

Doctrine of the Church

*A Comprehensive Biblical Study
of Jesus Christ*

"Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against

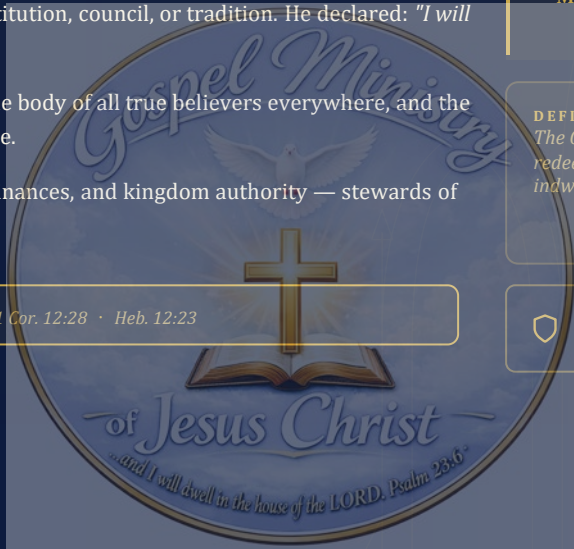
Matthew 16:18 (KJV)

The Church — *Ekklesia*

- ✚ **Ekklesia** = “called-out assembly” — the body of those called out of the world by God, set apart for His purposes.
- ✚ **Founded by Christ Himself** — not by man's institution, council, or tradition. He declared: “I will build my church.”
- ✚ **Universal & Local** — the Church is both the whole body of all true believers everywhere, and the local gathered congregation assembled in His name.
- ✚ **Entrusted by Christ** with the Word, the holy ordinances, and kingdom authority — stewards of the mysteries of God.

CROSS-REFERENCES

Acts 2:47 · Eph. 1:22–23 · Col. 1:18 · 1 Cor. 12:28 · Heb. 12:23



Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
— Matthew 16:18 (KJV)

DEFINITION

The Church is not a building, denomination, or human institution — it is the redeemed community of God's people, purchased by the blood of Christ, indwelt by the Holy Spirit, and united under His sovereign Headship forever.

🛡️ **The gates of hell shall not prevail** — Christ's promise of the Church's indestructibility through every age.

Marks of the True Church

📖 *"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." — John 13:35 (KJV)*



Faithful Preaching of the Word

2 TIMOTHY 4:2

Preach the word in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine.



Genuine Worship in Spirit and Truth

JOHN 4:24

God is a Spirit: those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth — not in form alone.



Right Administration of the Ordinances

1 CORINTHIANS 11:26

Baptism and the Lord's Supper rightly observed — proclaiming the Lord's death till He comes.



Love Among the Brethren

JOHN 13:35

The distinguishing mark of Christ's disciples — visible, sacrificial love that bears witness to the world.



Church Discipline Practiced

MATTHEW 18:17

Unrepentant sin addressed through the Matthew 18 process — protecting the body and restoring the fallen.



The Gospel Proclaimed

MARK 16:15

Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature — the church exists to herald Christ crucified.





Purpose of the Church

EPHESIANS 3:10 — KJV

“Unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God.”

🔹 To Glorify God

Making His manifold wisdom known in the heavenly

🔹 To Evangelize

Proclaiming salvation to all nations — Matthew 28:19-20 | Acts

🔹 To Edify Believers

Equipping the saints for the work of ministry — Ephesians

🔹 To Administer the Ordinances

Baptism and the Lord’s Supper — 1 Timothy

🔹 To Manifest the Kingdom

Salt and light in the earth — Romans

🔹 To Worship

Assembling in Spirit and Truth — John

4:24

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 28:19-20| Acts 1:8| Ephesians 4:12| 1 Timothy 3:15| Romans 15:16



“Ye are the light of the world”

— Matthew 5:14

THE BODY OF CHRIST

"Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular." — 1 Corinthians 12:27 (KJV)



CHRIST THE HEAD

Colossians 1:18 — "He is the head of the body, the church...that in all things he might have the preeminence."



