

## THE DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH:

- I. The book of Ephesians reveals to us through pictures the nature of the Church
- A. Eph 1:22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all Things to the **church**,
1. **Def Church:** ecclesia: to call out
    - a. we are called out of the world through faith in Jesus Christ for a special purpose of God
      - (1) 1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who **called you out** of darkness into His marvelous light;
- B. The First picture of the church is that of an **ASSEMBLY**, and this is seen in The continuing definition of the word **CHURCH**:
1. **Def CHURCH** cont.: "**ECCLESIA**": literally means: a legal or governing assembly
- C. **Three elements** that constitute the procedure for admission to the assembly / Church of Jesus Christ:
- Matt 16:15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
- 16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
- 17 Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.
- 18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.
- 19 And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."
1. **DIRECT CONFRONTATION:**
    - a. 1. Peter met Jesus face to face:
      - (1) there was no mediator, no middle man.
    - b. In order to gain admission into the Assembly of the Church of Our Lord Jesus we each must have a personal confrontation of meeting Jesus Christ:
      - (1) a. John 3:7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

## 2. REVELATION GRANTED:

- a. Jesus asks Peter in: Matt 16:15 "But who do you say that I am?"
  - (1) God through the Holy Spirit granted Peter revelation knowledge of whom Jesus truly was:
    - (a) Matt 16:17 "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not **revealed** this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.
- b. We each must also receive the same personal revelation knowledge of Jesus
  - (1) not head knowledge / rather: revelation knowledge
    - (a) Eph 1:17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and **revelation** in the knowledge of Him, 18 the eyes of your understanding being **enlightened**;

## 3. CONFESSION OF THE REVELATION:

- a. Matt 16:16 Simon Peter answered and **said**, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
  - (1) We must also confess Jesus out loud for entrance into His assembly / church
    - (a) Rom 10:9 that if you **confess** with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.
    - (b) Luke 12:8 "Also I say to you, whoever **confesses** Me before men, him the Son of Man also will confess before the angels of God.  
9 But he who denies Me before men will be denied before the angels of God.

II. Whenever God is about to do something, it always starts off in the spirit realm: and then manifests itself in the physical realm:’

- A. Heb 11:3 By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.
  - 1. This verse reveals God’s divine order of creation & how God moves
    - a. God always starts by faith in the spirit realm
  - 2. This is also the **divine order** of how the church is to move in what God has called us to do for His glory:
    - a. Christians are to assume their responsibilities as citizens in their community, state and nation: but it must all first be birthed in the spirit realm through prayer: individual & corporate prayer

- b. By **Intercessory Prayer**: the church is to gather as a God ordained legal governing assembly using the keys of the Kingdom of heaven given to us by Jesus:
- B. Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the **gates** of Hades shall **not prevail** against it.
1. it is not our Church, But His / Jesus Church
  2. Jesus said He would build His church, "**On this rock**"
    - a. that "**Rock**" is a revelation of & whom Jesus is:
    - b. Jesus said the Gates of hell would not prevail against the church:
      - (1) **Def Gates**: a doorway of a building or a city, a portal
      - (2) every city has spiritual gates or portals that has spiritual activity entering in through it / or stopping accesses of what is attempting to enter in
  3. As an assembly the church is to assume the role of the spiritual **gatekeepers** of the city: by legislating in the spirit realm what is allowed in & what is allowed to take place in the city
- C. Matt 16:19 And I (Jesus) will give you the **keys of the kingdom of heaven**, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."
1. One of the spiritual keys of the kingdom of heaven that Jesus has given us as His legal assembly is the power to legislate binding & loosening
  2. We find an example of the church spiritually legislating in:
    - a. Eph 3:10 to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,
- D. The spiritual principle of God's people ruling in the gates of the city: both In the natural & spirit realm goes back to an Old Testament foundation & is Now passed on passed on through the New testament Covenant::
1. Gen 22:15 Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven,
    - 16 and said:"By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son —
    - 17 blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and **your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.**

2. When Rebecca was being sent off to marriage her parents spoke this Blessing of Abraham over their daughter
  - a. Gen 24:60 And they blessed Rebekah, and said unto her, Thou art our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of millions, and **let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them.**
3. Gal 3:14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus,

III. In scripture, the title that was regularly used for the assembly of God's people When they met in divine order was: **ZION**

A. Heb 12:22 But you have come to **Mount Zion** and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, 23 to the **general assembly** and **church of the firstborn** who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, 24 to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant,

1. **This is not a future event!!!!!!!**

a. Spiritually, we are already part of the total governmental assembly of God who meet in the spirit realm in Zion

B. We, as the church / assembly are the **representatives of God's authority on the earth:**

1. Ps 110:1 The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool."

Ps 110:2 The Lord shall send the rod of Your strength out of **Zion**. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

a. in vs 1 God The Father speaks to His Son, Jesus Christ and tells Him to stretch out rod / scepter and commands Jesus to rule from **ZION**:

(1) According to Heb 12:22 Zion is the place where the Church / assembly of the people of God have gathered in the spirit realm

b. and then God The Father commands The Lord (Jesus) to "**RULE** in the midst of Your enemies"

(1) How many know that there are no enemies in heaven

(2) Now that Jesus has: shed His blood, rose from the dead & ascended into heaven: God expects Jesus to extend His rule upon the earth thru His legal assembly / The Church

2. Christians are to be like the "**rod of Moses**" in the hands of Jesus Christ

- a. we are the rod stretched forth in The Lord's hand representing His authority in whatever sphere He has given us to operate in upon the earth
  - (1) Matt 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All **authority** has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.  
19 Go therefore
  - (2) Luke 10:19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy,
  - (3) Matt 18:18 "Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

C. Matt 6:10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

- 1. The "spirit of anti-christ / that is already manifesting here in the earth according to 1 Jn 2:18:
  - a. wants to limit the church to just preaching in a building & singing songs
  - b. But Biblical Church Doctrine teaches that the Church is God's legal Assembly carrying out the will of God upon the earth

C. It is time for the Assembly to legislate the will of God:

- 1. What issues do you have in your life that need bound?
- 2. What needs do you have that have to be loosed, so you may receive?
- 3. Also, there are things going on in our nation that need to be bound & Loosed:
  - a. So, we as an assembly are going to stand & declare the manifold wisdom Of God to the principalities & powers of the air
  - b. we are going to declare the word / law of God as a legal, Blood bought assembly
  - c. and we are going to bind & loosen as a corporate body / assembly
    - (1) do not just stand there and listen to me pray...but you enter in
    - (2) declare out loud / bind & loosen