

Colossians 3:9-11 - 9 Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices, 10 and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him 11 — **a renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.**

Galatians 3:26-28 - 26 For **you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.** 27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. **28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.** NASB

1 John 4:7-13 - 7 Beloved, **let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.** 8 The one who does not love does not know God, **for God is love.** 9 **By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him.** 10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, **if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.** 12 No one has beheld God at any time; **if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us.** NASB

John 13:34-35 - 34 "A new commandment I give to you, that **you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.** 35 "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." NASB

Ephesians 4:1-6 - 1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, entreat you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, 2 **with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing forbearance to one another in love, 3 being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.** 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all. NASB

Ephesians 5:1-2 - 1 Therefore be **imitators of God, as beloved children; 2 and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you, and gave Himself up for us,** an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma. NASB

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 - 13 If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but **do not have love, I have become a noisy gong** or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, **but do not have love, I am nothing.** 3 And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but **do not have love, it profits me nothing.** NASB

What is the Church? – Part 2

The Authority of the Church - Matthew 16:19

Rediscover Church Definition of the Church

The church is a group of Christians

Who assemble as an earthly Embassy of Christ heavenly kingdom

To proclaim the good news and commands of Christ the King

To affirm one another as his citizens through the ordinances

And to display God's own holiness and love

Through a unified diverse people

In all the world

Following the teaching an example of Pastor-elders

In today's message, let us consider 3 parts of the definition concerning the Church.

- **To affirm one another as his citizens through the ordinances**
- **And to display God's own holiness and love**
- **Through a unified diverse people**

The Authority of the Church. What authority does the Church possess? **Where** does the authority of the Church come from, and by what **standard** do we assess its **role** and **function**? The certain answers of these questions are:

The Church possess the authority on earth as an embassy of heaven.

The Church was given her authority from Christ Himself.

The Church's authority is defined and explained in the Scriptures.

Matthew 16:15-20 - 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 And Simon Peter answered and said, **"Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."** 17 And Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it. 19 **"I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."** 20 Then He warned the disciples that they should tell no one that He was the Christ. NASB

Matthew 28:18-20 - 18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, **"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth."** NASB

Ephesians 1:18-23 - 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and **what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe.** These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might 20 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, **and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come. 22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body,** the fulness of Him who fills all in all. NASB

1 Corinthians 6:1-3 - 1 Does any one of you, when he has a case against his neighbor, dare to go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? **2 Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts? 3 Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, matters of this life?** NASB

Matthew 18:15-20 - 15 "And if your brother sins, go and reprove him in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother. 16 "But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed. **17 "And if he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax-gatherer. 18 "Truly I say to you, whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. 19 "Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven. 20 "For where two or three have gathered together in My name, there I am in their midst."** **1 Corinthians 10:16-17** - 16 Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ? **17 Since there is one bread, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one bread.** NASB

1 Corinthians 11:33 - 33 So then, my brethren, **when you come together** to eat, wait for one another. NASB

Hebrews 13:17 - 17 Obey your leaders, and submit to them; **for they keep watch over your souls, as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief,** for this would be unprofitable for you. NASB

1 Corinthians 5:9-13 - 9 I wrote **you in my letter not to associate with immoral people;** 10 I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters; for then you would have to go out of the world. 11 But actually, **I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he should be an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler — not even to eat with such a one.** 12 For what have I to do with judging outsiders? **Do you not judge those who are within the church?** 13 But those who are outside, God judges. **Remove the wicked man from among yourselves.** NASB

2 Corinthians 2:6-11 - 6 Sufficient for such a one is this punishment which was inflicted by the majority, **7 so that on the contrary you should rather forgive and comfort him, lest somehow such a one be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. 8 Wherefore I urge you to reaffirm your love for him. 9 For to this end also I wrote that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things. 10** But whom you forgive anything, I forgive also; for indeed what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, I did it for your sakes in the presence of Christ, 11 in order that no advantage be taken of us by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his schemes. NASB

1 John 2:3-6 - 3 And **by this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. 4** The one who says, **"I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him;** 5 but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this **we know that we are in Him:** NASB

Hebrews 12:6,11 - 6 For **those whom the Lord loves He disciplines,** And He scourges every son whom He receives." 11 All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; **yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.** NASB

Romans 6:1-2 - 1 What shall we say then? **Are we to continue in sin that grace might increase? 2 May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it?**

Colossians 3:12-17 - 12 And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, **put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. 14 And beyond all these things put on love,** which is the perfect bond of unity. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, **with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another** with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father. NASB