He is the Head of the body

Christ alone governs and gives life to the Church



He has the preeminence

In all things — first in rank, first in authority



All authority flows from Him

No decree, doctrine, or order outside His Word



The church submits to His lordship

His will — supreme over all human tradition



BELIEVERS THE MEMBERS

1 Corinthians 12:12 — "For as the body is one, and hath many members...so also is Christ."



Each member uniquely gifted

By the Spirit — for the good of the whole body



Members depend on one another

No member is independent — all are interdependent



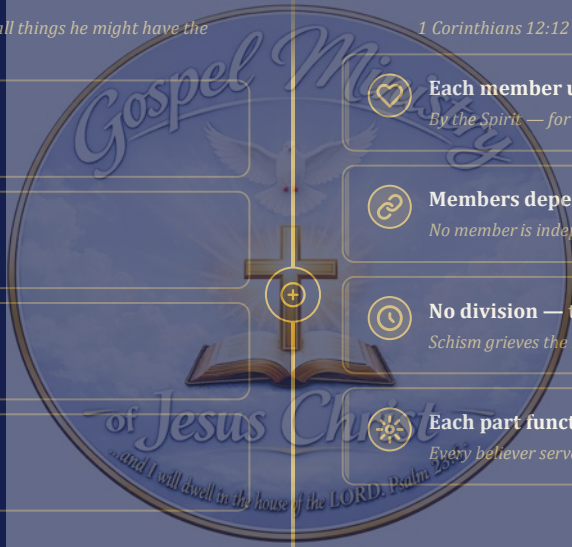
No division — the body is one

Schism grieves the Head and wounds the whole



Each part functions for the whole

Every believer serves in their appointed place



CROSS-REFERENCES

Ephesians 1:22-23

Ephesians 4:15-16

Romans 12:4-5

1 Corinthians 12:12-14

Colossians 1:24

“



I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of
heaven,
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

— Revelation 21:2 (KJV)

“Christ loved the church, and gave himself for it”

Ephesians 5:25

2 Corinthians 11:2

Revelation 19:7-8

John 3:29

Isaiah 62:5

Ephesians 5:26-27

The Church is the eternal bride — purified, sanctified, and presented to Christ in glory.

• Fellowship — Koinonia

☞ *"They continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers."*
— Acts 2:42 (KJV)



Koinonia = partnership, sharing, communion

Participation in the very life of Christ — not mere social



Expressed in breaking of bread together

The Lord's Table — remembering His death till He comes · 1 Corinthians



Mutual bearing of one another's burdens

Fulfilling the law of Christ in practical love · Galatians



Sharing of material goods among the needy

The early church — one heart, one soul, all things common · Acts



Fellowship of suffering with Christ

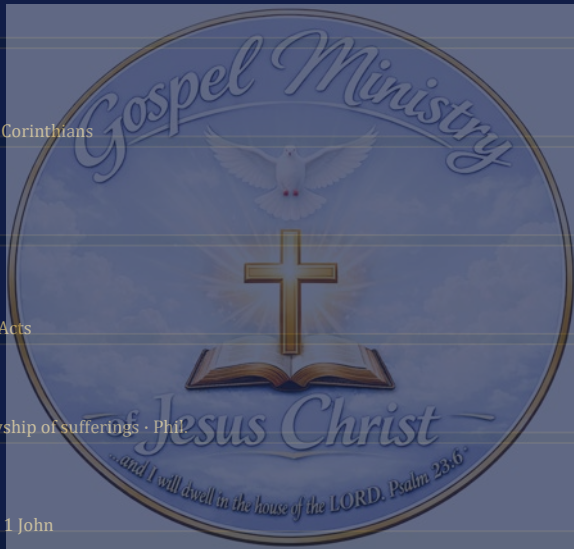
Knowing Him in the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sufferings · Phil



Only possible with those walking in the light

If we walk in the light, we have fellowship one with another · 1 John

1:7



CROSS-REFERENCES

- 1 John 1:3
- Philippians 1:5
- Hebrews 10:24–25
- 2 Corinthians 6:14
- Galatians 6:2

ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΑ

*Partnership · Communion
Sharing · Community*

Priesthood of All Believers

1 PETER 2:9 "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light."



Royal Priesthood

Every believer has direct, unmediated access to God through Christ alone.

1 Peter 2:9



Direct Access to the Father

Come boldly to the throne of grace — no earthly mediator required.

Hebrews 4:16



Offering Spiritual Sacrifices

Present bodies as living sacrifices — holy, acceptable, reasonable worship.

1 Peter 2:5



Intercession for Others

Every believer is called to stand in the gap and pray for all people.

