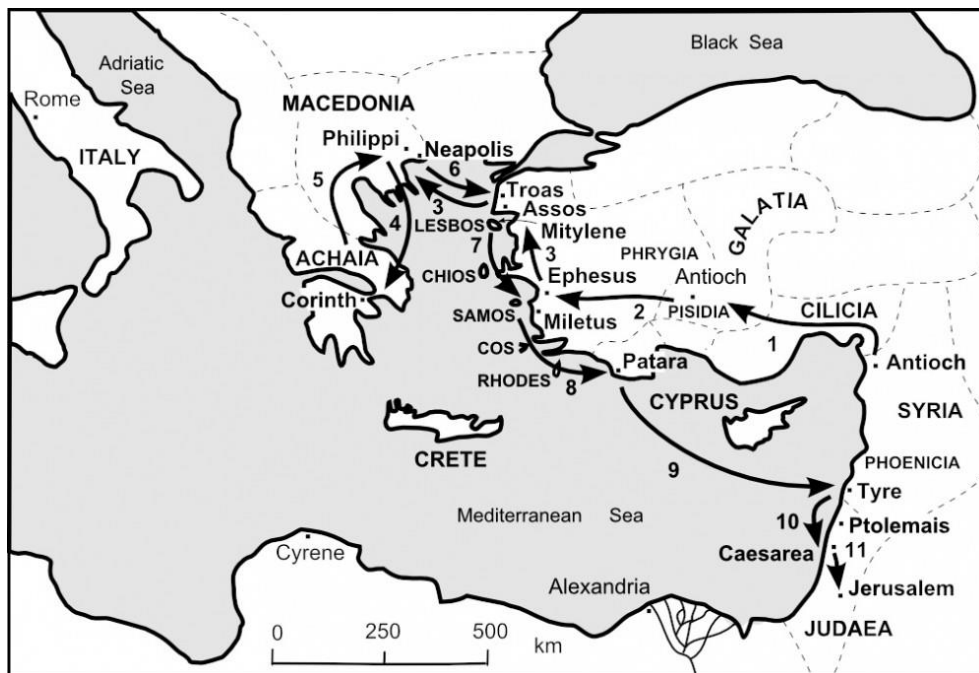
XII. Cities Visited and Churches Established During Paul's Third Missionary Journey

- A. Ephesus became Paul's base of operations
- B. The Seven Churches in Revelation established by Paul and Company
- C. Acts 19:10 And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.
- D. Paul spent nearly three years in Ephesus
- E. See chart below showing places visited.

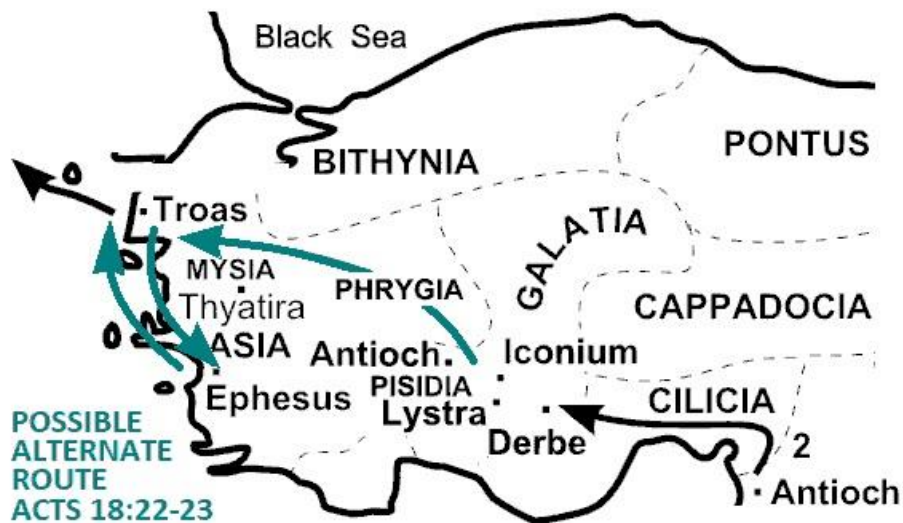
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PLACE	REFERENCE IN ACTS	APPROX. DATE
ANTIOCH, SYRIA	18:22	A.D. 53
EPHESUS, ASIA	19:1-40	A.D. 53-56
CORINTH, ACHAIA	20:2-3	A.D. 56
PHILIPPI	20:6	
TROAS	20:6-12	
ASSOS	20:13-14	
MITYLENE	20:14	
CHIOS/SAMOS	20:15	
MILETUS	20:15-38	
COS	21:1	
RHODES	21:1	
PATARA	21:1	
TYRE	21:3-6	
PTOLEMAIS	21:7	
CAESAREA	21:8-14	
JERUSALEM	21:15-17	A.D. 57

F. See map below for clarity.



G. Possible alternate route.



XIII. Paul's Work in Crete through Titus

- A. Titus 1:5 – For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:
- B. 6 If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.
- C. 7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;
- D. 8 But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;
- E. 9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.
- F. 10 For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision:
- G. 11 Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.
- H. 12 One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies.
- I. 13 This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;
- J. 14 Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.
- K. 15 Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.
- L. 16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

XIV. Paul's Work in Rome

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- A. Acts 28:16 – And when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard: but Paul was suffered to dwell by himself with a soldier that kept him.
- B. 17 And it came to pass, that after three days Paul called the chief of the Jews together: and when they were come together, he said unto them, Men and brethren, though I have committed nothing against the people, or customs of our fathers, yet was I delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans.
- C. 18 Who, when they had examined me, would have let me go, because there was no cause of death in me.
- D. 19 But when the Jews spake against it, I was constrained to appeal unto Caesar; not that I had ought to accuse my nation of.
- E. 20 For this cause therefore have I called for you, to see you, and to speak with you: because that for the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain.
- F. 21 And they said unto him, We neither received letters out of Judaea concerning thee, neither any of the brethren that came shewed or spake any harm of thee.
- G. 22 But we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that every where it is spoken against.
- H. 23 And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.
- I. 24 And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not.
- J. 25 And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers,
- K. 26 Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive:
- L. 27 For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.
- M. 28 Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it.
- N. 29 And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among themselves.
- O. 30 And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him,
- P. 31 Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.

IX. Paul's Prison Epistles

- A. Galatians 6:19 – Unto the Galatians, written from Rome.
- B. Ephesians 6:25 – Written from Rome unto the Ephesians by Tychicus.
- C. Philippians 4:24 – It was written to the Philippians from Rome, by Epaphroditus.
- D. Colossians 4:18 – Written from Rome to the Colossians, by Tychicus and Onesimus.
- E. 2 Timothy 4:23 – The second Epistle unto Timotheus, ordained the first Bishop of the Church of the Ephesians, was written from Rome, when Paul was brought before Nero the second time.
- F. Philemon 1:26 – Written from Rome to Philemon, by Onesimus a servant.
- G. Hebrews 13:26 – Written to the Hebrews, from Italy, by Timothy.

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X. Paul's Timeline

A. See chart below

PAUL'S LETTERS AND MISSIONARY JOURNEYS				
YEAR A.D.	MAJOR EVENTS	ACTS	PERIOD	LETTERS
34	Conversion, Damascus, Arabia	9	3 years - Arabia	
37	Jerusalem, Tarsus, Syria, Cilicia			
46-47	Antioch, Jerusalem	11	1 year - Antioch	
48-49	First Missionary Journey and Antioch	13-14		
50	Jerusalem Council and Antioch	15		
51-53	Second Missionary Journey	16-18	18 months - Corinth	1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians
53-54	Antioch			
54-57	Third Missionary Journey	19-21	3 years - Ephesus	1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians Romans 1 Timothy Titus *
57	Jerusalem Arrest	22-23		
57-59	Caesarea Prisoner	24-26	2 years	
59-60	Journey to Rome	27-28		
60-67 circa	Rome House Arrest	28	5-7 years circa	Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians Philemon 2 Timothy Hebrews

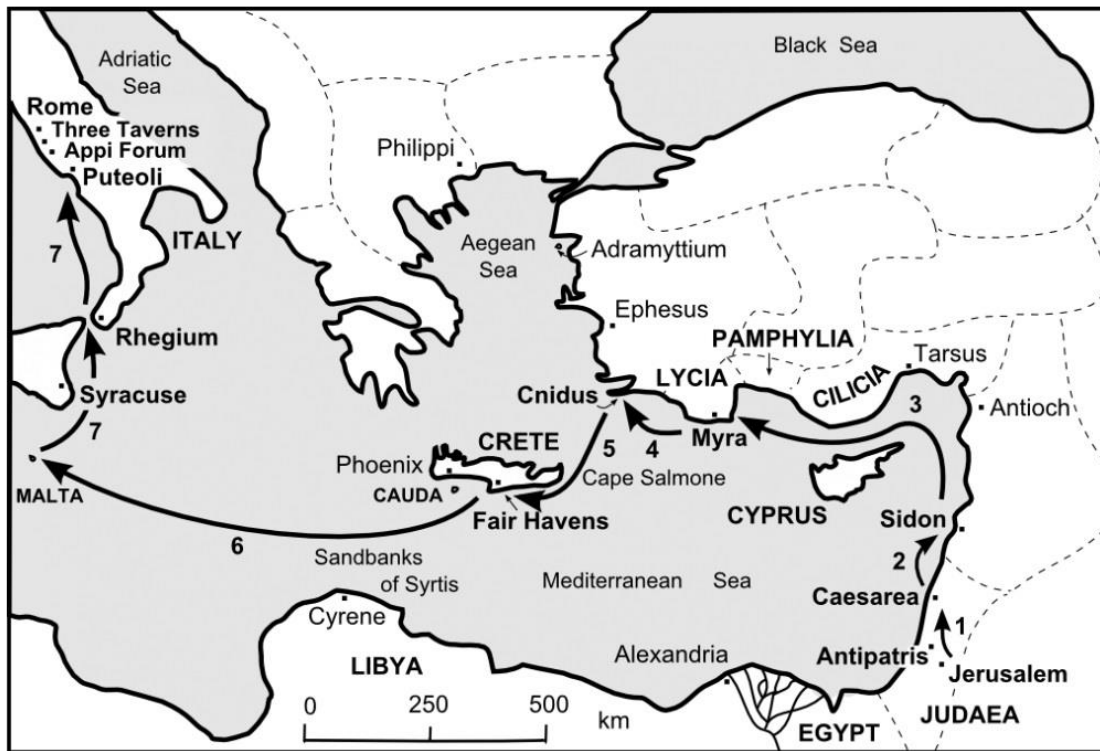
* The Book of Acts ends with Paul imprisoned in Rome. We have no record in the New Testament of Paul being released from prison in 63 A.D. and making a missionary journey to Crete, then to Nicopolis, then to Spain and England, and then back to Rome, between 63 and 67 A.D., and then his being beheaded under Nero in 68 A.D. Romans 15:22-25 shows Paul's desire to visit Rome and Spain, 2 Timothy 4:23 mentions Paul appearing before Nero a second time, and Titus 1:5 mentions Paul leaving Titus in Crete. All these allude to a fourth missionary journey (not including his arrest and first trip to Rome). We must understand secular history is not infallible.

XI. Paul's Fourth Missionary Journey to Rome as a Prisoner

- A. Some count Paul's arrest and trip to Rome is his fourth missionary journey. If we say this is so, one can study the last chapters of Acts (21 through 28) to follow the arrest and travels of Paul.
- B. Paul did minister during this trip and while in Rome.

