

The New Testament Church

(Part 5)
Matthew 16:13-18

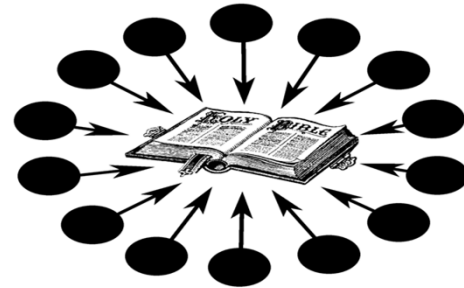
The New Testament Church

- **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.
- www.bible.ca

Elders, Bishops, And Pastors

- Clearly “elders,” “overseers,” “pastors,” and “bishops” in these passages are used interchangeably, referring to the same men in the same work.
- All three terms refer to an office in the local congregation, and are therefore identical in extent of jurisdiction (cf. Acts 20:17, 28; 1 Peter 5:1-3; etc.). Their qualifications and works are identical.
- It is a perversion in organization for denominations to distinguish the terms and apply them to different offices.

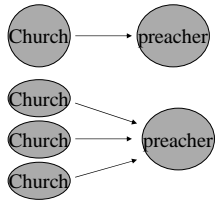
The New Testament Church

- **Has a divine mission.**
 - Evangelism. 1 Timothy 3:15; Acts 11:22; Philippians 1:3-5; 4:14-16; 2 Corinthians 11:8-9
 - Benevolence. Acts 2, 4, 6; Acts 11:27-30; 1 Corinthians 16:1-3; 2 Corinthians 8:1-5; 9:1-2; Romans 15:25ff
 - Edification. Ephesians 4:11-16

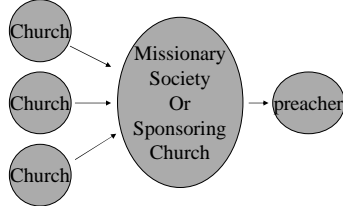
Bible Pattern For The Work Of Evangelism

- 1 Timothy 3:15; 1 Corinthians 9:14; Acts 11:22; Philippians 4:15; 2 Corinthians 11:8-9.

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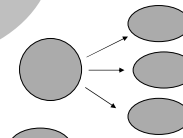
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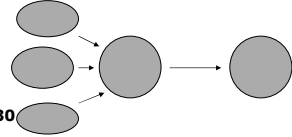
Bible Pattern For The Work Of Benevolence

This:

Acts 2, 4, 6



Not This:



Acts 11:27-30

1 Corinthians 16:1-3
2 Corinlian 8-9
Romans 15:25ff

Reason for giving:
"that there might be equality"
2 Corinthians 8:14

Bible Pattern For The Work Of Edification



- 1. Place
- 2. Personnel
- 3. Provisions

Ephesians 4:11-16

The Lord's Church Is Not ...

- A Political Force. John 18:33-38
- A Business Organization. 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:7
- A Secular School. 1 Corinthians 1:20-21
- A Social Center. Romans 14:17; 1 Corinthians 11:22-34

The New Testament Church

- **No creed but the Bible.**
 - Gospel – God's power to save. Romans 1:16
- **Complete will of God.** 2 Peter 1:3
 - Promised. John 14:26; 15:26; 16:13
 - Inspired. 2 Timothy 3:16-17
 - Spirit revealed. Ephesians 3:6; 1 Corinthians 2:6-16; 1 Peter 1:12
 - May not add to or change. Galatians 1:6-9; 2 John 9
 - Understandable. Ephesians 3:3-4
 - Once for all delivered. Jude 3

The New Testament Church

- **Scriptural in name.**
 - "The church of God" 1 Corinthians 1:2; 1 Timothy 3:15
 - "The body of Christ" Ephesians 1:22-23
 - "Bride of Christ" Romans 7:4; Revelation 21:9
 - "Church of the firstborn" Hebrews 12:23
 - "House of God" 1 Timothy 3:15
 - "Churches of Christ" Romans 16:16

The New Testament Church

- **Members called by Scriptural names:**
 - Disciples. John 15:8; Acts 11:26
 - Saints. Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; Philippians 1:1
 - Brethren. Luke 8:21; Galatians 6:1
 - Children. Galatians 3:26; 1 John 2:1
 - Christians. Isaiah 62:2; Acts 11:26; 26:28; 1 Peter 4:16
- **Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? 1 Corinthians 1:12-13**