1 Timothy 2:1



Declaring the Word

How shall they hear without a preacher? Every saint proclaims the Gospel.

Romans 10:14-15



Spirit-Filled Ministry

Sons and daughters shall prophesy — the Spirit poured out upon all flesh.

Acts 2:17-18



CROSS-REFERENCES

Revelation 1:6 | Revelation 5:10 | Hebrews 10:19-22 | Romans 12:1 | 1 Peter 2:5



Church Membership

KJV · ACTS 2:47

"The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

THE PATH OF MEMBERSHIP — FIVE SACRED STEPS

1



Repentance & Faith

Genuine conversion — born again by the Spirit of God

John 3:3

2



Public Confession

Confessing Christ openly before men — declaring His lordship

Romans 10:9-10

3



Baptism

Outward sign of inward grace — joining the visible body of Christ

Acts 2:41

4



Reception into Local Church

Added to the rolls — welcomed into the covenant community

Acts 2:47

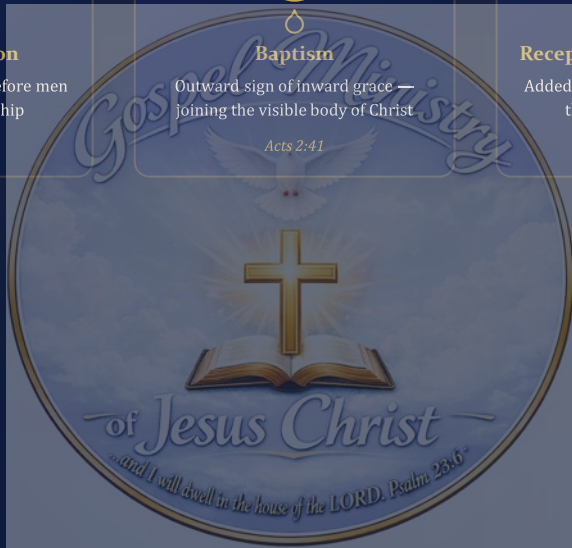
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Active Participation

Serving, giving, attending, and growing in the body together

Hebrews 10:25



CROSS-REFERENCES

Acts 2:41 Romans 12:4-5 1 Corinthians 12:13 Ephesians 2:19-20 Hebrews 10:25



Baptism

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

— Matthew 28:19 (KJV)



Commanded by Christ — not optional for the

believer



Mode: Immersion — burial and resurrection with Christ

Matthew 28:19 — a direct ordinance from the Lord Himself

Romans 6:4 — buried with Him in baptism, raised to walk in newness of



Subjects: Believers Only — those who have repented and

life

believed



Administered by the Church — under proper

Acts 2:41 — those who received the word were baptized

authority



Symbolizes death to sin, burial, and new life in Christ

Not a private act — performed within and by the covenant community

Colossians 2:12 — buried with Him, raised through faith in God's



Does Not Save — is the public declaration of inward

power

salvation

1 Peter 3:21 — the answer of a good conscience toward God



CROSS-REFERENCES

Acts 2:38 | Romans 6:3-4 | Colossians 2:12 | Galatians 3:27 | 1 Peter 3:21



THE LORD'S SUPPER

1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-24 (KJV)

"The Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me."

I

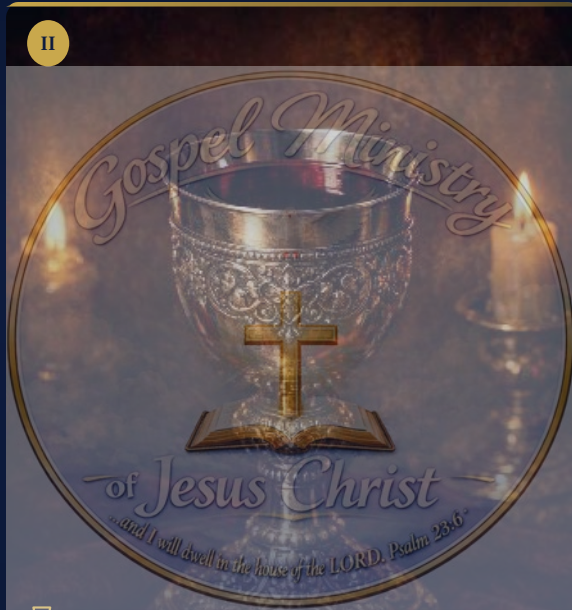


The Broken Body

His sacrifice remembered — broken for you, given freely in love

Matthew 26:26

II



The Cup of the New Covenant

His blood proclaimed — the new covenant sealed in His precious blood

Luke 22:20

III



Proclaiming His Death Till He Comes

The church gathered, bowed in remembrance — declaring His death, awaiting His return