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C. See map below for clarity:



XII. Paul's Supposed Fifth Journey (not proved by Scripture)

- A. Some assume this journey.
- B. There is no scripture to prove this journey happened.
- C. Some scripture can be used to support part of the story
- D. The Book of Acts ends with Paul imprisoned in Rome. We have no record in the New Testament of Paul being released from prison in 63 A.D. and making a missionary journey to Crete, then to Nicopolis, then to Spain and England, and then back to Rome, between 63 and 67 A.D., and then his being beheaded under Nero in 68 A.D. Romans 15:22-25 shows Paul's desire to visit Rome and Spain, 2 Timothy 4:23 mentions Paul appearing before Nero a second time, and Titus 1:5 mentions Paul leaving Titus in Crete. All these allude to a fourth missionary journey (not including his arrest and first trip to Rome). We must understand secular history is not infallible.
- E. See map below for clarity:

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Lesson 20: List of Churches in the New Testament and What We Know

I. There are Over 40 Churches Referenced in the New Testament

- A. First and Original church was in Jerusalem, built by Jesus Christ
- B. Church reproduced in Judea, Samaria, and in the Uttermost
- C. The apostle Paul established many churches during his ministry
- D. See list below for churches we know of:

NUMBER	LOCATION	REFERENCE	COUNT
1	Antioch, Pisidia	Acts 13:14; Galatians 1:2	1
2	Antioch, Syria (Paul's home base)	Acts 11:26	1
3	Athens	Acts 17:34	1
4	Babylon	1 Peter 5:13	1
5	Berea	Acts 17:11	1
6	Caesarea	Acts 10:1, 48	1
7	Cenchrea	Romans 16:1	1
8	Colossae	Colossians 1:2	1
9	Corinth	Acts 18:1	1
10	Crete	Titus 1:5	1
11	Cyrene	Acts 11:20	1
12	Damascus	Acts 9:19	1
13	Derbe	Acts 14:20; Galatians 1:2	1
14	Ephesus	Acts 18:19	1
15	Hierapolis	Colossians 4:13	1
16	Iconium	Acts 14:1; Galatians 1:2	1
17	Jerusalem	Acts 2:5	1
18	Joppa	Acts 9:36, 38	1
19	Laodicea	Revelation 1:11, Colossians 4:15	1
20	Lydda	Acts 9:32	1
21	Lystra	Acts 14:6; Galatians 1:2	1
22	Pergamum	Revelation 1:11	1
23	Philadelphia	Revelation 1:11	1
24	Philippi	Acts 16:12	1
25	Puteoli, Italy	Acts 28:13-14	1
26	Rome (see also Babylon)	Romans 1:7	1
27	Sardis	Revelation 1:11	1
28	Sharon	Acts 9:35	1
29	Smyrna	Revelation 1:11	1
30	Tarsus	Acts 9:30	1

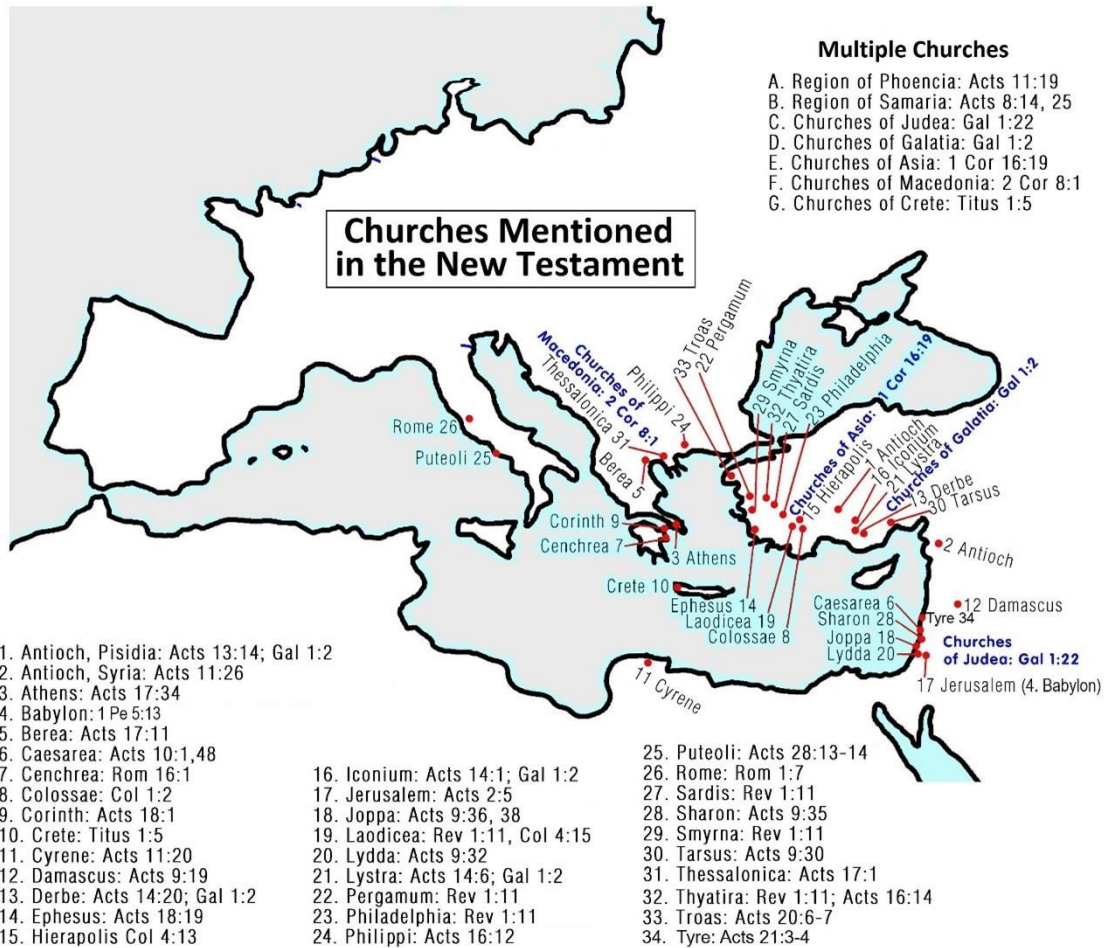
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31	Thessalonica	Acts 17:1	1
32	Thyatira	Revelation 1:11; Acts 16:14	1
33	Troas	Acts 20:6-7	1
34	Tyre	Acts 21:3-4	1
Multiple Churches			
35	Churches of Phoenicia	Acts 11:19	2
36	Churches of Samaria	Acts 8:14, 25	2
37	Churches of Judea	Galatians 1:22	2
38	Churches of Galatia	Galatians 1:2; 1 Peter 1:1	
39	Churches of Asia	1 Corinthians 16:19; 1 Peter 1:1	
40	Churches of Macedonia	2 Corinthians 8:1	
41	Churches of Galilee	Acts 9:31	2
42	Churches in Crete (every city)	Titus 1:5	2
43	Pontus	1 Peter 1:1; 5:13	1
44	Cappadocia	1 Peter 1:1; 5:13	1
45	Bithynia	1 Peter 1:1; 5:13	1
TOTAL MINIMUM COUNT			47

- E. Multiple churches in regions are likely more than 2, but for minimal counting we used lowest number.
- F. Many other churches likely although not mentioned.

II. See Map of Churches Below for Clarity

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III. Cities Visited by Paul

- A. Paul traveled all over the known world preaching the gospel
- B. Paul was persecuted in many cities, but he still went forward for Christ.
- C. Paul died a martyr for Jesus Christ
- D. Paul also had great success as a soul winner and a church planter.
- E. Paul had a high vision, a long vision, and a world vision.
- F. See list below for the cities visited by Paul:

Places and Cities visited by the Apostle Paul		
COUNT	PLACE	NOTES
1	Amphipolis	Acts 17:1.
2	Apollonia	
3	Thessalonica	

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4	Antioch Pisidia	Paul evangelized the city during his first, second and third missionary journeys.
5	Antioch Syria	Place where believers in Jesus are first called Christians Acts 11:26. Paul sent from the church there Acts 13:1-3.
6	Antipatris	The city through which Roman soldiers brought the Apostle Paul, as prisoner, on their way to Caesarea Acts 23:13.
7	Appii Forum	Roman cities Paul travels through on his way to trial in Rome Acts 28:12-15.
8	Puteoli	
9	Rhegium	
10	Rome	
11	Syracuse	
12	Three Taverns	
13	Arabia	Galatians 1:17
14	Damascus	
15	Assos	Cities briefly stopped in during the latter part of his third missionary journey Acts 20:14 - 15.
16	Mitylene	
17	Miletus	
18	Samos	
19	Trogyllium	
20	Athens	Acts 18:1
21	Corinth	
22	Attalia	Acts 14:25
23	Perga	
24	Berea	Acts 17:10
25	Caesarea	Acts 21:7
26	Ptolemais	
27	Tyre	
28	Cenchrea	Acts 18:18-19
29	Ephesus	
30	Coos	Acts 21:1
31	Rhodes	
32	Patara	
33	Cyprus	First places Apostle Paul evangelized during his first missionary journey Acts 13:2-6.
34	Seleucia	
35	Salamis	
36	Paphos	
37	Derbe	Acts 14:5-6
38	Lystra	

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39	Fair Havens Crete	Place where Paul's ship, on its way to Rome, docks for a period of time Acts 27:8.
40	Iconium	Acts 13:51
41	Jerusalem	Acts 9:26
42	Malta	Island near where the apostle is shipwrecked during his fourth missionary journey Acts 28:1.
43	Myra	Acts 27:5
44	Neapolis	Acts 16:11
45	Nicopolis	Titus 3:12
46	Sidon	Acts 27:3
47	Spain	Romans 15:24, 28
48	Tarsus	Acts 9:30
49	Troas	Troas is the place where God gives the apostle Paul a vision letting him know he should preach the gospel in Europe Acts 16:8-9, 11-12.

IV. Some Church Characteristics

- A. Jerusalem church was a large church – Acts 6
- B. Ephesian church was a large church – Acts 20:17, 28
- C. Philippian church was a large church – Philippians 1:1
- D. Corinthian church was a large church – 1 Corinthians 1:12
- E. Laodicean church was a wealthy church – Revelation 3:17
- F. Colossian church was a small church

V. Churches in the New Testament were Autonomous

- A. Jerusalem church had apostles
- B. They had overseers (elders, bishops, etc.)
- C. Apostles did have some authority over all churches

VI. Churches in the New Testament were Baptist Churches

- A. Jesus as the founder, not man.
- B. Baptist in doctrine, not in name
- C. True gospel – Galatians 1
- D. Scriptural baptism
- E. Great Commission
- F. Church polity
- G. Scriptural ordinances

VII. Description of the Churches having Letters

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- A. Descriptions as found in the New Testament
- B. All New Testament churches
- C. Some good, some not so good.
- D. Letters sent to pastors or angels

VIII. Church in Rome

- A. Paul's Epistle to the Romans
- B. Capitol of Gentile Nation
- C. Gentile church
- D. Needed creation teaching
- E. Needed teaching in respect to Israel

IX. Corinthian Church

- A. Established by Paul during second missionary journey – Acts 18:1
- B. Aquila and Priscilla
- C. Paul involved in tent-making
- D. Stayed with Justus – Acts 18:7
- E. Crispus the chief ruler of the synagogue believed – Acts 18:8
- F. Paul stayed three a year and an half – Acts 18:11
- G. Sins of the church
- H. Pride
- I. Respect of persons
- J. Spiritual superiority over others
- K. Esteeming knowledge and human wisdom
- L. Suing brothers at law
- M. Fornication
- N. Offending weaker brethren
- O. Drunkenness at the Lord's Supper
- P. Other misbehavior at the Lord's Supper
- Q. Denying resurrection
- R. Misuse of tongues
- S. Idolatry
- T. Not judging sin in the church
- U. Unequally yoked
- V. Good points
- W. Giving

X. Galatian Churches

- A. A variety if churches
- B. Acts 16:6
- C. Acts 18:23
- D. Visited during second and third missionary journeys

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- E. Iconium
- F. Antioch of Pisidia
- G. Derbe
- H. Lystra
- I. Lycaonia

XI. Ephesian Church

- A. Paul's base of operations when in Asia on his third missionary journey – Acts 19:8-10
- B. Timothy was the pastor – 2 Timothy 4:22
- C. City was a pagan worshipper of Diana – Acts 19:35
- D. Vagabond Jews, Seven sons of Sceva – Acts 19:13-16
- E. Book burning – Acts 19:17-20
- F. Silversmith Demetrius caused a riot – Acts 19:23-41
- G. Alexander the Jew tried to make a defense – Acts 19:33-34
- H. Hymenaeus and Alexander were delivered unto Satan for not holding faith
- I. A man named Alexander did Paul much evil – 2 Timothy 4:14-15
- J. Revelation 2:1 – Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;
- K. 2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:
- L. 3 And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.
- M. 4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.
- N. 5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.
- O. 6 But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.
- P. 7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

XII. Philippian Church

- A. Philippi a chief city of Macedonia – Acts 16:12
- B. A Roman Colony
- C. Lydia attended unto Paul – Acts 16:14-15
- D. Paul and Silas arrested, beaten, and imprisoned – Acts 16:16-26; 1 Thessalonians 2:2
- E. Jailer was saved – Acts 16:27-34
- F. Philippians were financially supportive of Paul – Philippians 4:15

XIII. Colossian Church

- A. Little known of this church

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- B. Near to Laodicea
- C. Established while Paul was at Ephesus
- D. Philemon 1:1 – Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy our brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer,
- E. 2 And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house:
- F. Colossians 4:9 – With Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They shall make known unto you all things which are done here.
- G. Not written to in Revelation
- H. See map below for clarity:



XIV. Thessalonian Church

- A. Jews either believed or were envious
- B. Some turned from idols to God – 1 Thessalonians 1:9
- C. They were ensamples of the believers – 1:7
- D. Paul taught them about Lord's return
- E. Dead in Christ will rise first
- F. Not to sorrow over brethren who are asleep

XV. Churches in Crete

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- A. Established by Titus – Titus 1:5
- B. Elders in Every city
- C. Titus 1:10 – For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision:
- D. 11 Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.
- E. 12 One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies.
- F. 13 This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;
- G. 14 Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.
- H. 15 Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.
- I. 16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.
- J. Paul must have visited Crete as he says he left Titus there.

