

Unplugged

Becoming crystal clear on what makes CPC God's tribe.

June 25- August 6, 2023

Cliff Notes for the Believer

Week 3 - The Church

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The Central Truth:

In 1646, the church was officially defined, *"the church is a company of visible saints, called and separated from the world by the Word and the Spirit of God, to the visible profession of the faith of the Gospel, being baptized into that faith."* - Dr. Charles C Ryrie, *Basic Theology*.

15 Truths About The Church:

- The church, the *ecclesia*, is Biblically known as the "called out ones".
- The Holy Spirit dwells in Christians (I Cor. 6:19), in local churches (I Cor. 3:16), and in the Body of Christ (Eph. 2:22).
- Everyone is born into sin and in need of a Savior. (Romans 3:23)
- Jesus loves the church so much that he watches for wolves. (Acts 20:28)
- The church is built using spiritual gifts in believers. (Ephesians 4:12)
- The church has ordinances - baptism of believers, and the Lord's Supper.
- NT churches met in homes; buildings appeared 300+ years later.
- Churches are seen as *universal*, *visible*, and also *local* in expression.
- The blood of Jesus paid for our sins and *purchased* the church!
- In Acts, the church first worshipped "on the first day of the week" in commemoration of the resurrection of Jesus on the *first* day!
- Believers exist to build up & encourage one another. (I Thess. 5:11)
- NT churches should forgive quickly and be tender in spirit, just like Jesus did. (Ephesians 4:32)
- Churches are to influence the culture, not the other way around!
- It is the Holy Spirit that brings believers into the body, "by one Spirit".
- Giving is to reflect the Spirit of Jesus, and commensurate with our wages. (I Corinthians 16:2)

Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace and was strengthened. Living in the fear of the Lord and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it increased in number. Acts 9:31 (NIV)

Sources: *Basic Theology* by Charles C Ryrie, *Got Questions*, *Unger's Bible Dictionary*, *Lee Strobel*

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