1 Corinthians 11:26



CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 26:26-28 | Luke 22:19-20 | Acts 2:42 | John 6:53-54 | 1 Corinthians 10:16

“

FOOT WASHING · AN ORDINANCE OF HUMILITY



— John 13:14-15 (KJV)

“Whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister.” — Mark 10:43

Foot washing is an ordinance of humility — Christ's example of servant-leadership in the life of the church.

1 Timothy 5:10

Luke 7:44

Mark 10:43-45

Galatians 5:13

1 Peter 5:5

Worship in the Church

JOHN 4:24 — ANCHOR SCRIPTURE

"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

- ◆ **Worship is the chief end** of the gathered church — the primary reason the body assembles before God.
- ◆ **True worship is both inward** (in spirit — heart, soul, emotion) **and outward** (in truth — governed by the Word of God).
- ◆ **Elements of worship:** prayer, singing of psalms and hymns, preaching of the Word, administering the ordinances, and giving.
- ◆ **Corporate worship reflects heavenly worship** — the four living creatures and elders crying "Holy, holy, holy." — *Revelation 4:11*
- ◆ **Worship prepares the heart** for service and mission — a church that worships well is a church that goes forth in power.
- ◆ **Reverence and godly fear are required** — "Let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear." — *Hebrews 12:28*



Psalm 95:6

|

Revelation 4:11

|

Romans 12:1

|

Hebrews 12:28



CROSS-REFERENCES

Prayer in the Church



 "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men."
— 1 Timothy 2:1 (KJV)



SUPPLICATION

Bringing specific needs before God with earnest, humble petition

Philippians 4:6



INTERCESSION

Standing in the gap for others — priestly prayer on behalf of all men

1 Timothy 2:1



THANKSGIVING

Giving glory and gratitude to God in all things, without ceasing

1 Thessalonians 5:18



CORPORATE PRAYER

Where two or three are gathered together in His name, He is in the midst

Matthew 18:20



PREVAILING PRAYER

The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much

James 5:16



SPIRITUAL WARFARE PRAYER

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit

Ephesians 6:18



CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 18:20 | Philippians 4:6 | James 5:16 | Ephesians 6:18 | Acts 12:5

Spiritual Gifts in the Church

PNEUMATOLOGY · CHURCH MINISTRY

1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-5 · KJV

"Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord."



Gifts are sovereignly distributed by the Holy Spirit — not earned or chosen by man

1 Corinthians 12:11



Gifts are for the common good — the edification and upbuilding of the whole body

1 Corinthians 12:7



Ministry Gifts: apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers — given to equip the saints

Ephesians 4:11



Manifestation Gifts: wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, tongues — signs of the Spirit's presence

1 Corinthians 12:8-10



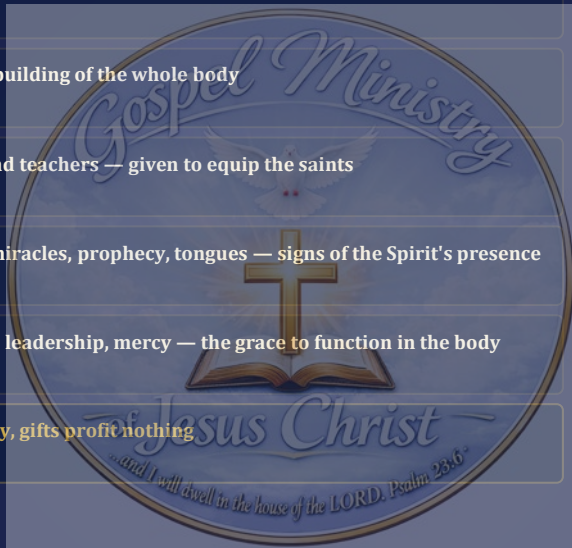
Motivational Gifts: serving, teaching, exhortation, giving, leadership, mercy — the grace to function in the body