XVI. Smyrna Church

- A. Revelation 2:8 – And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;
- B. 9 I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.
- C. 10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.
- D. 11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

XVII. Pergamos Church

- A. Revelation 2:12 – And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges;
- B. 13 I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.
- C. 14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.
- D. 15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.
- E. 16 Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.
- F. 17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

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XVIII. Thyatira Church

- A. Revelation 2:18 – And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass;
- B. 19 I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.
- C. 20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.
- D. 21 And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.
- E. 22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.
- F. 23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.
- G. 24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.
- H. 25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.
- I. 26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:
- J. 27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.
- K. 28 And I will give him the morning star.
- L. 29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

XIX. Sardis Church

- A. Revelation 3:1 – And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.
- B. 2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.
- C. 3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.
- D. 4 Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.
- E. 5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.
- F. 6 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

XX. Philadelphia Church

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- A. Revelation 3:7 – And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;
- B. 8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.
- C. 9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.
- D. 10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.
- E. 11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.
- F. 12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.
- G. 13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

XXI. Laodicea Church

- A. Laodicea the chiefest city of Phrygia Pacaciana. – 1 Timothy 6:22
- B. Colossians 4:15 – Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house.
- C. 16 And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.
- D. Revelation 3:14 – And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;
- E. 15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.
- F. 16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.
- G. 17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:
- H. 18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.
- I. 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.
- J. 20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.
- K. 21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.
- L. 22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

XXII. Church John wrote to in 3 John

- A. Gaius was likely the pastor
- B. Brethren testified of the truth in Gaius
- C. Given to hospitality
- D. Fellowhelpers to the truth

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- E. Diotrophes loved the preeminence
- F. Diotrophes spoke malicious words
- G. Diotrophes cast people out of the church
- H. Demetrius had a good report of all men
- I. A man named Gaius was a Macedonian (Acts 19:29)
- J. A man named Gaius was of Derbe (Acts 20:4)
- K. Gaius was Paul's host in Corinth when he wrote Romans (Romans 16:23, 28)
- L. Paul baptized Gaius in the Corinthian church (1 Corinthians 1:14)

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Lesson 21: Protection Under the Church

I. Church Binding and Loosing Authority can Protect Members

- A. A church vote has agreement in heaven with Jesus Christ.
- B. Matthew 18:15 – Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.
- C. 16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.
- D. 17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.
- E. 18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.
- F. 19 Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.
- G. 20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

II. Church Can Deliver the Disobedient unto Satan for the Destruction of the Flesh

- A. Church members enjoy some measure of defense against the devil when is good standing.
- B. Ephesians 4:27 – Neither give place to the devil.
- C. Ecclesiastes 10:8 – He that diggeth a pit shall fall into it; and whoso breaketh an hedge, a serpent shall bite him.
- D. 1 Corinthians 1:5 – To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.
- E. 6 Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?
- F. 7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:
- G. 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
- H. 9 I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators:
- I. 10 Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world.
- J. 11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.
- K. 12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?
- L. 13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.
- M. 1 Timothy 1:20 – Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.

III. Proper Leadership Keeps Members Safe from Error

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- A. Ephesians 4:11 – And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
- B. 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
- C. 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
- D. 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
- E. 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:
- F. 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

IV. Jesus Loves the Church and Protects Her from Harmful Things

- A. Ephesians 5:25 – Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;
- B. 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,
- C. 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

V. Spiritual Gifts are Found in the Church

- A. 1 Corinthians 12:28 – And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.
- B. Romans 12

VI. Supernatural Care is Found in the Church

- A. James 5:14 – Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

VII. Jesus Walks in the Midst of the Churches

- A. The presence of Jesus Christ is in the church
- B. Revelation 1:20 – The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

VIII. Reasons Why the Church Offers Protection

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- A. Church preaches and teaches truth
- B. Church offers prayer for members
- C. Church offers protection from Satan
- D. Jesus sanctifies the church
- E. Jesus washes the church by the word of God
- F. Members provoke one another unto love and good works
- G. Church abides in Jesus' love
- H. Church is the bride of Christ

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Lesson 22: Servants in the Church

I. Deacons

- A. Acts 6:1 – And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministrations.
- B. 2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.
- C. 3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.
- D. 4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.
- E. 5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:
- F. 6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.
- G. 7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.
- H. 8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.
- I. Philippians 1:1 – Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:
- J. 1 Timothy 3:8 – Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;
- K. 9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.
- L. 10 And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.
- M. 11 Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.
- N. 12 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.
- O. 13 For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

II. Servants

- A. Acts 16:17 – The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.
- B. Romans 1:1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God,
- C. Romans 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?
- D. 17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.
- E. 18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.
- F. 19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

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- G. 20 For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.
- H. 22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.
- I. Romans 14:4 Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.
- J. Romans 16:1 I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea:
- K. 2 Corinthians 4:5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.
- L. Galatians 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.
- M. Philippians 1:1 Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:
- N. Philippians 2:7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:
- O. Colossians 1:7 As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ;
- P. Colossians 4:7 All my state shall Tychicus declare unto you, who is a beloved brother, and a faithful minister and fellowservant in the Lord:
- Q. 2 Timothy 2:24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,
- R. James 1:1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.
- S. 2 Peter 1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:
- T. Jude 1:1 Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:
- U. Revelation 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:
- V. Revelation 6:11 And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.
- W. Revelation 19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.
- X. Revelation 22:9 Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

III. Helpers

- A. 2 Corinthians 8:23 Whether any do inquire of Titus, he is my partner and fellowhelper concerning you: or our brethren be inquired of, they are the messengers of the churches, and the glory of Christ.
- B. Romans 16:3 Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus:
- C. 9 Salute Urbane, our helper in Christ, and Stachys my beloved.
- D. 3 John 1:8 We therefore ought to receive such, that we might be fellowhelpers to the truth.

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IV. Workers

- A. Colossians 4:11 And Jesus, which is called Justus, who are of the circumcision. These only are my fellowworkers unto the kingdom of God, which have been a comfort unto me.
- B. 2 Corinthians 6:1 We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.

V. Soldiers

- A. 2 Timothy 2:3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.
- B. 4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.
- C. Philippians 2:25 Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants.
- D. Philemon 1:2 And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house:

VI. Laborers

- A. 1 Corinthians 3:9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.
- B. Laborers
- C. Philippians 4:3 And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life.
- D. 1 Thessalonians 3:2 And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:
- E. 1 Timothy 5:18 For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.
- F. 1 Thessalonians 3:2 And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:
- G. Philemon 1:1 Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy our brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer,
- H. 24 Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellowlabourers.

VII. Messengers

- A. Paul and company served in inter-church service delivering aid and messages (scripture).

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- B. Philippians 2:25 – Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants.

VIII. Prisoners

- A. Ephesians 3:1 For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles,
- B. Ephesians 4:1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,
- C. Colossians 4:10 Aristarchus my fellowprisoner saluteth you, and Marcus, sister's son to Barnabas, (touching whom ye received commandments: if he come unto you, receive him;)
- D. 2 Timothy 1:8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;
- E. Philemon 1:1 Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy our brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer,
- F. 9 Yet for love's sake I rather beseech thee, being such an one as Paul the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ.
- G. Philemon 1:23 There salute thee Epaphras, my fellowprisoner in Christ Jesus;

IX. Apostles (in Acts)

- A. Acts 1:2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:
- B. Acts 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.
- C. 43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.
- D. Acts 4:33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.
- E. 35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.
- F. Acts 5:12 And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch.
- G. 29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.
- H. Acts 6:6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.
- I. Acts 8:1 And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.
- J. 14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:
- K. 18 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,
- L. Acts 9:27 But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

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- M. Acts 15:2 When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.
- N. 4 And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.
- O. 6 And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter.
- P. 22 Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren:
- Q. Acts 16:4 And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem.

X. Apostles (in Epistles)

- A. Romans 1:1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God,
- B. 5 By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name:
- C. Romans 11:13 For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office:
- D. Romans 16:7 Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellowprisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.
- E. 1 Corinthians 1:1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother,
- F. 1 Corinthians 4:9 For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men.
- G. 1 Corinthians 9:1 Am I not an apostle? am I not free? have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? are not ye my work in the Lord?
- H. 2 If I be not an apostle unto others, yet doubtless I am to you: for the seal of mine apostleship are ye in the Lord.
- I. 5 Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas?
- J. 1 Corinthians 12:28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.
- K. 29 Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles?
- L. 1 Corinthians 15:7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.
- M. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.
- N. 2 Corinthians 11:5 For I suppose I was not a whit behind the very chiefest apostles.
- O. 13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.
- P. 2 Corinthians 12:11 I am become a fool in glorying; ye have compelled me: for I ought to have been commended of you: for in nothing am I behind the very chiefest apostles, though I be nothing.
- Q. 12 Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.

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- R. Galatians 1:1 Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)
- S. Galatians 2:8 (For he that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles:)
- T. Ephesians 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:
- U. Ephesians 2:20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;
- V. Ephesians 3:5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;
- W. Ephesians 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
- X. 1 Thessalonians 2:6 Nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others, when we might have been burdensome, as the apostles of Christ.

XI. Apostles (in Pastoral Epistles)

- A. 1 Timothy 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope;
- B. 1 Timothy 2:7 Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.
- C. 2 Timothy 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus,
- D. 11 Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.
- E. Titus 1:1 Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness;
- F. Hebrews 3:1 Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;
- G. 1 Peter 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,
- H. 2 Peter 1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:
- I. 2 Peter 3:2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:
- J. Jude 1:17 But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ;
- K. Revelation 2:2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:

XII. Pastors

- A. Ephesians 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
- B. Matthew 9:36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

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- C. Matthew 25:32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:
- D. Matthew 26:31 Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad.
- E. Mark.6:34 And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.
- F. Mark.14:27 And Jesus saith unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered.
- G. John 10:2 But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.
- H. 11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.
- I. 12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.
- J. 14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.
- K. 16 And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.
- L. Hebrews 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,
- M. 1 Peter 2:25 For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.
- N. 1 Peter 5:4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

XIII. Bishops

- A. Acts 1:20 For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take.
- B. Philippians 1:1 Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:
- C. 1 Timothy 3:1 This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.
- D. 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;
- E. Titus 1:7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;
- F. 1 Peter 2:25 For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

XIV. Overseers

- A. Acts 20:28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

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XV. Elders

- A. 1 Timothy 5:1 Rebuke not an elder, but intreat him as a father; and the younger men as brethren;
- B. 2 The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity.
- C. 17 Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.
- D. 19 Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.
- E. Titus 1:5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:
- F. Hebrews 11:2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.
- G. James 5:14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:
- H. 1 Peter 5:1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:
- I. 5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.
- J. 2 John 1:1 The elder unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth; and not I only, but also all they that have known the truth;
- K. 3 John 1:1 The elder unto the wellbeloved Gaius, whom I love in the truth.

XVI. Teachers

- A. John 3:2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.
- B. Acts 13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.
- C. 1 Corinthians 12:28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.
- D. 29 Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles?
- E. Ephesians 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
- F. 1 Timothy 1:7 Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm.
- G. 1 Timothy 2:7 Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.
- H. 2 Timothy 1:11 Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.
- I. 2 Timothy 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;
- J. Titus 2:3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;
- K. Hebrews 5:12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

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XVII. False and Deceitful Workers

- A. Matthew 7:15 – Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves
- B. Philippians 3:2 – Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision.
- C. Matthew 24:11 – And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.
- D. 24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.
- E. Acts 20:28 – Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.
- F. 29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.
- G. 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.
- H. 31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.
- I. 2 Corinthians 11:13 – For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.
- J. 26 In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;
- K. Galatians 2:4 – And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage:
- L. 2 Peter 2:1 – But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.
- M. 1 John 4:1 – Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.
- N. 2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:
- O. 3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.
- P. 2 John 1:6 – And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.
- Q. 7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.
- R. 8 Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.
- S. 9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.
- T. 10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:
- U. 11 For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.

