

Church

Part 1: What is the Church?

Pastor Cory Reeves

All heaven is looking with intense interest upon the _____, to see what her individual members are doing to enlighten those who are in darkness. —The Review and Herald, February 27, 1894

“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My _____, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”

Matthew 16:18

Church = ἐκκλησία = (Kaleō = _____) + (Ek = _____)

“Some therefore cried one thing and some another, for the _____ was confused, and most of them did not know why they had come together.” -Acts 19:32

“This is he who was in the _____ in the wilderness with the Angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our fathers, the one who received the living oracles to give to us,” -Acts 7:38

The Lord Jesus will _____ have a chosen people to serve Him. When the Jewish people rejected Christ, the Prince of life, He took from them the kingdom of God and gave it unto the Gentiles. God will continue to work on this principle with every branch of His work. When a church proves _____ to the word of the Lord, whatever their position may be, however high and sacred their calling, the Lord can no longer work with them. Others are then chosen to bear important responsibilities.

Letters & Manuscripts 18 – MS 33 1903

What is the Church? 1. _____

The church is God's appointed agency for the _____ of men. It was organized for _____, and its mission is to carry the _____ to the world. From the beginning it has been God's plan that through His church shall be reflected to the world...the final and full display of the _____ of God.

Acts of the Apostles 9

“Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: “The Lord knows those who are _____,” ... 2 Timothy 2:19

Jesus has intrusted his _____ to the church, age after age. One generation after another for over eighteen hundred years has been

gathering up this hereditary trust, until the increasing responsibilities have descended to the people of our time. Do we now realize our _____? -Gospel Workers 304

The church of Christ was organized for _____ purposes. Christian missionary work furnishes the church with a sure foundation...Gospel Workers 464

The _____ character of the church is measured, not by the high profession she makes, not by the names enrolled upon the church book, but by what she is _____ doing for the Master, by the number of her persevering, faithful _____. —The Review and Herald, September 6, 1881

What is the Church? 2. _____
What is the Church? 3. _____

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up _____ and good works, not forsaking the _____ of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.” -Hebrews 10:24–25

The house is the sanctuary for the family, and the closet or the grove the most retired place for individual worship; but the _____ is the sanctuary for the congregation. There should be rules in regard to the time, the place, and the manner of worshiping - 5 Testimonies for the Church 491

When we assemble for religious service, we may be certain that _____ is with us. However few and humble the worshipers may be, the heavenly Guest is there. - The Signs of the Times January 26, 1891

What is the Church? 4. _____

What is the Church? 5. _____

“And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who _____ the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” - Revelation 12:17

“Because _____ is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.” - Matthew 7:14

What is the Church? 6. _____

Belief #12 - The church is the community of believers who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. In continuity with the people of God in Old

Testament times, we are called out from the world; and we join together for worship, for fellowship, for instruction in the Word, for the celebration of the Lord's Supper, for service to humanity, and for the worldwide proclamation of the gospel. The church derives its authority from Christ, who is the incarnate Word revealed in the Scriptures. The church is God's family; adopted by Him as children, its members live on the basis of the new covenant. The church is the body of Christ, a community of faith of which Christ Himself is the Head. The church is the bride for whom Christ died that He might sanctify and cleanse her. At His return in triumph, He will present her to Himself a glorious church, the faithful of all the ages, the purchase of His blood, not having spot or wrinkle, but holy and without blemish. (Gen. 12:1-3; Exod. 19:3-7; Matt. 16:13-20; 18:18; 28:19, 20; Acts 2:38-42; 7:38; 1 Cor. 1:2; Eph. 1:22, 23; 2:19-22; 3:8-11; 5:23-27; Col. 1:17, 18; 1 Peter 2:9.)



What Is the Church?

1. God's People
2. Organized to Share His Love to the World
3. Organized to Share His Truth to the World
4. Uplifting Each Other in Service
5. Formal Sabbath meetings for Worship & Communion
6. The Last Day Church is His Remnant Church - Bride

—◇—