Romans 12:6-8



Love is the greatest context for all gifts — without charity, gifts profit nothing

1 Corinthians 13:1



CROSS-REFERENCES *Romans 12:6-8 | Ephesians 4:11 | 1 Peter 4:10-11 | 1 Corinthians 12:7 | 1 Corinthians 14:12*

THE GREAT COMMISSION

*“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you
always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”*

— Matthew 28:19-20 (KJV)

The Church's Mandate — To Every Nation, Tribe, and Tongue



GO

Sent into the world



TEACH

Make disciples

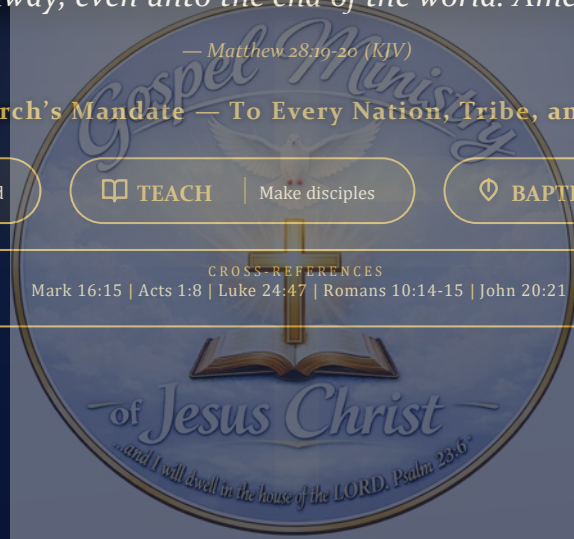


BAPTIZE

Mark them in covenant

CROSS REFERENCES

Mark 16:15 | Acts 1:8 | Luke 24:47 | Romans 10:14-15 | John 20:21



The Apostles

"Built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone."
— Ephesians 2:20 (KJV)



Foundation Role

Laid the doctrinal and scriptural foundation upon which the whole church is built

Eph. 2:20



Confirmed by Signs & Wonders

Apostolic ministry authenticated by miracles, signs, and mighty deeds of the Spirit

2 Cor. 12:12



Eyewitnesses of the Risen Christ

Qualified by personal witness to Christ's resurrection — foundational to their testimony

Acts 1:22



Sent to All Nations

Chosen and sent by Christ as His commissioned ambassadors to every nation on earth

Luke 6:13



Given Kingdom Authority

Entrusted with the keys of the kingdom — binding and loosing on earth and in heaven

Matt. 16:19



Shall Judge the Twelve Tribes

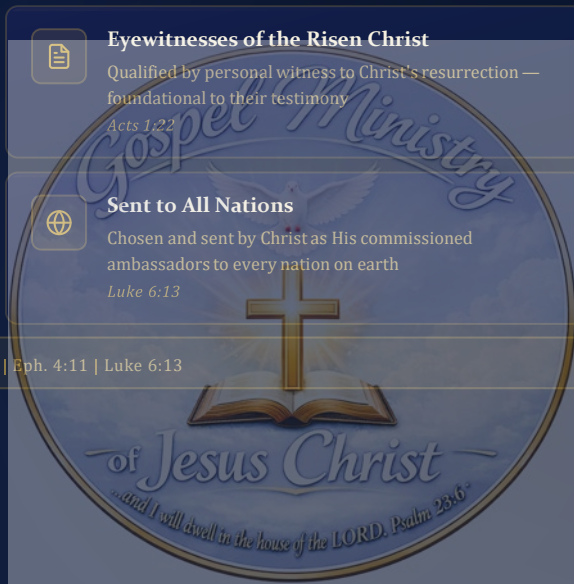
Promised royal authority to judge Israel in the coming kingdom of the Son of Man

Matt. 19:28



CROSS-REFERENCES

Matt. 10:1–2 | Acts 1:26 | 1 Cor. 12:28 | Eph. 4:11 | Luke 6:13



The Evangelist

EPHESIANS 4:11 — KJV

"He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers."