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Lesson 23: Proper Behavior in the Church

I. Prayer

- A. God's house is a house of prayer
- B. Matthew 21:13 – And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.
- C. Mark 11:17 – And he taught, saying unto them, Is it not written, My house shall be called of all nations the house of prayer? but ye have made it a den of thieves.
- D. Luke 19:46 – Saying unto them, It is written, My house is the house of prayer: but ye have made it a den of thieves.
- E. 1 Timothy 3:15 – But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.
- F. Colossians 1:12 – Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:
- G. Colossians 3:17 – And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.
- H. 1 Timothy 2:1 – I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;

II. Provoke unto Love and Good Works

- A. Hebrews 10:22 – Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.
- B. 23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)
- C. 24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:
- D. 25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

III. Gospel Peaching

- A. Acts 8:25 – And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.
- B. Acts 14:7 – And there they preached the gospel.
- C. 21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,
- D. Acts 15:7 – And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe.
- E. Acts 16:10 – And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

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IV. Soul-Winning

- A. Matthew 4:19 – And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.
- B. Mark 1:17 – And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.
- C. John 4:35 – Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.
- D. Proverbs 11:30 – The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.

V. Teaching

- A. Acts 15:35 – Paul also and Barnabas continued in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.
- B. Colossians 3:16 – Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

VI. Preaching

- A. Acts 15:35 – Paul also and Barnabas continued in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.
- B. 1 Corinthians 2:4 – And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:
- C. Titus 1:3 – But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;

VII. Worship and Praise

- A. John 4:20 – Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.
- B. 21 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.
- C. 22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.
- D. 23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.
- E. 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.
- F. Philippians 4:8 – Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.
- G. Hebrews 2:12 – Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.
- H. Hebrews 13:15 – By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

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VIII. Giving

- A. Philippians 4:15 – Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.
- B. 1 Corinthians 16:1 – Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye.
- C. 2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.
- D. 3 And when I come, whomsoever ye shall approve by your letters, them will I send to bring your liberality unto Jerusalem.

IX. Fellowship

- A. Acts 2:42 – And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.
- B. 2 Corinthians 8:4 – Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.
- C. Galatians 2:9 – And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.
- D. Philippians 1:5 – For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;

X. Baptism

- A. Acts 1:5 – For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.
- B. 22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.
- C. Acts 2:38 – Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
- D. 41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.
- E. 1 Corinthians 12:13 – For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.
- F. Galatians 3:27 – For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
- G. Ephesians 4:5 – One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
- H. Colossians 2:12 – Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.
- I. Hebrews 6:2 – Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.
- J. 1 Peter 3:21 – The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

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XI. Lord's Supper

- A. 1 Corinthians 11:20 – When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper.

XII. Three-fold Purpose for Leaders

- A. Ephesians 4:11 – And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
- B. 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
- C. 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
- D. 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
- E. 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:
- F. 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

XIII. Works of the Ministry

- A. Evangelism
- B. Visitation – sick, prison, needy, elderly
- C. New believers
- D. Children
- E. Couples
- F. Widows
- G. Orphans

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Lesson 24: The Head of the Church

I. Jesus is the Head of the Church

- A. Jesus is the Head
- B. Churches to be Autonomous
- C. Self-ruling
- D. Independent
- E. As the husband is the head of the wife
- F. Ephesians 5:22 – Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.
- G. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.
- H. 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

II. The Church is Jesus' Body

- A. His body means the body is the possession of Christ
- B. Woman does not have power over own body, but the husband

III. Jesus Loves the Church

- A. Gave himself for it
- B. Washed us from our sine in his own blood
- C. Made us kings and priests unto God
- D. Ephesians 5:25 – Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

IV. Jesus Gave Himself for the Church

- A. Ephesians 5:25 – Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

V. Jesus Washes and Cleanses the Church

- A. Ephesians 5:26 – That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,
- B. 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.
- C. 28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

VI. Jesus Nourishes and Cherishes the Church

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- A. Jesus takes care of his church's needs
- B. Jesus leads his lambs
- C. Jesus feeds his lambs
- D. Psalm 23
- E. John 10:1-18; 26-30
- F. Ephesians 5:29 – For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:
- G. 30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.
- H. 31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.
- I. 32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.
- J. 33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

VII. Churches to Maintain Independence

- A. Any group or person over the church inserts itself between Jesus and his church.
- B. It is like a man telling another man's wife what to do.
- C. Jesus resents it.
- D. The church should resent it.
- E. No boards, conventions, associations, fellowships, etc. to have authority over a Baptist church.

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Lesson 25: Church Discipline

I. Jesus' Instruction

- A. In respect to offences
- B. Matthew 18
- C. Two or three gathered
- D. Bound on earth and in heaven
- E. Disobedient to be as a heathen man
- F. Revelation 3:19 – As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

II. Holy Ghost Judgment

- A. Acts 5 – Ananias and Sapphira
- B. Conspiracy
- C. Lie to the Holy Ghost
- D. Death for both

III. Apostles

- A. Acts 8 – Simon the Sorcerer
- B. Neither part in this matter
- C. Heart no right with God
- D. Repent
- E. 1 Timothy 1:18 – This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare;
- F. 19 Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:
- G. 20 Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.

IV. Church Judgment in Respect to Sin in the Church

- A. 1 Corinthians 5:1 – It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife.
- B. 2 And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.
- C. 3 For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed,
- D. 4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- E. 5 To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.
- F. 6 Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?

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- G. 7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:
 - H. 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
 - I. 9 I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators:
 - J. 10 Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world.
 - K. 11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.
 - L. 12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?
 - M. 13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.
- V. **Least Esteemed in the Church to Judge Civil Matters**
- A. 1 Corinthians 6:1 – Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints?
 - B. 2 Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters?
 - C. 3 Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?
 - D. 4 If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life, set them to judge who are least esteemed in the church.
 - E. 5 I speak to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren?
 - F. 6 But brother goeth to law with brother, and that before the unbelievers.
 - G. 7 Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because ye go to law one with another. Why do ye not rather take wrong? why do ye not rather suffer yourselves to be defrauded?
 - H. 8 Nay, ye do wrong, and defraud, and that your brethren.
- VI. **Self-Judgment**
- A. Always at the Lord's Supper
 - B. 1 Corinthians 12
 - C. Examine himself
 - D. Unworthily
 - E. Sick
 - F. Weak
 - G. Sleep
 - H. Chastened by the Lord
- VII. **Multiple Churches**
- A. Galatians 5:12
 - B. Cut off

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- C. Troublers in the churches
- D. Teachers of false doctrine

VIII. Restoration

- A. Galatians 6:1 – Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.
- B. 2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.
- C. 3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.
- D. 4 But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.

IX. In Respect to Work

- A. 2 Thessalonians 3:10 – For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.
- B. Galatians 3:3 – For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.
- C. 4 But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.
- D. 5 For every man shall bear his own burden.
- E. 6 Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things.
- F. 7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.
- G. 8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.
- H. 9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.
- I. 10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.
- J. 1 Thessalonians 5:21 – Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

X. Accusations

- A. 1 Timothy 5:19 – Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.
- B. Titus 1:6 – If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.
- C. 1 Peter 3:16 – Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.
- D. Matthew 18:16 – But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.
- E. 20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.
- F. John 2:6 – And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece.
- G. 1 Corinthians 14:29 – Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge.

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- H. 2 Corinthians 13:1 – This is the third time I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established.
- I. 1 Timothy 5:19 – Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.
- J. 20 Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.
- K. Hebrews 10:28 – He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:
- L. Them that sin rebuke before all that others may fear

XI. God's Chastening of Individual Believers

- A. Hebrews 12:4 – Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.
- B. 5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:
- C. 6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.
- D. 7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?
- E. 8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.
- F. 9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?
- G. 10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.
- H. 11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.
- I. 12 Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees;
- J. 13 And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed.
- K. 14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:
- L. 15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;
- M. 16 Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.
- N. 1 Corinthians 11:29 – For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.
- O. 30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.
- P. 31 For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.
- Q. 32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

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Lesson 26: Analysis of the Church Epistles and Problems in the Churches

I. Church in Rome

- A. Gentiles and pagans
- B. Romans had no history with the true God
- C. Needed instruction of the basics:
- D. Chapter 1 – Creation of God
- E. Chapter 2 – Conscience of Men
- F. Chapter 3 – Commandments of God
- G. Chapter 4 – Christ Righteousness by Faith
- H. Chapter 5 – Condemnation from Adam
- I. Chapter 6 – Not Continuing in Sin
- J. Chapter 7 – Commandment of the Law brings Death
- K. Chapter 8 – No Condemnation to the Saved
- L. Chapter 9 – Children of the Promise and Children of God
- M. Chapter 10 – Calling upon the Lord to be Saved
- N. Chapter 11 – Calling of God
- O. Chapter 12 – Not Conformed to this World
- P. Chapter 13 – Commitment to the Powers that Be
- Q. Chapter 14 – Not Condemning Others
- R. Chapter 15 – Concluding Remarks
- S. Chapter 16 – Commendations
- T. 1 Peter 5:13

II. Church in Corinth

- A. Pride
- B. Respect of persons
- C. Carnality
- D. Fornication
- E. Fraud
- F. Lack of charity
- G. Stumbling brother
- H. Abuse of the Lord's Supper
- I. Abuse of tongues
- J. False teaching – no resurrection

III. Churches in Galatia

- A. False gospel
- B. False doctrine
- C. Circumcision
- D. Saved no longer under the law
- E. Stand fast in the liberty of Christ
- F. Works of the flesh

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G. Fruit of the Spirit

IV. Church in Ephesus

- A. Timothy was bishop
- B. Sealed with the Holy Spirit
- C. By grace ye are saved
- D. Unity of the Spirit
- E. Husbands and wives
- F. Armor of God
- G. Two epistles to Timothy written

V. Church in Philippi

- A. Rejoicing in Christ
- B. Having the mind of Christ
- C. No confidence in the flesh
- D. Service to God's work

VI. Church in Colossae

- A. Small and little-known church
- B. Philemon was bishop
- C. Church of Onesimus
- D. Beware of philosophy and worldly teachings
- E. Complete in Christ
- F. Do all in the name of the Lord
- G. Speech always with grace

VII. Church in Thessalonica

- A. Followers of Christ
- B. Ensamples of believers
- C. Word of God sounded out from them
- D. They received the word of God
- E. Revelation of being caught up
- F. Not to sleep
- G. Revealing of the Wicked
- H. Not walk disorderly

VIII. Churches in Crete

- A. Titus 1:5 – For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:

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- B. 10 For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision:
- C. 11 Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.
- D. 12 One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies.
- E. 13 This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;
- F. 14 Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.
- G. 3:12 – When I shall send Artemas unto thee, or Tychicus, be diligent to come unto me to Nicopolis: for I have determined there to winter.

IX. Church John wrote to in 3 John

- A. Gaius was likely the pastor
- B. Brethren testified of the truth in Gaius
- C. Given to hospitality
- D. Fellowhelpers to the truth
- E. Diotrophes loved the preeminence
- F. Diotrophes spoke malicious words
- G. Diotrophes cast people out of the church
- H. Demetrius had a good report of all men
- I. A man named Gaius was a Macedonian (Acts 19:29)
- J. A man named Gaius was of Derbe (Acts 20:4)
- K. Gaius was Paul's host in Corinth when he wrote Romans (Romans 16:23, 28)
- L. Paul baptized Gaius in the Corinthian church (1 Corinthians 1:14)

X. Churches in Revelation

- A. Churches Represent
- B. Actual local churches with pastors (angels)
- C. Churches periods over the last two thousand years
- D. Types of churches today
- E. See Lesson 30

XI. Ephesus

- A. See Point IV. above
- B. Revelation 2:1-7

XII. Smyrna Church

- A. Revelation 2:8-11

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XIII. Pergamos Church

A. Revelation 2:12-17

XIV. Thyatira Church

A. Revelation 2:18-29

XV. Sardis Church

A. Revelation 3:1-6

XVI. Philadelphia Church

A. Revelation 3:7-13

XVII. Laodicea Church

A. Laodicea the chiefest city of Phrygia Pacaciana. – 1 Timothy 6:22

B. Colossians 4:15 – Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house.

C. 16 And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.

D. Revelation 3:14-22

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Lesson 27: Requirements for Apostles

I. Chosen by Jesus Christ

- A. Luke 6:13 – And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;
- B. John 6: 70 – Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?

II. Baptism of John

- A. Acts 1:20 For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take.
- B. 21 Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,
- C. 22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.

III. Witnessed the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

- A. Acts 1:1 – The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,
- B. 2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:
- C. 3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:
- D. 4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.
- E. Acts 1:20 For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take.
- F. 21 Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,
- G. 22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection. 1Cor.15
- H. 1 Corinthians 15:1 – Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;
- I. 2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.
- J. 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;
- K. 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:
- L. 5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:
- M. 6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.
- N. 7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.
- O. 8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

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- P. 1 Corinthians 9:1 Am I not an apostle? am I not free? have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? are not ye my work in the Lord?

