

Video Bible Study

Part 2: The Church

As we covered in the previous lesson, God has provided all that we need to know to please Him in the Bible. The story of the Lord's victory over death, the beginning of His church, and God's instructions for us are all held within the pages of His Holy Word. We talked about the importance of God's Word, the relationship of sin and judgment, and the gospel plan of salvation.

It is necessary for each one of us to seek and obey the truth of God in the Bible, AND to know how we must live as members of the Lord's church.

As you go through this study, notice again how all our answers will come directly from the words of the Bible. You can read the Bible verses for yourself, and you will be able to understand for yourself what God wants you to know.

Part 1 – The Oneness of the Church

“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.” (Matthew 16:18)

Question: How many churches did Jesus say He would build or establish?

Answer: _____

“Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.” (Matthew 15:13)

Question: Since there is only one church built or planted by God, will all other churches be uprooted?

Answer: _____

“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.” (Ephesians 4:4-6)

Question: How many bodies are there according to the Bible?

Answer: _____

“And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.” (Colossians 1:18)

Question: What is the body?

Answer: _____

“I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.” (Galatians 1:6-8)

Question: How many true gospels are there?

Answer: _____

Question: What does the Bible say about a man (or a church) that would teach a different gospel?

Answer: _____

“I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.” (John 17:20-21)

Question: Did Jesus pray that His followers all be one?

Answer: _____

“Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.” (1 Cor 1:10)

Question: Does this verse teach that we should have division?

Answer: _____

Question: Since religious division is against God’s Will and Jesus prayed that all His followers would be one, should we work toward religious unity?

Answer: _____

Part 2 – The Importance and Organization of the Church

“praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.” (Acts 2:47)

Question: Who was adding these individuals to the church?

Answer: _____

Question: Who is it that the Lord is adding to His church?

Answer: _____

Question: So, if the Lord adds those who are being saved to His church, then are there any saved people outside of His church?

Answer: _____

“Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.” (Acts 20:28)

Question: What did the Lord use to purchase His church?

Answer: _____

“For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.” (Matthew 26:28)

Question: Why was the blood of Jesus shed?

Answer: _____

“And that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.” (Ephesians 2:16)

Question: People are reconciled (or brought back) to God in *WHAT*?

Answer: _____

Question: Do you see that those who are not in the church are not reconciled to God, they are separated from Him?

Answer: _____

“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave himself for it.” (Ephesians 5:25)

Question: Jesus loved the church and *DID WHAT* for it?

Answer: _____

Question: Based on the price that was paid in giving His blood, would you say the church is important to Jesus?

Answer: _____

Question: Should it be important to us to be a member of His one true church?
absolutely!

Answer: _____

“So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.” (Acts 14:23)

Question: What was appointed for each congregation of the church?

Answer: _____

“Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.” (Acts 20:28)

Question: What were these elders or overseers supposed to do for the church of God?

Answer: _____

“This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. Moreover, he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.” (1 Timothy 3:1-7)

**Bishop is a word that means overseer, it is another term for an elder.

Question: Based on reading these verses, must an elder be married?

Answer: _____

Question: Do elders have to be men? *YES*, the *husband* of one wife.

Answer: _____

Question: Must an elder have children? *YES*.

Answer: _____

Question: May a new Christian (a novice) serve as an elder?

Answer: _____

“Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money, holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience. But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless. Likewise, their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.” (1 Timothy 3:8-13)

Question: Do we find that God has specific requirements on must meet to serve as a deacon as well?

Answer: _____

Question: Would we be pleasing to God if we had elders and deacons which did not meet these qualifications?

Answer: _____

“Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Jesus Christ, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” (Philippians 1:1-2)

Question: To whom is Paul writing this letter?

Answer: _____

Question: This scripture tells us that the church in Philippi was organized with *WHAT* and *WHAT*?

Answer: _____

Part 3 – The Worship of the Church

Alright, in this portion of our study, we want to learn how God instructs the church to worship Him. And we’ll begin with this verse:

“God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” (John 4:24)

Question: Must we worship God in spirit and in truth?

Answer: _____

"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth." (John 17:17)

Question: What is truth?