Specially gifted for proclaiming the Gospel

The evangelist carries a unique divine endowment for harvest ministry



Philip the Evangelist — a model

Acts 8:5-8, 26-40 — Samaria and the desert road: the Spirit sent and led him



"Do the work of an evangelist" — 2 Timothy 4:5

Paul's charge to Timothy — the work is commanded, not merely celebrated



Moves as the Spirit directs

Philip: sent to the desert road, then to Samaria — obedient to divine impulse



Distinct from the pastor — yet equally essential

A separate office in Christ's gift-list; both are indispensable to the body



His fruit: souls saved, baptized, added to the church

Evangelism is not complete until converts are disciplined and planted in the body





"Feed the flock of God
which is among you"
— 1 Peter 5:2

9 Pastoral Care

1 PETER 5:2-3 · KJV

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock."

9 The elder/pastor is a shepherd — feeding, leading, and guarding the flock

Ezekiel 34:2-4 · John 10:11

9 Oversight that is willing, not coerced — a calling, not a career

1 Peter 5:2 · Acts 20:28

9 Not for financial gain — a servant-heart, not a lord's position

1 Peter 5:2 · 1 Timothy 3:3

9 Visiting the sick and praying over them in faith for healing

James 5:14-15

9 Guarding against false teachers — watching over the flock night and day

Acts 20:28-31 · Titus 1:9

9 Accountable for every soul under his care — he must give an account

Hebrews 13:17

CROSS-REFERENCES: 1 Pt. 5:15-17; Heb. 13:17; 1 Pt. 20:28; 1 Pt. 1:12-13; 1 Pt. 5:14-15

Deacons *διάκονος*



"Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre." — 1 Timothy 3:8 (KJV)



Servants of the Church

diakonos = servant / minister — called to humble, active service in the body of Christ

Acts 6:1-6 · Mark 10:43-45



Tested Before Serving

Proved first — found blameless before formal installation; character must be verified before office

1 Timothy 3:10



Men of Good Character

Grave, sincere, temperate — not doubletongued, not greedy, holding the faith in a pure conscience

1 Timothy 3:8-9



Overseeing Practical Needs

Appointed to free the apostles for prayer and the Word — caring for widows and the vulnerable among the flock

Acts 6:1-6



Proven in the Home

Husband of one wife, children well-governed — domestic faithfulness qualifies ministry faithfulness

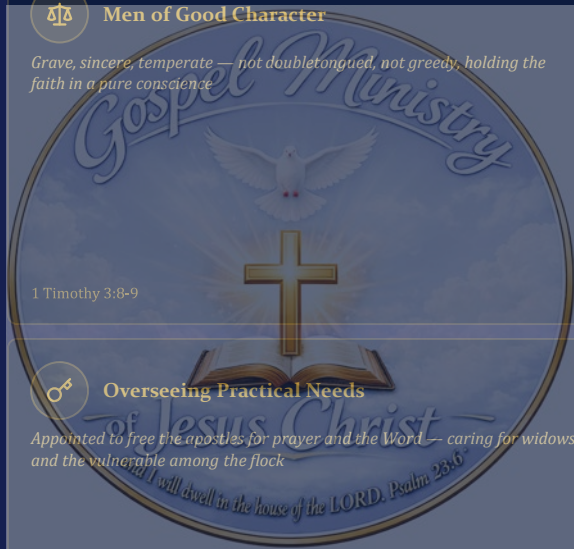
1 Timothy 3:12



Rewarded with Good Standing

They that serve well purchase a good degree and great boldness in the faith — honour in this life and the next

1 Timothy 3:13



Ordination

"Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery."
— 1 Timothy 4:14 (KJV)

1

The Divine Call

God's sovereign gifting and inner compulsion — the Spirit sets apart before men confirm.

Acts 13:2

2

Character Examined

Meeting the qualifications of 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1 — blameless in life and doctrine.

1 Timothy 3 · Titus 1

3

Proven Ministry

Demonstrated fruit before formal recognition — tested in service, faithful over small things.

1 Timothy 3:10 · Luke 16:10

4

Examination by the Eldership

Church leaders assess doctrine and life — the council of elders affirms the call in counsel.