IV. Signs of an Apostle

- A. Matthew 10:7 – And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.
- B. 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.
- C. Luke.6:13 – And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;
- D. Mark 16:17 – And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;
- E. 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.
- F. 2 Corinthians 12:12 – Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.

V. Paul, Born Out of Due Time

- A. 1 Corinthians 15:8 – And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.
- B. Paul saw the resurrected Christ
- C. Ephesians 3:3 – How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,
- D. Galatians 1:12 – For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.
- E. Romans 15:18 – For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought by me, to make the Gentiles obedient, by word and deed,
- F. 19 Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.

VI. Paul's Testimony of Being an Apostle

- A. *By Jesus Christ and God the Father* – Galatians 1:1 – Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)
- B. *An apostle to the Gentiles* – Galatians 2:8 – (For he that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles:)
9 And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.
- C. *By the will of God* – Ephesians 1:1 – Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus: 2 Timothy 1:1 – Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus,
- D. 2 Timothy 1:1 – Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus,

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- E. With revelation by the Spirit – Ephesians 3:5 – Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;
- F. 2 Corinthians 12:1 – It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord.
- G. 2 I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.
- H. 3 And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;)
- I. 4 How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.
- J. By the commandment of God 1 Timothy 1:1 – Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope;
- K. Ordained an apostle – 1 Timothy 2:7 – Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.
- L. Appointed – 2 Timothy 1:11 – Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.

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Lesson 28: Requirements for a Bishop

I. Timothy

- A. 1 Timothy 3:1 – This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.
- B. 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;
- C. 3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;
- D. 4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;
- E. 5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)
- F. 6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.
- G. 7 Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.
- H. 1 Timothy 5:17 – Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

II. Titus

- A. Titus 1:5 – For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:
- B. 6 If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.
- C. 7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;
- D. 8 But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;
- E. 9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

III. Peter

- A. 1 Peter 5:1 – The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:
- B. 2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
- C. 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.
- D. 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

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Lesson 29: Requirements for a Deacon

I. Timothy

- A. 1 Timothy 3:8 Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;
- B. 9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.
- C. 10 And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.
- D. 11 Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.
- E. 12 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.
- F. 13 For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

II. Luke

- A. Acts 6:1 – And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.
- B. 2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.
- C. 3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.
- D. 4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.
- E. 5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:
- F. 6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.
- G. 7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.
- H. 8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

III. Acts

- A. Acts 6:1 – And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.
- B. 2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.
- C. 3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.
- D. 4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

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- E. 5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:
- F. 6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

IV. Philippians

- A. Philippians 1:1 – Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

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Lesson 30: Lord's Messages to the 7 Angels in Revelation 2-3

I. From One Church to Many Churches

- A. Jesus built Jerusalem church in Matthew 16 through 18.
- B. That church divided and multiplied through the book of Acts.
- C. There are over 40 churches mentioned in the New Testament

II. The Angels are the Pastors

- A. Called stars
- B. Revelation 1:20 – The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.
- C. Revelation 22:8 – And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things.
- D. 9 Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.
- E. Acts.6:15 – And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.
- F. Hebrews 13:2 – Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

III. Meaning of the Names of the Churches

- A. Ephesus (“desirable”) – Meaning provided by *Hitchcock's New and Complete Analysis of the Holy Bible* (published in the late 1800s).
- B. Smyrna (“myrrh”) – from the Greek word *smurna*, meaning myrrh.
- C. Pergamum (“married”) – from the Greek word *pergamos*, which is a combination of two Greek words: *pergos* and *gamos*. These words combine to mean either “citadel” or “united by marriage.”
- D. Thyatira (“sacrifice”) – a Greek word meaning “the castle of Thya.” An alternative meaning of “sacrifice offering” was suggested by *Hitchcock's New and Complete Analysis of the Holy Bible* and by Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum in his book “Footsteps of the Messiah.”
- E. Sardis (“escaping”) – Three meanings have been proposed: “prince of joy,” “that which remains,” and “those escaping.” We relied on Dr. Fruchtenbaum's scholarship which supports “escaping.”
- F. Philadelphia (“brotherly love”) – From the Greek word *philadelphos*, meaning “brotherly love.”
- G. Laodicia (“people ruling”) – From the Greek word *laodikeia*, which is a combination of two Greek words: *laos* (meaning peoples) and *dike* (meaning justice or judgment).

IV. Churches in Asia Minor

- A. Actual churches in Asia Minor, within a 100-mile radius of one another

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- B. Churches established by Paul during third missionary journey
- C. Timothy was the bishop of Ephesus
- D. Letter was sent to the angels (pastors). Note use of the singular pronouns.
- E. Messages for all, those who have an ear.
- F. The seven churches represent the following:
 - a. Actual local churches with pastors (angels)
 - b. Churches periods over the last two thousand years
 - c. Types of churches today

V. Ephesus

- A. Revelation 2:1 – Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;
- B. 2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:
- C. 3 And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.
- D. 4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.
- E. 5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.
- F. 6 But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.
- G. 7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

VI. Smyrna Church

- A. Revelation 2:8 – And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;
- B. 9 I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.
- C. 10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.
- D. 11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

VII. Pergamos Church

- A. Revelation 2:12 – And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges;

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- B. 13 I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.
- C. 14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.
- D. 15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.
- E. 16 Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.
- F. 17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

VIII. Thyatira Church

- A. Revelation 2:18 – And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass;
- B. 19 I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.
- C. 20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.
- D. 21 And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.
- E. 22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.
- F. 23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.
- G. 24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.
- H. 25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.
- I. 26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:
- J. 27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.
- K. 28 And I will give him the morning star.
- L. 29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

IX. Sardis Church

- A. Revelation 3:1 – And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.
- B. 2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.

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- C. 3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.
- D. 4 Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.
- E. 5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.
- F. 6 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

X. Philadelphia Church

- A. Revelation 3:7 – And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;
- B. 8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.
- C. 9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.
- D. 10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.
- E. 11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.
- F. 12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.
- G. 13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

XI. Laodicea Church

- A. Laodicea the chiefest city of Phrygia Pacaciana. – 1 Timothy 6:22
- B. Colossians 4:15 – Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house.
- C. 16 And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.
- D. Revelation 3:14 – And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;
- E. 15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.
- F. 16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.
- G. 17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:
- H. 18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.
- I. 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

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- J. 20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.
- K. 21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.
- L. 22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

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Lesson 31: The Church is the Pillar and Ground of the Truth

I. The Church is the House of God

- A. 1 Timothy 3:14 – These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly:
- B. 15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

II. The Church is the Authority for Truth

- A. John 17:17
- B. The gospel – Galatians 1
- C. Ephesians 4:11 – And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
- D. 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
- E. 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
- F. 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
- G. 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:
- H. 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

III. The Church is the Authority for Teaching

- A. Matthew 28:18-20
- B. Acts 5:25 – Then came one and told them, saying, Behold, the men whom ye put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people.
- C. 28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.
- D. 42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.
- E. Acts 13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.
- F. Acts 15:35 – Paul also and Barnabas continued in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.
- G. Acts.18:11 – And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

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IV. The Church is the Authority for Baptism

- A. Matthew 28:18-20
- B. Acts 2
- C. Acts 10
- D. Acts 19

V. The Church is the Authority for Communion

- A. 1 Corinthians 12
- B. Luke.22:19 And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.

VI. The Church is the Authority of Ordination

- A. Acts 13:1-3
- B. Acts 6:1-6
- C. 1 Timothy 4:14

VII. The Church is the Authority for Missions

- A. Matthew 28:18-20
- B. Acts 1:8
- C. Acts 13;1-3

VIII. The Church is the Authority for the Work of Christ

- A. Evangelism
- B. Ministry
- C. Judgment

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Lesson 32: Safeguarding the Scriptures

I. The New Testament Church is the Authority to Teach Doctrine

- A. Matthew 28:18-20

II. The New Testament is the Word Used in Church Services

- A. Washing of Water by the Word
- B. Ephesians 5:26
- C. 2 Timothy 4:1-2 – Preach the word

III. The New Testament is Written to and Delivered to Churches

- A. All 27 books of the New Testament
- B. Gospels
- C. Acts of the Apostles shows church work
- D. Church Epistles
- E. Pastoral Epistles
- F. General Epistles
- G. Personal Epistles
- H. Revelation

IV. The New Testament is Kept, Preserved, and Multiplied by the Churches until Now

- A. John 15:10 – If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.
- B. 20 Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.
- C. 2 Corinthians 11:9 – And when I was present with you, and wanted, I was chargeable to no man: for that which was lacking to me the brethren which came from Macedonia supplied: and in all things I have kept myself from being burdensome unto you, and so will I keep myself.
- D. Revelation 3:8 – I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.
- E. 2 Corinthians 2:17 – For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.
- F. Revelation 22:19 – And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

V. By the Scriptures the Gospel is Make Known

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- A. Romans 16:25-26
- B. Translation for the Nations
- C. Translate from the original tongue – Greek
- D. Do not translate from a from a translation
- E. Greek to New Language is the Shortest and most direct path
- F. Practice of the church
- G. Not add to or take away
- H. More accurate
- I. Textus Receptus – basis for New Testament
- J. Masoretic Text – basis for Old Testament

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33: Church Work of Benevolence

I. Jesus' Doctrine

- A. Give and it shall be given you
- B. Gospel first
- C. Jesus Fed the Five Thousand
- D. Invite the Blind and Maimed to Feast
- E. I was an Hungred and Ye Fed Me
- F. Jesus Became Poor so We can be Made Rich

II. Church's Example

- A. Poor Saints ministered to
- B. Collection for the saints
- C. Widows daily ministration
- D. Philippians church once and again
- E. No other church communicated
- F. 2 Corinthians 8 and 9
- G. God Loves a Cheerful Giver

III. Practical and Personal Observations

- A. Charity Begins at Home – closest outward
- B. Do not use God's Money for Lost People's Causes
- C. Church sets aside money for benevolent causes
- D. All giving done on a case by case basis

IV. Pastor to be a Righteous Administer of God's Money

- A. 1 Timothy 3:5 – (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)
- B. 1 Timothy 5:8 -- But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.
- C. 1 Corinthians 13:3 – And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.
- D. Leader as administrator of funds – 2 Corinthians 9:12 – For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God;

V. People Give to Church for God's Work

- A. God-honoring causes
- B. Support of the preacher

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- C. Support of the church
- D. Evangelism
- E. Scriptures

VI. Church Financials

- A. Tithes
- B. Offerings
- C. Alms
- D. Missions
- E. Special fund raisers for special causes

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Lesson 34: Duties to Widows

I. Jesus Condemns Ill Treatment of Widows

- A. Matthew 23:14 – Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.
- B. Mark 12:40 – Which devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayers: these shall receive greater damnation.

II. Jerusalem Church Elected Deacons to Minister to Widows

- A. Acts 6:1 – And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.

III. Permissible for Widows to Marry

- A. 1 Corinthians 7:6 – But I speak this by permission, and not of commandment.
- B. 7 For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that.
- C. 8 I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I.
- D. 9 But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn.

IV. Honor Widows Indeed

- A. 1 Timothy 5:3 – Honour widows that are widows indeed.
- B. 4 But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God.
- C. 5 Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day.
- D. 6 But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.
- E. 7 And these things give in charge, that they may be blameless.
- F. 8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.
- G. 9 Let not a widow be taken into the number under threescore years old, having been the wife of one man,
- H. 10 Well reported of for good works; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work.
- I. 11 But the younger widows refuse: for when they have begun to wax wanton against Christ, they will marry;
- J. 12 Having damnation, because they have cast off their first faith.
- K. 13 And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not.

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- L. 14 I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.
- M. 15 For some are already turned aside after Satan.
- N. 16 If any man or woman that believeth have widows, let them relieve them, and let not the church be charged; that it may relieve them that are widows indeed.

