

INTRODUCTION: VISIBLE & LOCAL (physical & particular; also invisible & global; see Gen.2:7; Heb.12:23 /Mal.1:11; 1Tm.2:8; Rev.2,3; Paul's letters; 1Pt.5:9 /Rom.12; 1Cor.12; Eph.4)

I. TRUTH: THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH

- A. THE PEOPLE OF GOD** (PPK; Egypt, Canaan, exile; Jer21:8; Ex.28:12,21; 1Sm15:1 /Jn1:1f; Hb.5:1f; Acts 2:32)
- B. THE NATION OF ISRAEL** (King; Gen.12:2; Ex.19:6; 1Chr.17:21; Phil.3:5; see Eph.2:12f)
- C. THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL** (King; *Josh.7:16-18*; 1Sam.15:17; Ps.122:4)
- D. THE CITY OF GOD** (King; Ps.48; Rev.21,22; see 8/28/19 sermon)
- E. THE KINGDOM OF GOD** (King; Ps.2,110; Eph.1:19-23; Phil.2:9-11)
- F. THE VINE OF GOD** (Ps.80:8f; Is.5:1f; Jn.15:1f; see olive tree; Rom.11:17)
- G. THE BODY OF CHRIST** (Head; 1Cor.12:12f,13,25,27; 1:2; Eph.1:22,23; 3:6; 4:12,16; 5:23f,30; Col.1:18,24)
- H. THE BRIDE OF CHRIST** (Husband; see Eph.5:25f; Rev.19:7f; 21:2; see 1Tm.3:5,15 w/Gal.6:10)
- I. THE FAMILY OF FAITH** (Gal.6:10; 1Tm.3:5; 5:8; see Lk.10:7)
- J. THE BUILDING OF CHRIST** (Cornerstone; 1Cor.3:16,10; Eph.2:20; 1Pt.2:4f)
- K. THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST** (Mystery; 1Tm3:15,16; Rm.10:9,10(Lk6:45); ie, *Confession(al), Testimony*)
- L. SUMMARY: CHRIST'S CHURCH IS VISIBLE & LOCAL**

II. CONSEQUENCES: FURTHER ILLUSTRATIONS & APPLICATIONS

- A. ILLUSTRATIONS: (MARRIAGE; FAMILY); BUSINESS; MILITARY; SPORTS; COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS; HOUSES**
- B. THE INVISIBLE CHURCH** (Rom.9:6; Heb.12:23; see Gen.2:7; 1Cor.15:42f; vs. Docetism, Gnosticism)
- C. PAN-CHURCH MEMBERSHIP** (Lk.10:7; see Acts 13:1f; 15:35f; 18:22f; see Acts 18:2)
- D. ASSOCIATE, PARTNER VS. COVENANTED MEMBER** (1Cor.12:12f,27; Eph.3:6; 4:25; note: bride, body, building; see Ex.6:7)
- E. LIVING & ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP** (Heb.10:25; see Rom.12:4f; 1Cor.12:7f,25; Eph.4:12f,16,25; 5:29,30)
- F. ORDINARY MEANS VS. SUPERHERO FADS** (Acts 2:42; 1Cor.3:4f)
- G. AN ORDERLY ARRANGEMENT** (1Cor.12:28; Eph.2:20; 4:11; see 1Th.5:12f; Heb.13:17; 1Pt.5:5,1f)

CONCLUSION: THE LORD JESUS WANTS YOU! (Acts 2:37f; 41,42; 1Cor.12:13; Eph.4:12f,16)

Brethren, what shall WE DO? (see Acts 2:37f)