

LET THE
BIBLE SPEAK...

about

THE CHURCH



Prove all things...
Hold fast to that which is good

READ: Matthew 16.13-28; 1 Timothy 3.14-15; 1 Peter 4.8

1. When was the church established?

- A. Some say in the days of Adam, Abraham, Moses, or John the Baptist. *Isaiah 2.2-4; Matthew 3.1-2; 4.17; 10.7; Luke 10.9.*
- B. Some say in the three years that Jesus walked upon the earth. *Luke 24.44-49; Mark 9.1; Matthew 16.28.*
- C. The Bible shows that the promise of Jesus to build the church was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost. *Matthew 16.13-19; Acts 1 & 2.*

2. To whom does the church belong?

Acts 20.28; 1 Corinthians 12.28; 15.24; 1 Timothy 4.16; 1 Peter 1.19; 5.2; Hebrews 9.14.

3. What are the specifications of the church?

John 10.16; Ephesians 4.4-6; 1.22-23; Colossians 1.9-20.

4. Does the church that Jesus built exist today?

- A. YES! *Matthew 16.18.*
- B. What was the rock upon which the church was built? *Matthew 16.16; Acts 8.37; 1 Corinthians 3.11; Ephesians 2.20.*
- C. What was the foundation that was laid by Paul? *1 Corinthians 3.10; 15.1-4.*
- D. Who is the source of all authority? *Matthew 28.18-20; John 20.22-23; Colossians 1.18.*

- E. How many heads and bodies does the church have? *Ephesians 1.22-23; Colossians 1.18.*
- F. What of the churches started by men? *Acts 5.33-39; 1 Cor. 1.11-12; 3.1-7; Gal. 1.6-13.*

5. What was the church called in the New Testament?

- A. The church. *Ephesians 3.10* and 108 other passages.
- B. The church of God. *1 Corinthians 1.2; 15.9; Acts 20.28; Galatians 1.13; 1 Timothy 3.5.*
- C. The church of the first born. *Hebrews 12.23.*
- D. The body. *Ephesians 1.23, Colossians. 1.18.*
- E. The body of Christ. *1 Corinthians 12.27.*
- F. The household of God. *Ephesians 2.19.*
- G. The household of faith. *Galatians 6.10.*
- H. The churches of Christ. *Romans 16.16.*
- I. The bride of Christ. *John 3.29, Revelation 21.2-9; 22.17.*

6. What were members of the church called in the New Testament? Acts 4.10.

- A. Disciples. *Acts 6.1, 2, 7; 11.26; 20.7.*
- B. Brethren. *Acts 9.30; 10.23; 15.22; 22.5.*
- C. Believers. *Acts 5.14.*
- D. Saints. *Acts 9.13, 32, 41; 26.10.*
- E. Priests. *1. Peter 2.5; Revelation 1.6.*
- F. People of God. *Hebrews 4.9.*
- G. Children of God. *1 John 3.1-2.*
- H. Christians. *Acts 11.26; 1 Peter 4.16.*

7. What were the conditions of membership in the church that Jesus built?

- A. How were the 3,000 saved? *Acts 2.14-36, 37, 38, 41.*
- B. What did the Samaritans do? *Acts 8.5-6, 12.*
- C. What did the eunuch do? *Acts 8.35-39.*
- D. What did Saul of Tarsus do? *Acts 9.16; 22.14-16; Believed: 9.5; 26.15; Repented: 9.8-11; 26.19; Baptized: 9.18; 22.16.*
- E. What did Cornelius and his household do? *Acts 10.34-38.*
- F. What did Lydia and her household do? *Acts 16.14-15.*
- G. What did the jailor do? *Acts 16.31-33.*
- H. What did the Corinthians do? *Acts 18.8.*
- I. When **you** hear the gospel, believe and obey it, to what are you added? *Acts 2.37-47.*

8. How is the church to worship?

- A. In what must we continue? *Acts 2.42.*
- B. For what do we meet upon the first day of the week? *Acts 20.6-9; 1 Cor. 11.23-34; 16.1-2.*
- C. Should we support the work of the church financially? *Acts 15.26; 1 Corinthians 16.1-2, 2 Corinthians 8.4; 9.6-7.*
- D. Should Christians pray in the assembly? *Acts 12.12; 1 Cor. 14.16; 1 Thessalonians 5.17.*
- E. How do Christians praise God? *Acts 2.47; Ephesians 5.19; Colossians 3.16.* Is there any mention of instruments in these passages?

- F. Should we assemble **only** upon the first day of the week? *Hebrews 10.24-25*.
- G. What is the first day of the week called in the New Testament? *Revelation 1.10*.

9. How is the church to be organized?

- A. The word *church* is used four ways in the New Testament:
1. The saved from the beginning to the end of the Christian age. *Col. 1.18; Hebrews 1.1*.
 2. The saved on one area. *2 Thessalonians 1.1; Acts 9.31, Galatians 1.2*.
 3. Local congregations. *Romans 16.16; 1 Corinthians 1.2*.
 4. Independent bodies of Christ. *2 Corinthians 8.4*.
- B. There were two classes of inspired men:
1. Apostles. *Acts 10.41; 13.31; 2 Peter 1.16; John 20.22-23*.
 2. Prophet; inspired teacher. *Acts 11.27; 13.1-2; Ephesians 4.11*.
 3. Apostles and prophets ceased. *1 Corinthians 13.8*.
- C. There are three classes of officers today:
1. Elders, bishops, pastors, overseers, presbyters. All one office. *Titus 8.5-9; 1 Timothy 3.1-7; Acts 3.28; 1 Peter 5.3-4*.
 2. Deacons. *Acts 6.1-6; 1 Timothy 3.8-13*.
 3. Evangelist. *Acts 21.8; Ephesians 4.11; 2 Timothy 4.5*.

10. What is the fruit of the church?

- A. Should Christians grow? *Matthew 28.19-20; Hebrews 5.12; 1 Peter 2.2; 2 Peter 1.5-8; 3.18.*
- B. Is Christian liberality a fruit? *Acts 2.42; 11.29-30; Philippians 1.3-5; 4.13-17.*
- C. How do we glorify the Father? *John 15.8.*
- D. What should be the most burning desire of the members of the church? *Acts 8.4; 11.19-21; 19.10; 20.20-21; Phil. 4.9; 2 Timothy 2.2.*

Tract written by Keith Rosson



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