V. **Pure Religion**

- A. James 1:27 – Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

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Lesson 35: 111 Verses Using “church”

I. See Appendix 1

- A. Complete list of verses given

II. Non-New Testament Church Usage

- A. 3 times referring to other than Jesus’ church:
 - Hebrews 2:12 – quoting Psalm 22:22 – Jewish congregation
 - Acts 7:38 – church in the wilderness – Jewish congregation
 - Acts 19:37 – robbers of churches, referring to religious temples

III. Breakdown of Usage

- A. 114 times the word church is used in the KJV
- B. 111 verses use the word church
- C. Matthew 18:17, 1 Corinthians 16:19 and Revelation 1:20 use the word twice.
- D. 111 in respect to Jesus’ church
- E. 3 times referring to self, robbers of churches, and she
- F. Of the 114 times the word *church* is used, here is the breakdown of the Greek root words used:

<i>Ekklesia</i>	111	Translated <i>church</i>
<i>Auto</i>	1	Acts 2:47 – self
<i>Ierosulous</i>	1	Acts 19:37 – <i>robbers of churches</i>
<i>Italics</i>	1	1 Peter 5:13 – <i>she</i>
-----	-----	-----
Total	114	

- G. 99 times the word church is used it is *obviously* a local congregation – see Appendix.
- H. 111 times out of 114 times (97%) God used the root word *Ekklesia* for the word *church*, always referring to a local assembly, and including the words used in Ephesians and Colossians. This shows a consistency in meaning.
- I. There are only 12 verses that use the word church that people can use to try to teach a universal invisible church.
- J. Matthew 16 – Jesus is building his church
- K. Matthew 18 – Jesus says to “tell it unto the church” so it must be built
- L. Revelation chapters 2 -3 – Jesus sends messages to seven churches. Jesus knew his church would multiply into other churches.

IV. Usage – Churches, Etc.

- A. Churches – 37 times the plural is used
- B. Church that – 4 times
- C. Church which – 4 times
- D. Church of God – 8 times

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- E. Church of – 7 times
- F. Church in – 7 times
- G. Every church – 2 times
- H. Church unto – 1 time
- I. No church – 1 time
- J. Church be – 2 times

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Lesson 36: The Invincibility of the Church

I. The Gates of Hell Cannot Prevail Against the Church

- A. Matthew 16:18
- B. Church can enter through and save souls from hell
- C. Gates are not strong enough to withstand the gospel
- D. The gospel is the power of God unto salvation – Romans 1:16

II. The Church is Built upon the Rock Jesus

- A. Matthew 7:24 – Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:
- B. 25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.
- C. Luke 6:48 – He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock.
- D. Romans 9:33 – As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.
- E. 1 Corinthians 10:4 – And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.
- F. 1 Peter 2:8 – And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

III. The Church Endures All Persecution

- A. Matthew 5:10 – Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- B. 11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
- C. 12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.
- D. 44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;
- E. Acts 8:1 – And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.
- F. Acts 9:4 – And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?
- G. 5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.
- H. Acts 11:19 – Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only.

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- I. Romans 8:35 – Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?
- J. Romans 12:14 – Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.
- K. 1 Corinthians 4:12 – And labour, working with our own hands: being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we suffer it:
- L. 2 Corinthians 4:9 – Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;
- M. 2 Corinthians 12:10 – Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.
- N. 2 Thessalonians 1:4 – So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure:
- O. 2 Timothy 3:11 – Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.
- P. 12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

IV. **The Church Survives Martyrdom**

- A. Acts 22:20 – And when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by, and consenting unto his death, and kept the raiment of them that slew him.
- B. Revelation 2:13 – I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.

V. **The Church Withstands the Wolves from Within – Acts 20**

- A. Matthew 7:15 – Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.
- B. Matthew 10:16 – Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.
- C. Luke 10:3 – Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves.
- D. Acts 20:29 – For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

VI. **The Church Overcomes Error and False Doctrine**

- A. Judaizers
- B. False apostles
- C. False gospel
- D. Another spirit
- E. False brethren crept in unawares
- F. Corruption of the word of God
- G. Nicolaitan
- H. Jezebel

VII. **The Church Overcomes Apostasy**

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- A. Luke 8:13 – They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away.
- B. Hebrews 6:6 – If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.
- C. Luke 15:7 – I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.
- D. 10 Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.
- E. 2 Timothy 4:10 – For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.
- F. 2 Peter 2:15 – Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;
- G. 2 Peter 2:22 – But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

VIII. The Church is Not Hindered by Poverty

- A. 2 Corinthians 8:2 – How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality.
- B. 9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.
- C. Revelation 2:9 – I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.

IX. The Church Knows the Threat of Wealth

- A. Luke 12:15 – And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.
- B. 16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:
- C. 17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?
- D. 18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.
- E. 19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.
- F. 20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?
- G. 21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.
- H. 1 Timothy 6:9 – But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.
- I. 17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;
- J. 18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;

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X. The Church Knows Not to Sleep

- A. Romans 13:11 – And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.
- B. Ephesians 5:14 – Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.
- C. 1 Thessalonians 5:6 -- Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.
- D. 7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.
- E. 10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

XI. The Church Understands the Danger of Comfort

- A. Revelation 3: 15 – I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.
- B. 16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

XII. The Church Shuns Marriage to the World

- A. Pergamum means “married.” Some churches are untied with the world.
- B. Pergamos church had these issues:
- C. In Satan’s seat
- D. Martyrdom of a member
- E. Doctrine of Balaam
- F. Nicolaitan doctrine
- G. The angel still held fast esus’ name
- H. Revelation 2:12 – And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges;
- I. 13 I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.
- J. 14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.
- K. 15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.
- L. 16 Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.
- M. 17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

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Lesson 37: The Church is a Place of Fellowship and Love

I. The Church is a Place of Fellowship

- A. Acts 2:42 – And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.
- B. 1 Corinthians 1:9 – God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C. 2 Corinthians 8:4 – Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.
- D. Galatians 2:9 – And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.
- E. Philippians 1:5 – For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;
- F. Philippians 2:1 – If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,
- G. Philippians 3:10 – That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;
- H. 1 John.1:3 – That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.
- I. 6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:
- J. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

II. The Church is a Place of Love

- A. John 13:34 – A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.
- B. 35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.
- C. John 14:15 – If ye love me, keep my commandments.
- D. 21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.
- E. 23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.
- F. 24 He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.
- G. 28 Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.
- H. 31 But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence.
- I. John 15:9 – As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.
- J. 10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.
- K. 12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

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- L. 13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.
- M. 17 These things I command you, that ye love one another.
- N. 19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.
- O. John 16:27 – For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.
- P. John 17:23 – I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.
- Q. 24 Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.
- R. 26 And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.
- S. Romans 12:10 – Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;
- T. Romans 13:8 – Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.
- U. 9 For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.
- V. 10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.
- W. Ephesians 5:2 – And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.
- X. 1 Thessalonians 4:9 – But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another.
- Y. Hebrews 10:24 – And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:
- Z. 1 John 4:7 – Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

III. The Church is a Place of Safety

- A. Matthew 18:6 – But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.
- B. Mark 9:42 – And whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea.
- C. Matthew 19:14 – But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.
- D. Mark 10:14 – But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.
- E. Luke 18:16 – But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.
- F. Ephesians 5:29 – For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:
- G. 1 Thessalonians 2:7 – But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children:
- H. 2 Corinthians 10:8 – For though I should boast somewhat more of our authority, which the Lord hath given us for edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed:

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Lesson 38: The Baptist Name and History

I. John the Baptist

- A. Matthew 3:1 – In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea,
- B. 6 And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.
- C. 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
- D. 11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:
- E. 13 Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.
- F. 14 But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?
- G. 16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:
- H. Matthew 11:11 – Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

II. God's Baptism

- A. John 1:6 – There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
- B. Matthew 21:25 – The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men? And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him?
- C. Matthew 3:17 – And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.
- D. Matthew 28:19 – Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
- E. Mark 1:11 – And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

III. Church that Jesus Built

- A. Gates of hell shall not prevail against Jesus' church – Matthew 16:18
- B. Ephesians 3:21 – Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.
- C. Matthew 28:20 – Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.
- D. Revelation 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

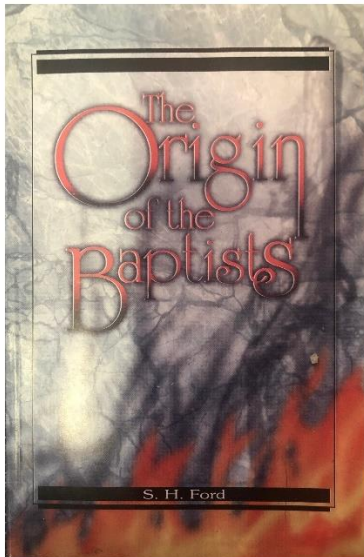
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IV. Jesus Promised the Perpetuity of His Church

- A. Jesus promised perpetuity of the church
- B. Jesus is present with his churches throughout all ages
- C. Jesus prepares his churches for his coming – Ephesians 5:27
- D. The bride looks for Jesus' coming – John 14:3

V. Only Baptists Can Trace their History to the Church that Jesus Built

- A. Founder is Jesus
- B. Baptist churches in every age
- C. Other denominations have later human founders
- D. See *The Origin of the Baptists* by S. H. Ford



VI. Ana-Baptists

- A. *Ana* means to re-baptize
- B. These churches re-baptized persons from other denominations
- C. Confessed others did not have authority to baptize as they were not true churches
- D. Name of derision given by enemies
- E. Eventually the *ana* was dropped
- F. Persecuted throughout the ages – John 15:20

VII. Comparison of Doctrines with Other Main-Line Organizations

- A. Work of comparison by Wendell Holmes Rone

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A HISTORICAL, DOCTRINAL, AND PRACTICAL COMPARISON OF DENOMINATIONS						
By Wendell Holmes Rone						
<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Founder and Date</i>	<i>Salvation</i>	<i>Church Membership</i>	<i>Final Perseverance of the Saints</i>	<i>Form of Baptism</i>	<i>Subjects of Baptism</i>
BAPTIST	Jesus Christ 30-33 A.D. Mark 3:13-19	By Grace through Faith. Regeneration by the Holy Spirit and Sanctification of the Redeemed and Regenerated.	Only those who profess faith and are immersed.	Eternal security of all who are genuinely saved.	Immersion only	Professed believers only
CONGREGATIONAL	Robert Brown 1580 A.D.	By Grace through Faith. Regeneration by the Holy Spirit and Sanctification of the Redeemed and Regenerated.	Only those who profess faith and are sprinkled. Infant Baptism.	Possibility of total apostasy.	Sprinkling	Infants, professed believers
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST	Alexander Campbell 1827 A.D.	Belief, Repentance, and Immersion the completing act in Regeneration. Historica Faith in Christ.	Only those who profess faith, repent, and are immersed for the remission of sins.	Possibility of total apostasy.	Immersion only	Those who have believe and repented
PRESBYTERIAN	John Calvin 1536 A.D.	By Grace through Faith. Regeneration by the Holy Spirit and Sanctification of the Redeemed and Regenerated.	Infant Baptism. All who profess faith and are sprinkled.	Eternal security of all who are genuinely saved.	Sprinkling	Infants, professed believers
METHODIST	John Wesley 1730 A.D.	Gift to all of sufficient Grace. Final salvation to those who improve and co-operate with sufficient Grace.	Infant Baptism. All who desire to be saved and purpose to lead an upright life. Probationers. Baptism by sprinkling.	Possibility of total apostasy.	Sprinkling	Infants, professed believers
LUTHERAN	Martin Luther 1520 A.D.	Sacramental Efficacy of Baptism and Lord's Supper. Nourished through means of Grace.	Infant Baptism. Confirmation, profession of Faith and Baptism by sprinkling.	Possibility of total apostasy.	Sprinkling (Form considered unimportant)	Infants, professed believers
EPISCOPALIAN	Henry VIII 1534 A.D.	Sacramental Efficacy of Baptism. Nourished through Eucharist. Baptismal Regeneration.	Infant Baptism. Confirmation. Acceptance of Apostles' and Nicene Creeds. Baptism by sprinkling.	Possibility of total apostasy.	Sprinkling (Immersion allowed)	Infants, professed believers
ROMAN CATHOLIC	Gradual Development from 3rd Century to Gregory the Great 590-604 A.D.	Through Church and Sacraments. Nourished through Holy Eucharist. Baptismal Regeneration.	Infant Baptism. Confirmation. All who partake of the sacraments and accept authority of the church.	Possibility of total apostasy.	Sprinkling	Infants, all who profess the Catholic Faith.

