

THE “WHO TOLD YOU?” SERIES

A STUDY IN DISCERNING THE VOICES OF OUR DAY

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

WHO TOLD YOU ABOUT THE CHURCH?

discerning the voices of our day and knowing what to do about what you hear

Part 2

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Church, Community, Doctrine, End Times, Disciple-Making, Truth.

Introduction and overview to the series

Church, Heaven, Eternity, Salvation, Faith, Works, Community.

Colossians 1:9-14

For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; 12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. 13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

As we are looking at “The Church” according to

the will of God - That is His expressed will and purpose according to the Bible.

We are being careful to learn about Her from the what God
has said about Her.

We being the church have been commissioned as a local gathering,
to execute the will of God on earth until He returns.

As The Scriptures Say to The Romans:

So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us,
let us use them:

**we may all be different in so many ways but we are united for
“The cause of Jesus Christ”**

**We are proclaimers of the Good News of the Gospel Message.
(we have the message)**

**We are partners together in the advancement of the kingdom.
(we edify and encourage and exhort our brothers and sisters)**

**We are reproducers of Christ in the lives of others.
(we are disciples making disciples in tandem)**

**We are luminaries of righteousness
(as followers we are salt and light in a dark and decaying world)**

“WHO TOLD YOU ABOUT THE CHURCH”

1.) What is the church?

1a.) Church is a Christ-Centered Community

And let us not forget what He has said about Her.

She is His Gathered Ones. She is His Bride. She is a Mystery.

She is The **Ekklesia** of God

Church: grk: **ejkkhlhsi÷a ekklesia**, *ek-klay-see´-ah*;
the gathering. the meeting of those called out of and away
from the world and to be placed into Christ. The Redeemed.

His church “community – **society, culture, civilization**
is and must be centered, gathered, and united upon God’s truth.

1 Timothy 3:15b

I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

**She is the Custodian and Example of:
The Simple, Pure, and Unadulterated Word of God, The Bible.**

The Church is not of this world

**It's a Divine, Supernatural, Spiritual Community
Where Jesus is Lord and Christ, Head and Master.**

Colossians 1:18

Christ is also **the head** of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So he is first **in everything**.

In 1775, Lord Percy of the British Crown that said,
“If you ask an American who is his master, he’ll tell you he has none and that he has no governor except Jesus Christ.”

**“WHO TOLD YOU ABOUT THE CHURCH”
WHAT IS THE CHURCH ?**

1b.) Church is a Christ-Centered family

Ephesians 3:14-17

For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom **the whole family** in heaven and earth is **named**.

How encouraging that we are all now of
a **New Family** by a **New Birth**.

1 Peter 1:23

Having been **Born Again**, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible,
through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

How encouraging that we are all now of;
a **New Family** by a **New Father**.

1John 3:1

See what **great** love the Father has **lavished** on us,
that we should be called children of God!

How encouraging that we are all now of;
a **New Family** by a **New Spirit**.

In the Family of God there are Children of Abilities.
(one and all making up the family joined by the Spirit)

Acts 2:1-4

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with **one accord** in **one place**. **2** And suddenly there came a **sound** from heaven, **as of** a rushing mighty wind, and **it filled** the whole house where they were sitting. **3 Then** there appeared to them **divided tongues, as of fire**, and **one sat** upon each of them. **4** And they were **all filled** with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, **as the Holy Spirit gave** them utterance.

There were 120 of them, all sitting together and
the conversation was “**homo-thoo-mad-oo**” united upon one topic, when all were “startled” as they heard wind (but saw no effects of wind) “startled again” as a “Single Light, or column of light appeared and then began to “Cleve, Cloven” or peel off from the One column and then they began to speak supernaturally, natural languages of the world.

“The true body of believers, the church is made up of people who understand that they belong to the family of God. Being in this family means that we strive to be unified in and through the pursuit of God’s will for our loves.”

“A local church is a gathering of those who (1) profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord, (2) who have been baptized and (3) who have organized themselves to worship (4) with a result that effectively influence others for the cause of Christ.”

- Dr. Charles Ryrie

When a family is loved by a father and protected by him –

each family member goes **confident** and **strong** and is far more likely to venture out into new challenges in life, the right kind of **confidence** will do that!

the church should be - **accustom** to criticism.

the church should be - **flattered** by worldly opposition.

the church should be - **encouraged** by rejection.

the church shouldn't be - about **relevance**

the church shouldn't be - about **politics**

the church shouldn't be - about **what's trending**

“WHO TOLD YOU ABOUT THE CHURCH”

WHAT IS THE CHURCH ?