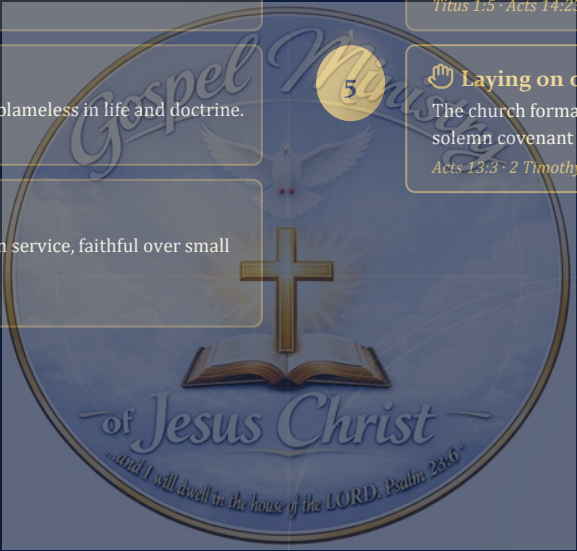
Titus 1:5 · Acts 14:23

5

Laying on of Hands

The church formally sets apart and commissions — the presbytery lays hands in solemn covenant before God.

Acts 13:3 · 2 Timothy 1:6 · Numbers 27:18



CROSS-REFERENCES

Acts 13:2-3 · Acts 6:6 · 2 Timothy 1:6 · Titus 1:5 · Numbers 27:18-23



Church Discipline

MATTHEW 18:15-17 (KJV)

"Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone... tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican."



Discipline is an act of love — restoration is always the primary goal, not punishment. — Galatians 6:1



The Process: Private confrontation → two or three witnesses → brought before the church. — Matthew 18:15-17



Purpose: To restore the erring sinner to repentance and to protect the holiness of the body. — 1 Corinthians 5:5-7



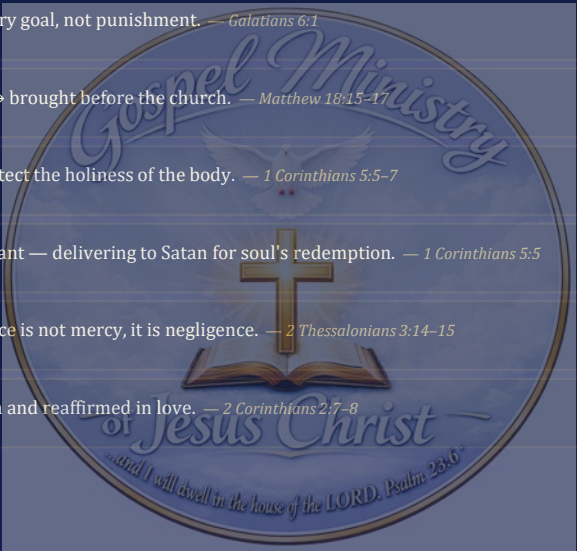
Ultimate sanction: Removal from fellowship for the unrepentant — delivering to Satan for soul's redemption. — 1 Corinthians 5:5



The church is obligated to discipline unrepentant sin — silence is not mercy, it is negligence. — 2 Thessalonians 3:14-15



Restored members are to be received with tender compassion and reaffirmed in love. — 2 Corinthians 2:7-8



CROSS-REFERENCES

1 Cor. 5:1-5·Galatians 6:1·2 Thess. 3:14-15·Titus 3:10·2 Timothy 2:24-26

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✦ Tithing & Giving

MALACHI 3:10 (KJV)

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."



The Tithe = 10%

A biblical minimum, not a ceiling — the first and best portion belongs to the LORD.

Leviticus 27:30



Cheerful Giving

Not of compulsion or reluctance — "God loveth a cheerful giver." The motive matters as much as the gift.

2 Corinthians 9:7



Storehouse = Local Church

Tithes flow into the local assembly — sustaining ministry, the Word, and the servants of God.

Malachi 3:10 | Nehemiah 10:38



Pre-Law Precedent

Abraham tithed to Melchizedek before the Mosaic Law — tithing predates and transcends the Law of Moses.

Genesis 14:20 | Hebrews 7:8-9



God's Open-Window Promise

The LORD promises immeasurable blessing — "that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

Malachi 3:10 | Luke 6:38



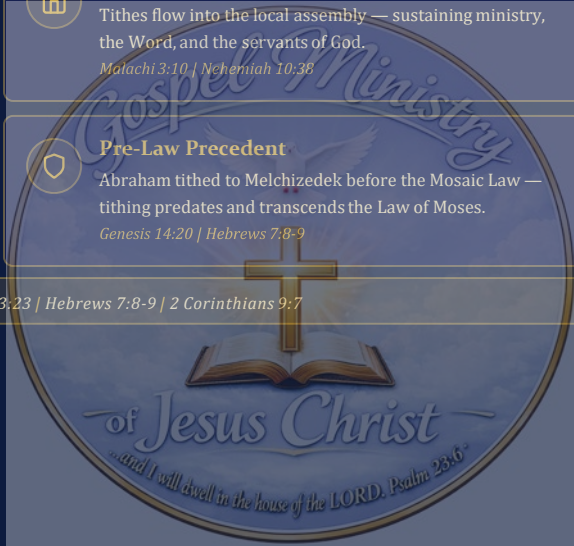
New Testament Confirmation

Christ affirmed tithing — "these ought ye to have done" — confirming its place in the life of the faithful.