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A HISTORICAL, DOCTRINAL, AND PRACTICAL COMPARISON OF DENOMINATIONS							
By Wendell Holmes Rone							
<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Design of Baptism</i>	<i>Design of the Lord's Supper</i>	<i>Qualifications for Participating in the Lord's Supper</i>	<i>Worsip of the Church</i>	<i>Government of the Church</i>	<i>Officers of the Church</i>	<i>Authority</i>
BAPTIST	Symbol of the believer's participation in the Gospel.	Symbol of the death of Christ for the believer's sins.	Restricted to immersed believers walking orderly in a New Testament Church Fellowship.	Voluntary -- Free Non-Liturgical. Simplicity of the New Testament.	Congregational -- Democratic. Autonomy of the local Church.	Pastor, Deacons	Bible Only, New Testament Only Law of Christianity
CONGREGATIONAL	A sign of regeneration and profession	A memorial of the death of Christ for the believer's sins.	All who have been Baptized. "Open Communion."	Voluntary -- Free Non-Liturgical. Simplicity of the New Testament.	Congregational -- Democratic. Autonomy of the local Church.	Pastor, Deacons	Bible Only
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST	For the remission of sins, necessary to regeneration.	A memorial feast of the death of Christ. Observed every Lord's Day.	Open to all the Baptized of all Denominations. "Open Communion."	Voluntary -- Free Non-Liturgical. Simplicity of the New Testament.	Semi-Presbyterial. Local church is autonomous.	Pastor, Elders, Deacons	Bible Only
PRESBYTERIAN	A sign, seal or pledge. A means of grace.	A sign of the death of Christ and means of grace. Mystical presence.	All. Who have been Baptized. "Open Communion."	Voluntary -- Free Non-Liturgical. Emphasize part of "Christian Year." Formal.	Presbyterial. Judicial authority in governing bodies.	Pastor, Ruling Elders, Deacons	Bible, Creed, Confession
METHODIST	A sign of regeneration and profession.	A sign of the death of Christ and means of grace. Mystical presence.	All who have been Baptized. "Open Communion."	Voluntary -- Free Non-Liturgical. Emphasize part of "Christian Year."	Episcopacy. Judicial and legislative powers in governing bodies. Semi-Hierarchical in practice.	Stewards, Pastors, Superintendents, Bishops	Bible, Creed, Discipline
LUTHERAN	Necessary to regeneration.	A channel through which grace is actually conferred. Consubstantiation.	All who have been Baptized and Confirmed. "Open Communion."	Liturgical to some extent. Formal. Emphasize much of "Chritian Year."	Modified Episcopacy. Judicial and legislative powers in governing bodies.	Pastors, Deacons, Trustees in U.S.A. and Bishops in Europe	Bible, Creeds, Confession
EPISCOPALIAN	Necessary to regeneration.	A channel through which grace is actually conferred. Consubstantiation.	All who have been Baptized and Confirmed. "Open Communion."	Ritualistic, Liturgical. Very formal. Emphasize much of "Christian Year" rigidly.	Episcopacy. Judicial and legislative powers in governing bodies. Governed by General Canons.	Vestrymen, Deacons, Priests (Rectors), Bishops, Archbishops	Bible, Creeds, Confession
ROMAN CATHOLIC	To effect regeneration.	Instrument of conveying grace. Transubstantiation.	Baptism, Confirmation, Confession. Penance. Restricted to members of Catholic Church.	Ritualistic, Liturgical. Mass and confession prescribed. Follow "Christian Year" rigidly.	Hierarchy. Immense religio-political machine. Absolute authority in hands of Pope.	Deacons, Priess, Bishops, Archbishops, Cardinals, The Pope.	General Canons, Creeds, Councils, Tradition, Canon Laws, an "Infallible" Church and Pope.

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Lesson 39: Church Members Added to by God

I. Churches to Accept Members following God's Leadership

- A. Members have the Holy Ghost
- B. Candidate has the Holy Ghost
- C. Both seek God's will in membership – Philippians 2:13
- D. Church vote to accept candidate based on recommendation of pastor

II. God Sets Members in the Body as it Pleases Him

- A. 1 Corinthians 12:18 – But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.
- B. Not salvation, but placing saved people into each church
- C. 1 Corinthians 12:28 – And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

III. Believers Were Baptized and the Lord Added to the Church

- A. Mark 16:16 – He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
- B. Notice the church context below in respect to baptism adding to the church
- C. Acts 2:41 – Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.
- D. 42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.
- E. 43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.
- F. 44 And all that believed were together, and had all things common;
- G. 45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.
- H. 46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,
- I. 47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

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Lesson 40: The Final Authority for the Church

I. Jesus Christ

- A. Builder of the church
- B. Author and Finisher of our faith
- C. Lord and Savior
- D. Beloved Son
- E. God manifest in the flesh

II. The Doctrine of Christ

- A. All that Jesus Did and Taught
- B. The believer's rule of faith
- C. The church's rule of faith

III. The Gospels

- A. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John
- B. Records words and works of Jesus Christ
- C. Records death, burial, and resurrection of our Savior
- D. Four perspectives:
- E. Matthew – Son of David – King – Messiah
- F. Mark – Servant – Servant
- G. Luke – Son of Man – Man
- H. John – Son of God – God
- I. All show Christ's deity, redemption, power of God, authority, atonement, and passion.

IV. The Apostles

- A. Chosen by Christ to execute his will and authority
- B. Spoke the words of the Lord
- C. Taught his doctrine

V. The New Testament

- A. Inspired by God
- B. Written to and cared for by the churches
- C. Preservation through multiplication
- D. Rule of faith and practice for the churches
- E. Made known to all nations for the obedience of the faith – Romans 16:26

VI. Pastors and Teachers

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- A. Given by Christ – Ephesians 4:11-16
- B. For the perfecting of the saints
- C. For the work of the ministry
- D. For the edifying of the body of Christ
- E. Pastor of the Thyatira church “suffered” Jezebel to teach wrongly – Revelation 2:20.
- F. Lead, feed, and rule – 1 Peter 5:1-3; 1 Timothy 3; Hebrews 13

VII. Churches Given Liberty Within Constraints of Christ’s Doctrine

- A. Never violate the doctrine of Christ
- B. All connected to love commandment doctrine and world evangelism
- C. Glorify Christ in all things

VIII. Two or Three Can Bind on Earth and Heaven

- A. Matthew 18:18 – binding and loosing
- B. Agreement in areas of judgment
- C. Jesus in the midst

IX. Things Lawful are Not Always Expedient

- A. 1 Corinthians 6:12 – All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.
- B. 1 Corinthians 10:23 – All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not.
- C. 2 Corinthians 12:1 – It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord.
- D. 1 Corinthians 9:19 – For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.
- E. 20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;
- F. 21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.
- G. 22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.
- H. 23 And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.
- I. Galatians 5:13 – For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.
- J. 1 Corinthians 8:9 – But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak.

X. Churches to Judge Righteous Judgment

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- A. John 5:30 – I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.
- B. John 7:24 – Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.
- C. John 12:47 – And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.
- D. Romans 2:2 – But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.
- E. Romans 14:13 – Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.
- F. 1 Corinthians 2:15 – But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.
- G. 1 Corinthians 5:12 – For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?
- H. 13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.
- I. Colossians 2:16 – Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:
- J. Hebrews 13:4 – Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

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Appendix 1 – The 111 Verses in the Bible Using the Word *Church*:

Count	Passage	Usage in Verse	Obvious Local Body	Study	Root Word	Usage
1	Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.	1		Yes	<i>ekklésia</i>	1
2	Matthew 18:17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.	2	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	2
3	Acts 2:47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.	1	Yes		<i>auto</i>	0
4	Acts 5:11 And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
5	Acts 7:38 This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
6	Acts 8:1 And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
7	3 As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
8	Acts 9:31 Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1

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	the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.					
9	Acts 11:22 Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
10	26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
11	Acts 12:1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
12	5 Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
13	Acts 13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
14	Acts 14:23 And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
15	27 And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
16	Acts 15:3 And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1

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17	4 And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
18	22 Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
19	41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
20	Acts 16:5 And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
21	Acts 18:22 And when he had landed at Caesarea, and gone up, and saluted the church, he went down to Antioch.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
22	Acts 19:37 For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither robbers of churches, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess.	1	Yes		<i>ierosulous</i>	0
23	Acts 20:17 And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
24	28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
25	Romans 16:1 I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
26	4 Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1

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27	5 Likewise greet the church that is in their house. Salute my wellbeloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia unto Christ.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
28	16 Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
29	23 Gaius mine host, and of the whole church, saluteth you. Erastus the chamberlain of the city saluteth you, and Quartus a brother.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
30	1 Corinthians 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
31	1 Corinthians 4:17 For this cause have I sent unto you Timotheus, who is my beloved son, and faithful in the Lord, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways which be in Christ, as I teach every where in every church.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
32	1 Corinthians 6:4 If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life, set them to judge who are least esteemed in the church.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
33	1 Corinthians 7:17 But as God hath distributed to every man, as the Lord hath called every one, so let him walk. And so ordain I in all churches.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
34	1 Corinthians 10:32 Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
35	1 Corinthians 11:16 But if any man seem to be contentious, we have no such custom, neither the churches of God.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
36	18 For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1

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37	22 What? have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? or despise ye the church of God, and shame them that have not? What shall I say to you? shall I praise you in this? I praise you not.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
38	1 Corinthians 12:28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
39	1 Corinthians 14:4 He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
40	5 I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
41	12 Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
42	19 Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
43	23 If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad?	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
44	28 But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
45	33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1

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46	34 Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
47	35 And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
48	1 Corinthians 15:9 For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
49	1 Corinthians 16:1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
50	19 The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.	2	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	2
51	2 Corinthians 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, unto the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints which are in all Achaia:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
52	2 Corinthians 8:1 Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia;	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
53	18 And we have sent with him the brother, whose praise is in the gospel throughout all the churches;	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
54	19 And not that only, but who was also chosen of the churches to travel with us with this grace, which is administered by us to the glory of the same Lord, and declaration of your ready mind:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
55	23 Whether any do inquire of Titus, he is my partner and fellowhelper concerning you: or our brethren be inquired of, they are the messengers of the churches, and the glory of Christ.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1

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56	24 Wherefore shew ye to them, and before the churches, the proof of your love, and of our boasting on your behalf.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
57	2 Corinthians 11:8 I robbed other churches, taking wages of them, to do you service.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
58	28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
59	2 Corinthians 12:13 For what is it wherein ye were inferior to other churches, except it be that I myself was not burdensome to you? forgive me this wrong.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
60	Galatians 1:2 And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
61	13 For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
62	22 And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judaea which were in Christ:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
63	Ephesians 1:22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,	1		Yes	<i>ekklésia</i>	1
64	Ephesians 3:10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,	1		Yes	<i>ekklésia</i>	1
65	21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.	1		Yes	<i>ekklésia</i>	1
66	Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.	1		Yes	<i>ekklésia</i>	1

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67	24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.	1		Yes	<i>ekklésia</i>	1
68	25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;	1		Yes	<i>ekklésia</i>	1
69	27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.	1		Yes	<i>ekklésia</i>	1
70	29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:	1		Yes	<i>ekklésia</i>	1
71	32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.	1		Yes	<i>ekklésia</i>	1
72	Philippians 3:6 Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
73	Philippians 4:15 Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
74	Colossians 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.	1		Yes	<i>ekklésia</i>	1
75	24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:	1		Yes	<i>ekklésia</i>	1
76	Colossians 4:15 Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
77	16 And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1

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78	1 Thessalonians 1:1 Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
79	1 Thessalonians 2:14 For ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they have of the Jews:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
80	2 Thessalonians 1:1 Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
81	4 So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
82	1 Timothy 3:5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
83	15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
84	1 Timothy 5:16 If any man or woman that believeth have widows, let them relieve them, and let not the church be charged; that it may relieve them that are widows indeed.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
85	Philemon 1:2 And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
86	Hebrews 2:12 Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
87	Hebrews 12:23 To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1

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88	James 5:14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
89	1 Peter 5:13 The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son.	1	Yes		n/a <i>italics</i>	0
90	3 John 1:6 Which have borne witness of thy charity before the church: whom if thou bring forward on their journey after a godly sort, thou shalt do well:	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
91	9 I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
92	10 Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
93	Revelation 1:4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
94	11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
95	20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.	2	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	2

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96	Revelation 2:1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
97	Revelation 2:7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
98	8 And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
99	11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
100	12 And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges;	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
101	17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
102	18 And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass;	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
103	23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
104	29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1

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105	Revelation 3:1 And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
106	6 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
107	7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
108	13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
109	14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
110	22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
111	Revelation 22:16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.	1	Yes		<i>ekklésia</i>	1
	Total Usage	114				111

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Appendix 2 – The Largest U. S. Church Denominations (2012)

Note: The list does Not show Independent Baptists, which is estimated at 6,350,000 members.

Largest U.S. Churches

Table lists the largest church denominations in the United States by members.

Figures are for 2012.

Denomination name	Members (thousands)
The Roman Catholic Church	68,202
Southern Baptist Convention	16,136
United Methodist Church, The	7,679
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, The	6,157
Church of God in Christ, The	5,499
National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc	5,197
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	4,274
National Baptist Convention of America, Inc	3,500
Assemblies of God	3,030
Presbyterian Church (USA)	2,675
African Methodist Episcopal Church	2,500
National Missionary Baptist Convention of America	2,500
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS),	2,278
Episcopal Church	1,951
Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, Inc Churches of Christ	1,800
Churches of Christ	1,639
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America	1,500
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church	1,400
American Baptist Churches in the USA	1,308
Jehovah's Witnesses Baptist Bible Fellowship International	1,184
Church of God	1,074
Christian Churches and Churches of Christ	1,071
Seventh-day Adventist Church	1,060
United Church of Christ	1,058
The Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc	1,010

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Appendix 3 – Major Baptist Denominations in the U. S.

