

I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH

MATTHEW 16

Text: Matt 16:18

(Mat 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."

Introduction:

The church established by Christ with His disciples and empowered on the day of Pentecost is the establishment God has designed for God's people to learn and grow as well as the place of service for Him.

Many today have lost or never had the idea of what church is all about. Many consider it as a place to gather weekly to fellowship with friends and get motivation to go another week. Some think so little of it that they forsake it. They may come a couple times a year, but not much more.

Some are like sponges; they soak up the things preached and taught but never give or do the things that they have heard and learned.

I want us to look at what the Bible says about the church this evening. I'm going to share some things

with you that I know many of you know and would agree with. I'm also going to share with you some things that you that are not easy for me tonight.

1. PLAN OF THE CHURCH

(Eph 4:16) "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."

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

(1 Cor 3:9) "For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building."

(1 Cor 14:40) "Let all things be done decently and in order."

2. PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

A. Win the lost

B. Baptize

C. Train and teach

3. PROGRAM OF THE CHURCH

A. Offices

1. Led by the Pastor
2. Pastor helped by deacons

B. Ordinances

1. Lords supper
2. Baptism

C. Funding

1. Tithes (Belongs to God)
2. Offerings (Belongs to you)

We give nothing of ourselves and substances until the tithe is returned back to God.

4. PRICE OF THE CHURCH

(Eph 5:25) "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;"

(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."

5. PROBLEMS IN THE CHURCH

(1 Cor 3:1-3) "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. {2} I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. {3} For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?"

(1 Cor 11:18) "For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it."

(Rev 2:4) "Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love."

(Rev 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."

(Rev 3:15-16) "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. {16} So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth."

- A. Carnality
- B. Divisions
- C. Worldliness
- D. Lack of Love (first love)
- E. Deadness
- F. Lukewarm