

The Universal Church

The Greek word for church is EKKLESIA.

EK = out of
KLESIA = called

* The word meaning is dictated by how it's used in the scriptures.

* EKKLESIA is a called out assembly.

Matt. 16:18 I will build My Church

- 1) The word "will" means past, present, and future.
- 2) Christ called it His Assembly.

I Cor. 11:18 When ye come together in the church

- 1) Paul to Church at Corinth.
- 2) Assembly in a local, visible place.

I Cor. 1:2 Church at Corinth

- 1) The word "church" – is an assembly of Believers.
- 2) A local, visible group.

* A church must be local--can't assemble if everyone is all over the world.

Acts 7:38 The Church in the wilderness

- 1) Children of Israel camped surrounding the Tabernacle.
- 2) Israel came together in One place, local, visible body.

Col. 1:18 Christ is the head

Christ is to have the preeminence.

Eph. 1:20-23 Hath put all things under his feet

Eph. 2:19-22 Church is referred to as a building

A building is local not universal.

II Cor. 11:1-2 Church is referred to as a Bride

* A body must be local. If the body is apart it's no longer local.

* Local must be seen. They can't come together and assemble if invisible.

II Cor. 1:1 Paul's writing to the Church

If the church is universal, all of body of Christ, how could Paul go to it?

Acts 20:6-7 **Paul assembled in Troas**

- 1) The disciples came together in on place.
- 2) All eating (breaking of bread) is a N.T. Church.

I Thes. 3:10 **Paul desired to see their faces**

- 1) Assembly must be seen.
- 2) How can you baptize what you can't see?
- 3) How can you take Lord's Supper if not seen?
- 4) How can you be disciples if not seen?

Rom. 16:1 **Servant of the Church**

Can you serve a universal church NOT SEEN?

I Cor. 6:4 **Judge in a Church**

Can the least esteemed judge in a universal church?

I Tim. 3:5 **Take care of the Church of God**

Can a Bishop take care of a universal church?

I Cor. 14:40 **Let all things be done decently and in order**

- 1) Organized, local, visible assembly.
- 2) God has given man a pattern to love and to worship by.

* God gave Moses a pattern for the Tabernacle. **Ex. 25:8-9; 26:30; 27:8**

* God has given His N.T. Church a pattern.

Heb. 8:2-6 **Minister of the True Tabernacle**

- 1) The Tabernacle is a type / pattern of a N.T. Church.
- 2) When did the Lord's N.T. Church start?

Matt. 4: 17-22 **Beginning of N.T. Church**

Christ started His Church during His personal ministry on the sea shores of Galilee.

Matt. 16:18-19 **I will build My Church**

- 1) Keys represent Authority.
- 2) Jesus didn't start a universal, invisible church,
- 3) But a local, visible N.T. Church.