**Scripture/ #3 (C) The Church**

First thing First

*Philemon 1:2* And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and

to the church in thy house:

*Colossians 4:15* Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the

church which is in his house.

*1 Corinthians 16:19* The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.

*Colossians 1:14-18* In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

*Colossians 3:15* And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

*1 Corinthians 12*

The Church is a New Testament Institution

*Matthew 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.

*John 1:42* And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.

*1 Peter 2:3-8* If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious. To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

*2 Timothy 2:15* Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

*1 Corinthians 10:32* Give none offense, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the

church of God:

The Church is an Assembly

*Matthew 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.

*Romans 16:1* I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea:

*1 Corinthians 1:2* Unto 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 their’s and our’s:

*1 Corinthians 16:1,19* Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. The 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* Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia;

*Colossians 4:16* 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* 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* The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son.

*Revelation 2:1,8,12,18* 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; And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive; And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges; 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 3:1,7,14* 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. 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; And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

*Philippians 1:27* 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* But we, brethren, being taken from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavored the more abundantly to see your face with great desire.

*1 Thessalonians 3:6* 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:

*Colossians 1:18* And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

*Psalms 139:14* I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

*1 Timothy 3:15* But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

1 *Corinthians 3:9, 11, 16* For we are laborers together with God: ye are God’s husbandry, ye are God’s building. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

*Acts 2:41* Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

*Acts 2:47; 5:14* Praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved. And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.)

*1 Corinthians 15:1-4* Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

*Ephesians 1:13,14* In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

*Mark 16:16* He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

The Church has a Head

*Colossians 1:18* And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

*Ephesians 5:23-25* For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the savior of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

*Galatians 3:1* O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?

*Galatians 5:7* Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?

The Church has Officers

*Philippians 1:1* Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

*1 Timothy 3: 1-13* This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach; Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. Likewise must the deacons be

grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; Holding the

mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their

children and their own houses well. For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

*1 Peter 2:25; 5:4* For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown

of glory that fadeth not away.

*1 Peter 5:2* Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

*Acts 20:17,28-31* And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church. 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. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

*Ephesians 4:12-15* For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

*Hebrews 13:7* Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

*Hebrews 13:17* Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

*Psalm 111:9* He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend is his name.

*Matthew 23:9* And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.

1 *Thessalonians 5:12,13* And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work’s sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

*1 Timothy 5:17-19* Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in the word and doctrine. For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox

that treadeth out the corn. And, The laborer is worthy of his reward. Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.

The Church makes Decisions

*Acts 6:1-5* And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word. And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose

Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:

*Acts 1:15-26* And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before

concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry. Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out. And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood. For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take. Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection. And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen, That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place. And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

*Matthew 18:17* And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

*Matthew 18:18* Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

The Church is an Independent Institution

*Acts 15:18-33* Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world. Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God: But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood. For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day. Then pleased it the apostles and elders with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas and Silas, chief men among the brethren: And they wrote letters by them after this manner; The apostles and elders and brethren send greeting

unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia. Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no such

commandment: It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have sent therefore Judas and Silas, who shall also tell you the

same things by mouth. For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you

no greater burden than these necessary things; That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep

yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well. So when they were dismissed, they came to Antioch: and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the epistle: Which when they had read, they rejoiced for the consolation. And Judas and Silas, being prophets also themselves, exhorted the brethren with many words, and confirmed them. And after they had tarried there a space, they were let go in peace from the brethren unto the apostles.

*Matthew 22:21* They say unto him, Caesar’s. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar’s; and unto God the things that are God’s.

*Romans 13:1-7* Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he

is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God’s ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

*Acts 5:29* Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

*1 Corinthians 16:1-3* Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. 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 no gatherings when I come. And when I come, whomsoever ye shall approve by your letters, them will I send to bring your liberality unto Jerusalem.

*Acts 11:22-26* Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch. Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord. For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord. Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

*2 Corinthians 8:9* For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

*Acts 11:27-30* And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth

throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea: Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

*Romans 15:25,26* But now I go unto Jerusalem to minister unto the saints. For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem.

*Galatians 1:2* And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia:

*1 Corinthians 16:19* The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.

*Galatians 1:22* And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judaea which were in Christ:

*Colossians 4:16* And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read alsoin the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.

The Church is a Commissioned Organization

*Matthew 28:19,20* Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

M*ark 16:15* And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Luke *24:47* And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

*John 20:21* Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.

Act*s 1:8* But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon

you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all

Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

*1 Corinthians 15:58* Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

The Church has Ordinances / #9 Immersion/ #12 The Lord's Supper

The Church is to be Financed #20 Tithing

The Church and me

*Acts 2:47* Praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

*1 Corinthians 12:18* But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.

*Ephesians 5:25* Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

*Hebrews 10:25* Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Close

*1 Timothy Chapter 3*