



MAJOR BIBLE THEMES

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HOMEWORK: READ CHAP 36



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WHAT IS THE MEANING OF "CHURCH" ?

"CHURCH" - Ekklesia (Greek)

SECULAR MEANING

- It **does not refer to people**
- It refers to a formal meeting of a political assembly

- Acts 19:32,39,41

NT MEANING - 2 Basic Uses

- "The Church" - **As an organism ("called out ones")** - Eph 1:22,23; Heb12:23
 - A living union of all believers in Christ - His body
 - Christ is the head
 - Believers between Pentecost & the Rapture
- Eph 5:23; Col 1:18
- "The Church" - **Local or organized church**
 - A singular group (meeting in a house or at HHBC) - 1 Cor 16:19; Col 4:15
 - Several different groups in a city or local - 1 Cor 4:17; 11:16; Gal 1:2

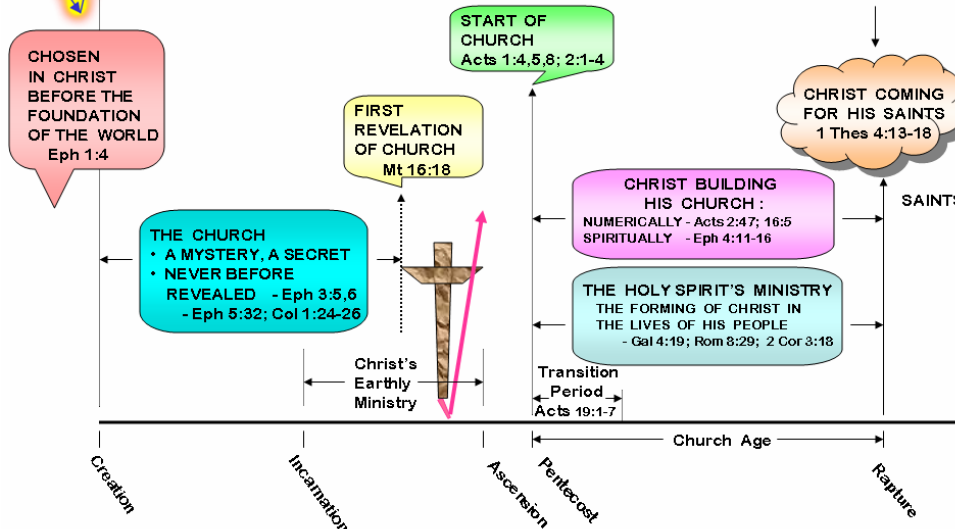


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THE CHURCH : HER MEMBERS

THE CHURCH : OVERVIEW

CHRIST
"WILL PRESENT
TO HIMSELF THE
CHURCH BLAMELESS"
Eph 5:27



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THE CHURCH : HER MEMBERS

WHEN DID THE CHURCH START ?

- **THE CHURCH WAS NEVER REVEALED IN THE OT**
- **THE CHURCH WAS FIRST FORTOLD BY CHRIST** - Mt 16:18
- **HE SAID IT WOULD START AFTER HIS EARTHLY MINISTRY** - Acts 1:4,5,8
- **THE CHURCH STARTED ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST** - Acts 2:1-4
- **THE CHURCH INCREASED NUMERICALLY VIA THE GOSPEL** - Acts 2:47; 16:5
- **CHRIST IS THE FOUNDER & FOUNDATION** - Mt 16:18; 1 Cor 3:11
- **DISAGREEMENTS ON THE START OF THE CHURCH**
 - **BY ULTRADISPENSATIONALISM**
 - Teaches the church started sometime after Pentecost
 - Moderates - Some say Acts 9, others say Acts 13 (They observe the Lord's table but not water baptism)
 - Extremes - Acts 28 (No observance of Lord's table or water baptism)

NOTE:

- Paul taught the church started on Pentecost
- He believed in Acts 9 & persecuted the "church" prior - 1 Cor 15:9; Gal 1:13; Phil 3:6