



The New Testament Church

Matthew 16:13-18


Denominational Concept





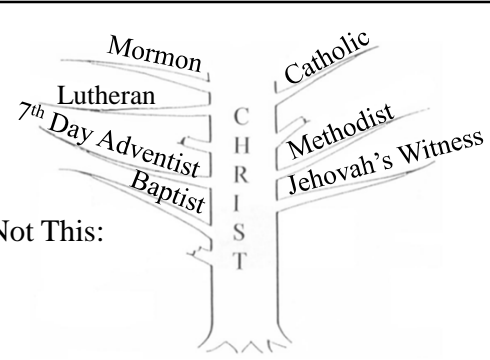
SO:

- Catholic
- Lutheran
- Baptist
- Methodist
- 7th Day Adventist
- Mormon
- Jehovah's Witness



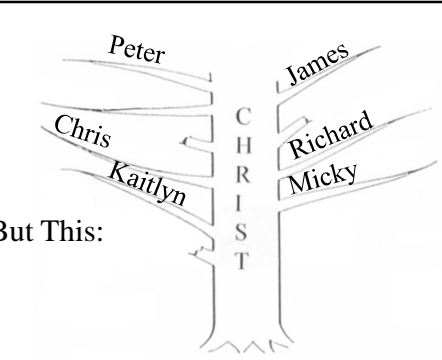
Invisible Church

Not This:



John 15:5 – “I am the vine ... Ye are the branches”

But This:



John 15:5-6 – “He who abides in me ... If anyone does not abide in me ... he is cast out ...”

The New Testament Church

- **Founded upon Jesus Christ, the Son of God.** Matthew 16:18; 1 Corinthians 3:11; 1 Corinthians. 2:2
- **Began in Jerusalem about 33 A.D.** Isaiah 2:3; Matthew 3:2; Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:14-15; Luke 10:9; Matthew 10:7; Mark 9:1; Luke 24:44ff; Acts 1:6-8; 2:1-4,47; 11:15
- **Christ is its head and only source of authority.** Matthew 28:19; Ephesians 1:22-23; Matthew 21:23-27; Matthew 7:21; Luke 6:46

The New Testament Church

- **Organized after the divine pattern.**
 - Philippians 1:1
 - Elders: Acts 14:23; 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1ff; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-7
 - Deacons: 1 Timothy 3:8-13
 - Members: 1 Corinthians 12:12ff

Organization of the Church as Revealed in the Bible

1. Christ is head of every local church.
2. The Bible is the only written creed for each local church.
3. Each local church is autonomous and self-governing.
4. No organizational tie between local churches.
5. No organization larger than local churches.
6. Local churches appoint their own plurality of elders.

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Departure In Organization

Organization of the Local Church as Revealed in the Bible and Witnessed by History 33-150 AD

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Organization of the Local Church 150 AD "The Exalted Elder of the Eldership"

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Organization of the Local Church 250 AD "One Diocesan Bishop over Churches"

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Organization of the Local Church 300 AD "One Metropolitan over Diocesan Bishops"

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