Answer: _____

Question: Since we must worship God in truth, must we worship as God has directed in the Bible?

Answer: _____

"And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."
(Matthew 15:9)

Question: Is it possible to worship God in vain?

Answer: _____

Question: If we worship God according to the commandments of uninspired men, will God accept our worship?

Answer: _____

"And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying 'This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.' Likewise He also took the cup after supper saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.'" (Luke 22:19-20)

Question: Did Jesus command His disciples to partake of the bread and the cup?

Answer: _____

"The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?" (1 Corinthians 10:16)

Question: The cup is a communion of the *BLANK* of Christ.

Answer: _____

Question: The bread is a communion of the *BLANK* of Christ.

Answer: _____

"Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight." (Acts 20:7)

Question: When did these Christians meet to eat the Lord's Supper?

Answer: _____

Question: Should Christians today eat the Lord's Supper upon the first day of each week?

Answer: _____

"And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers." (Acts 2:42)

Question: Can you name 4 things the New Testament Christians continued in?

Answer: _____

Question: Will we be pleasing to God if we continue steadfastly in these things?

Answer: _____

"Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come." (1 Corinthians 16:1-2)

Question: Is it God's will that we give as we have prospered?

Answer: _____

Question: Are we to make a monetary contribution on the same day we are to partake of the Lord's Supper?

Answer: _____

"speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord," (Ephesians 5:19)

Question: Does God want us to sing in worship?

Answer: _____

Question: Where do we make melody to the Lord, according to this verse?

Answer: _____

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." (Matthew 6:33)

Question: This verse tells us to put *WHAT* first?

Answer: _____

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling 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*)

Question: It is wrong to *BLANK* the assembling of ourselves together.

Answer: _____

“For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.” (*Revelation 22:18-19*)

Question: Now, do you think God would be pleased if we were to add to or take away from His Word?

Answer: _____

Question: Is it important to worship God the way He has commanded without alteration?

Answer: _____

Part 4 – The Name of the Church

In this portion of our study, we want to see what God’s word teaches about the name of Christ’s church. First notice the words of Jesus presented here...

“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.” (*Matthew 16:18*)

Question: Who built the church?

Answer: _____

Question: Jesus said He was going to build whose church?

Answer: _____

“Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.” (*Acts 20:28*)

Question: Who purchased the church?

Answer: _____

Question: Seeing who built, purchased, and died for the church – whose name do you think the church should wear?

Answer: _____

“Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. Now I say this, that each of you says, 'I am of Paul, 'or' I am of Apollos,' or 'I am of Cephas,' or 'I am of Christ.' Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?” (*1 Corinthians 1:10-13*)

Question: Would it be wrong to name the church after Paul, Apollos, Cephas, or any other human being?

Answer: _____

Question: And if the church were named after Paul, whom would we be glorifying?

Answer: _____

“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” (*Colossians 3:17*)

Question: Are we to do "all" in the name of the Lord Jesus?

Answer: _____

Question: Would this include the name by which we refer to God's people?

Answer: _____

“Greet one another with a holy kiss. The churches of Christ greet you.” (*Romans 16:16*)

Question: Do you read of the church of Christ in the Bible?

Answer: _____

Question: Would it be wrong to call the church by this name?

Answer: _____

Question: Would this name glorify the one who built, purchased, and died for the church?

Answer: _____

Closing

Let's review what we've learned together in this study.

- Looking into the Bible, we saw that God's Son established only one church. Christ has built His church, and we must be added by the Lord to His church in order to go to Heaven.
- We also saw the importance placed on the church in the Bible. God has given specific instruction concerning how His church is to be organized and how His church will worship Him.
- We saw the need for bringing glory to Christ rather than to some man. Members of the church belonging to Christ, should wear His name. We honor God's Son and fight against our enemy, the Devil, as we consistently serve and worship Jesus, based on the teaching of His Word.

It is important for you to remember that God loves you and desires the very best for you. Thank you for going through this study with me. If you would like help finding people who follow the teaching of God's Word in your area, or if you have any questions regarding what you have just learned – please email your questions to: Help@wvbs.org.

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