Matthew 23:23

CROSS-REFERENCES

| *Genesis 14:20 | Leviticus 27:30 | Matthew 23:23 | Hebrews 7:8-9 | 2 Corinthians 9:7*



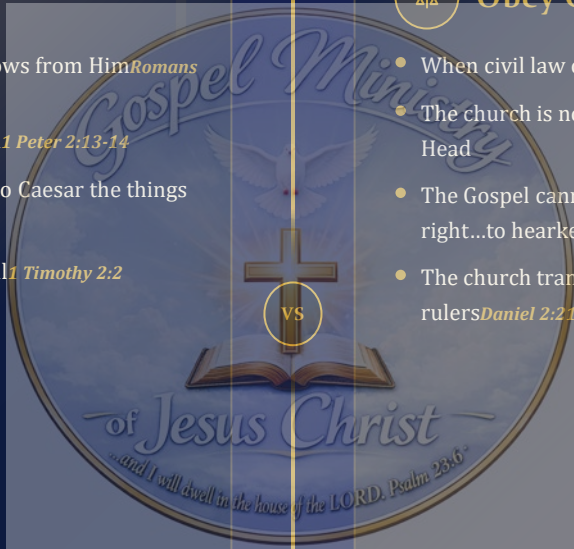
Romans 13:1 "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God."

Render to Caesar

- Civil government is God-ordained — all authority flows from Him **Romans 13:1**
- Believers are to obey civil authority as unto the Lord **1 Peter 2:13-14**
- Pay taxes and honor rulers — "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's" **Matthew 22:21**
- Pray for kings and all in authority — this is God's will **1 Timothy 2:2**

Obey God Rather Than Men

- When civil law contradicts God's law — we must obey God **Acts 5:29**
- The church is not under the state's spiritual authority — Christ alone is Head
- The Gospel cannot be silenced by human decree — "Whether it be right...to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye" **Acts 4:19-20**
- The church transcends all earthly kingdoms — God sets up and removes rulers **Daniel 2:21**



UNITY OF THE CHURCH



— Ephesians 4:3–6 (KJV)

“That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee.”

— John 17:21 (KJV)

Unity is not uniformity — it is spiritual oneness, grounded in shared truth, anchored in love, preserved by humility.

John 17:21–23

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Philippians 2:2

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1 Corinthians 1:10

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Colossians 3:14

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Psalms 133:1

GOSPEL MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST

DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH — SUMMARY

TWENTY-FOUR PILLARS OF CHURCH DOCTRINE

PILLARS I – XII

- I. ✚ The Church (Ekklesia)
- II. ✚ Marks of the True Church
- III. ✚ Purpose of the Church
- IV. ✚ Body of Christ
- V. ✚ Bride of Christ
- VI. ✚ Fellowship (Koinonia)
- VII. ✚ Priesthood of All Believers
- VIII. ✚ Church Membership
- IX. ✚ Baptism
- X. ✚ The Lord's Supper
- XI. ✚ Foot Washing
- XII. ✚ Worship in the Church



PILLARS XIII – XXIV

- XIII. ✚ Prayer in the Church
- XIV. ✚ Spiritual Gifts
- XV. ✚ The Great Commission
- XVI. ✚ Apostles
- XVII. ✚ The Evangelist
- XVIII. ✚ Pastoral Care
- XIX. ✚ Deacons
- XX. ✚ Ordination
- XXI. ✚ Church Discipline
- XXII. ✚ Tithing & Giving
- XXIII. ✚ Church and State
- XXIV. ✚ Unity of the Church

“Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”
— Matthew 16:18 (KJV)

GOSPEL MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST — TO THE GLORY OF GOD ALONE.

REQUEST A PRESENTATION

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