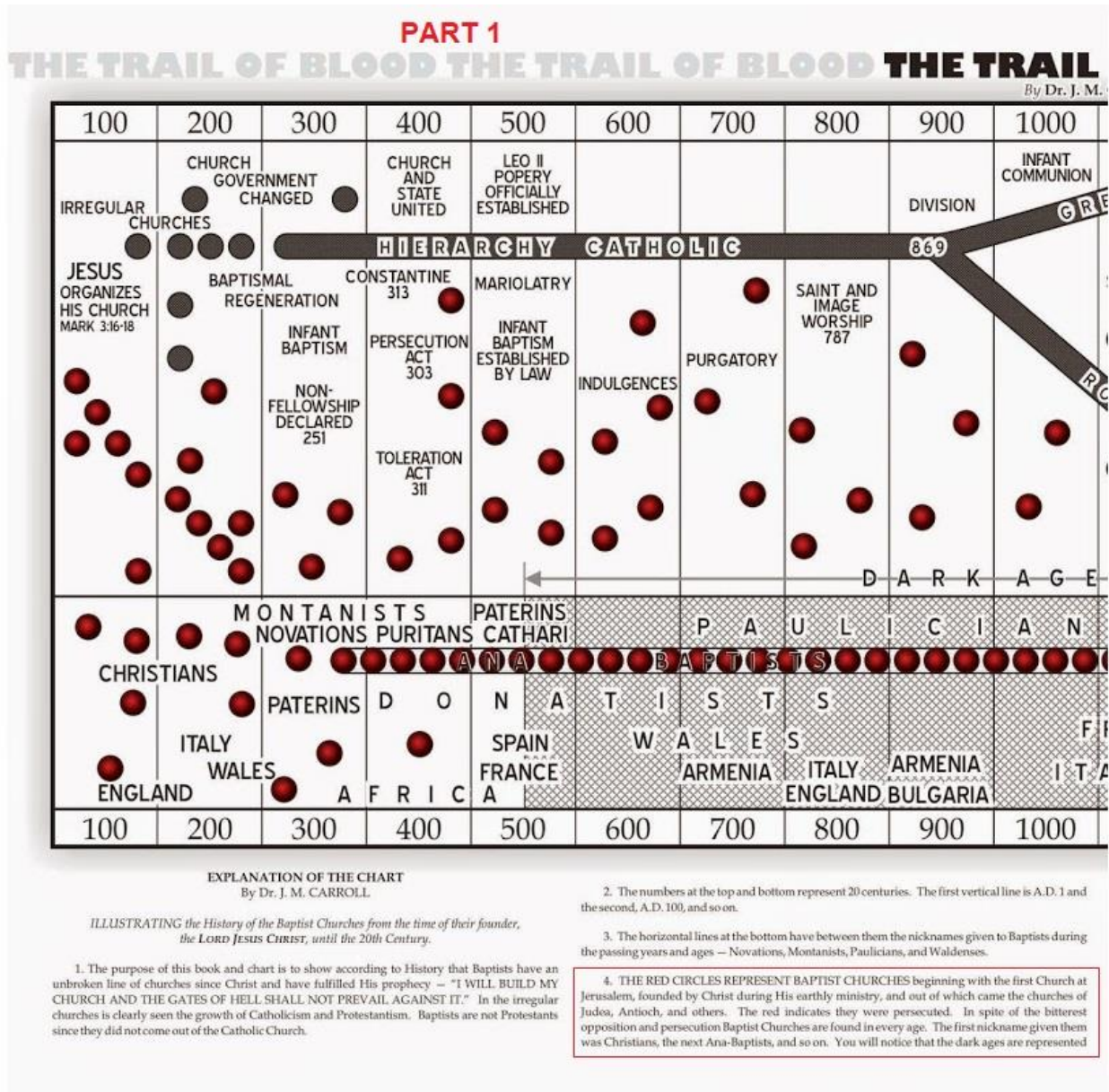
Major Baptist Denominations in the United States	Members	Churches
American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA) (formerly Northern Baptist Convention, American Baptist Convention)	1,145,647	5,057
Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists		
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF)		1800
National Baptist Convention of America, Inc.	1,700,000	6,716
National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.	5,197,512	10,358
National Missionary Baptist Convention of America	2,500,000	701
National Primitive Baptist Convention (formerly Colored Primitive Baptist Church)	600,000	1,565
Progressive National Baptist Convention	1,010,000	1,500
United American Free Will Baptist Church	100,000	836
United American Free Will Baptist Conference		35
Alliance of Baptists (formerly Southern Baptist Alliance)	65,000	127
American Baptist Association	100,000	1,644
Association of Reformed Baptist Churches of America		
Baptist General Conference of America (formerly Swedish Baptist Church in America, Swedish Baptist Conference)	142,871	902
Conservative Baptist Association of America (CBAmerica)	200,000	1,200
Converge (formerly Baptist General Conference)	147,500	1,071
General Association of Regular Baptist Churches	132,700	1,321
National Association of Free Will Baptists	185,798	2,369
National Baptist Evangelical Life and Soul Saving Assembly of the U.S.A.	57,674	264
North American Baptist Conference (formerly General Conference of German Baptist Churches in North America)	47,150	272
Seventh Day Baptist General Conference	6,300	97
Southern Baptist Convention	16,136,044	45,727
Baptist Bible Fellowship International	110,000	4,000
Baptist Missionary Association of America (formerly North American Baptist Association)	137,909	1,272
Central Baptist Association	3297	35
Christian Unity Baptist Association	345	5
Continental Baptist Churches		
Enterprise Association of Regular Baptists	4,700	58
Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship		
Fundamental Baptist Fellowship Association		
Fundamental Baptist Fellowship of America		600
General Association of Baptists (formerly Duck River and Kindred Associations)	10,672	102

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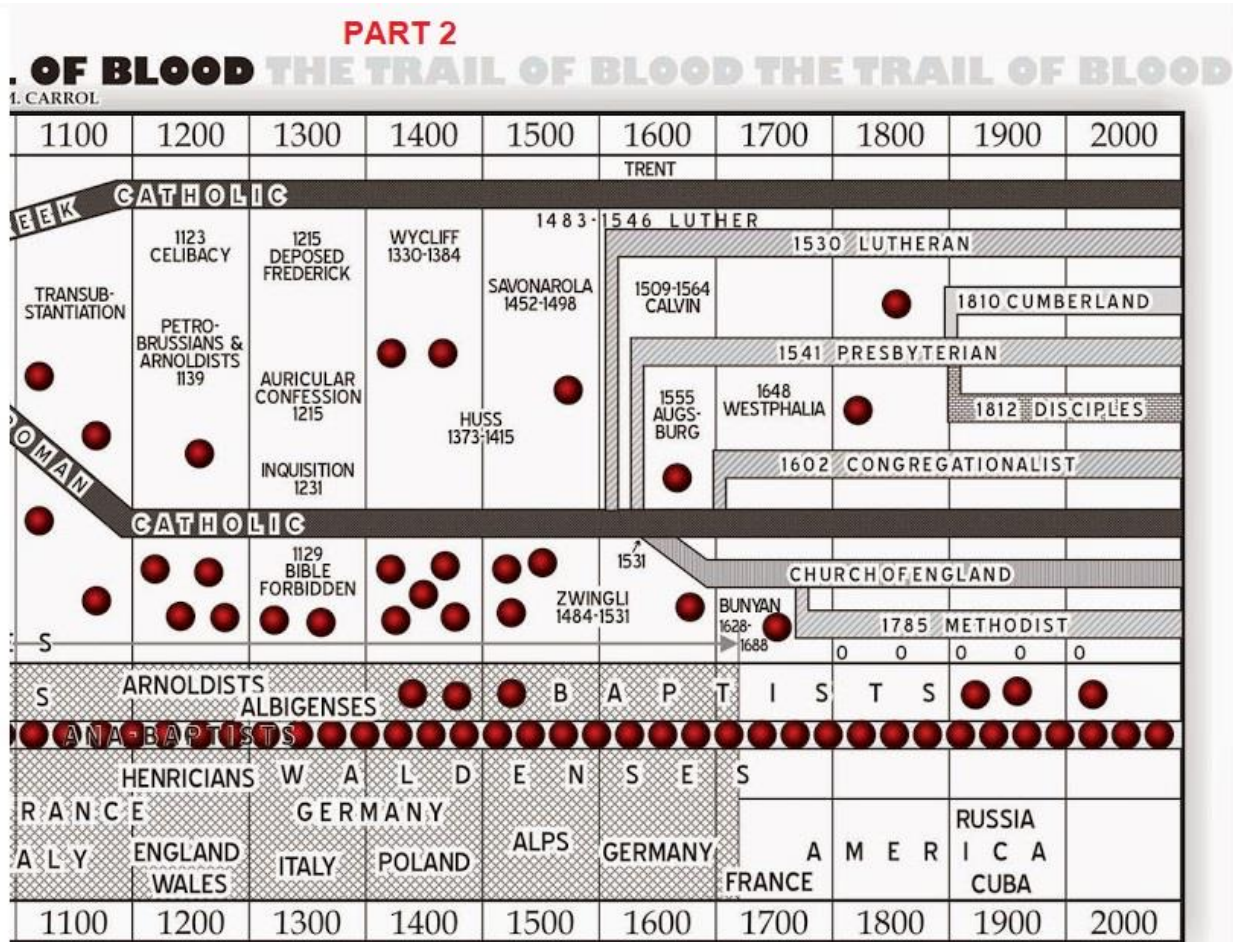
General Association of General Baptists	61,040	1,154
General Conference of the Evangelical Baptist Church, Inc. (formerly Church of the Full Gospel, Inc.)	2,200	31
General Six-Principle Baptists	175	7
Independent Baptist Church of America	25	2
Independent Baptist Fellowship International		540
Independent Baptist Fellowship of North America	250	0
Independent Free Will Baptist	22,000	295
Institutional Missionary Baptist Conference of America		
Interstate & Foreign Landmark Missionary Baptist Association		
Landmark Baptists		
Liberty Baptist Fellowship		100
New Testament Association of Independent Baptist Churches		104
Old Missionary Baptist	16,289	73
Old Regular Baptist	15,000	326
Old-Line Primitive Baptists		
Original Free Will Baptist Convention	33,066	236
Pentecostal Free Will Baptist Church		150
Primitive Baptist Universalists		
Primitive Baptists	72,000	1,000
Progressive Primitive Baptists		
Reformed Baptist	8,000	200
Regular Baptist	17,186	266
Separate Baptist		
Separate Baptists in Christ	10,000	101
Southwide Baptist Fellowship	1,847	912
Sovereign Grace Baptists	4,000	350
Strict Baptists		3
Two-Seed-in-the-Spirit Predestinarian Baptists	201	16
United Baptist	63,641	586
World Baptist Fellowship		945
Independent Baptists (non-affiliated)	6,350,000	
Total	36,418,039	96,086

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Appendix 4 – The Trail of Blood Chart



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by a dark space. Even during this time you will notice a continual line of churches called Ana-Baptists. They were continually and bitterly persecuted even unto death by the Catholics. Near the first of the 16th Century the Ana was dropped and they were simply called Baptists.

5. THE BLACK CIRCLES REPRESENT CHURCHES INTO WHICH ERROR CAME AND ARE THEREFORE CALLED - IRREGULAR CHURCHES. The first error was in church Government - Pastors assumed authority not given them by Christ. Pastors of larger churches claimed authority over other and smaller churches. Thus in the 3rd Century the Roman Hierarchy was established. The Emperor Constantine issued a call in 313 inviting all churches to send representatives to form a council. The red churches - that is Baptist Churches - refused the invitation but the irregular churches responded. The Emperor was made the head and thus the group of churches known as

irregular churches became the State Church. The Emperor continued to head the churches until Leo II claimed authority as the successor of Peter. Thus is seen how the error in church Government developed into Popery. In the 16th Century the Protestant Churches began to come out of the Roman Catholic Church. They are called Protestants because they protested against the errors of Catholicism.

6. It was in the year 251 that Baptist Churches declared non-fellowship with the irregular churches. They refused to accept Baptism administered in infancy or for Salvation and thus came the oldest nickname - Ana-Baptists which means rebaptizers.

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