1c.) Church is a Christ Centered manifestation of faith

“The true body of believers, the church is made up of people who willing come to present themselves before God with the willful intent to live out their faith.”

How Does This Happen?

Jude 1

Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James,
To those who are (1) called, (2) sanctified by God the Father,
and (3) **preserved in Jesus Christ:**

You people here - have been called by Holy Spirit.

called grk: **klaytos**, the one's invited, the one's appointed. Intending to host the one's for whom a table has been set

You people here - have been sanctified by God.

Sanctified grk: **ag-ee-ad'-zo** to make ceremonially holy, purified or
Consecrated; to be venerated.

It is a purely independent, sovereign act of God that He takes.

(it's as if a breeze captures your attention and you immediately become aware of its movement around and its effect. You didn't cause it. You hadn't a thought of it previously – yet now you are blessed by it)

You people here - have been preserved in Jesus Christ.

Preserved grk: **tay-reh-o**, To provide a fully equipped a fortress in full military apparatus. To have ready all that is needed to not only be protected but to defeat every conceivable threat.

That's what a "Christ Centered Church" will Manifest

Full Confidence that Christ is Guarding and Guaranteeing His people
by His absolute power to Keep

>>>>> Preserved in Jesus Christ <<<<<<

Peter tells us that the Follower of Jesus Christ is kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

"Foo-Reh-O" is to be Kept, garrisoned, guarded over as you pass through a warzone of this world!

**"God has ordained His church to legislate His will
in the spiritual realm.**

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, She moves on...

With Jesus Christ at the Helm – a church cannot be defeated.

If men are at the helm – that church is already defeated. It might not have fallen over yet. But it's powerless and unprotected and doomed.

Is the church being the church in the earth today?

Acts 1:8

But you shall receive power **when the Holy Spirit has come upon you**; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

“WHO TOLD YOU ABOUT THE CHURCH” WHAT IS THE CHURCH ?

1d.) Church is a Christ-Centered gathering of the saints

It is God’s will for your life that you be gathered to Him. We have to be careful when we say that God loves you because even though that is true there is a sense that we are corporately loved. Maybe God loves us with the team love, a group of love. But that’s not the case. He loves us with an endearing love.

“The true body of believers, the church is made up of people who, with joyful and glad hearts rejoice and love Christ because they have been loved by Christ and know the joy of God for themselves.”

By the Blood of Jesus Christ – we gather.

The repentant believer has been declared a saint by Almighty God.
(the label, tag, marker, identifier, has been removed)

Psalm 50:5

“**Gather** My saints together to Me,
Those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.”

Gather heb. aw-saf´, take up away or pull up and away; seize and to leave with.

“**flee the city of destruction**”

The Church – It's of God that we gather.

Regardless of the size of a church, whether big or small – The Church is God's sovereign business, not ours!

Romans 1:7

To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, **called** (clay-tos, invited to be. offered to become) to be **saints**:
I know you and I are not worthy to be called saints.
I know how ridiculous it sounds – but its true.

Zephaniah 3:17

The LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will **rejoice** over you with **gladness**, He will quiet you with His love,
He will rejoice over you with singing.”

rejoice heb: **soos**; to be bright eyed and cheerful; to be joyful, exuberant, animated, energetic.

gladness heb: **sim-khaw´**; to gleeful over; to be festive; to make merriment, to have great pleasure about or over something of great delight.

Revelation 5:8-10

Now when He (the Lamb of God) had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the **saints**. **9** and **they** sang a new song, saying: *“You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed **us** (the saints) to God **by Your blood** out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, **10** and have made **us** kings and priests to our God; And **we** shall reign on the earth.”*

Jesus Loves His Church - - We Are The Bride of Christ

There is a reason why God called the church. “The Bride of Christ”. His view and value and estimation of the church is always for her good and comes from the motive of what He wants for her which is for her benefit.

What do I mean by “The Saints” – The Hagios of God?

1Corinthians 1:2

To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *to be saints*, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,

Jude 3b-4a

...I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the **saints**. (**a,gioß hagios**)
:4 For certain men have crept in unnoticed...

The **Reason** for the Cross / The **Work** of the Christ /
The **Need** to make the Call.

End of Study
