

THE CHURCH

MATTHEW 16

Text: Matt 16:18

Introduction:

1. FOUNDER OF THE CHURCH MATT 16:18

2. FACTS CONCERNING THE CHURCH

A. Must Be Local

Romans 16:1

¹I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea:

1 Corinthians 1:2

²Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *to be* saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

1 Corinthians 16:1

¹Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye.

1 Corinthians 16:19

¹⁹The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.

2 Corinthians 8:1

¹ Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia;

Colossians 4:16

¹⁶ And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the *epistle* from Laodicea.

1 Thessalonians 1:1

¹ Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians *which is* in God the Father and *in* the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 5:13

¹³ The *church that is* at Babylon, elected together with *you*, saluteth you; and *so doth* Marcus my son.

Revelation 2:1

¹ Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

Revelation 2:8

⁸ And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;

Revelation 2:12

¹² And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges;

Revelation 2:18

¹⁸ And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet *are* like fine brass;

Revelation 3:1

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.

Revelation 3:7

⁷ And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;

B. Must Be Visible

Philippians 1:27

²⁷ Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

1 Thessalonians 2:17

¹⁷ But we, brethren, being taken from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavoured the more abundantly to see your face with great desire.

1 Thessalonians 3:6

⁶ But now when Timotheus came from you unto us, and brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, and that ye have good remembrance of us always, desiring greatly to see us, as we also *to see you:*

C. Must Be Organized

The word assemble means organization

Col 1:18 Body is organized

D. Must Be Constituted Made up of the right components) Acts 2:41

3. FUNCTION OF THE CHURCH

A. It's Head is Christ (Col 1:18, Eph 5:23,24)

1. Each church is subject to its head
2. A church without a head is dead

B. It Officers

1. Pastor - Under shepherd, overseer

1 Pet 5:2

Acts 20:28

Eph 4:12-14

Acts 20:17, 28-31

a. The pastor is to be followed Heb 13:7,17

2. Deacon - Servant

Have no more authority than other members.

C. It Ordinances

1. Baptism

2. Lord's Supper

D. It Commission

Matt 28:19-20

Mark 16:15

Luke 24:47

John 20:21

Acts 1:8

1 Cor 15:58

The Church and Me

We think about what a church can do in ministering to others, but we also need to think about what each church member can do for his church.

- Pray For Your Church
- Ask the Lord to meet each need.

- Pray for the leaders.
- Pray that everything will be pleasing to Christ.
- Be A Loyal Member
- Be loyal to the leadership and the church.
Encourage others to do the same.
- Don't be a complainer.
- Be A Faithful Member

Attending the church faithfully:

- 1) Is obeying what the Bible teaches
- 2) Identifies one publicly with the Lord and His people
- 3) Provides instruction for living the Christian life
- 4) Helps a Christian to find God's will in a place of service
- 5) Makes one a part of getting the message of salvation to others.

If it were not for local Bible-preaching churches, many people would not hear how to be saved.

- Support Your Church

It is God's plan for each member to be a tither. This means that we are to give ten percent our income to the Lord. We will also want to give offerings above this.

I Corinthians 16:2 says, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him, that there be gatherings when I come." With a glad heart, each member of the local church should do all he can to make his church all it ought to be.