

The Church

Mat. 16:13-19

Prophesied & Purposed

- Isa. 28:16 – A foundation stone
- Psa 118:22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
 - Act. 4:11
- Purposed is to SAVE SOULS!

The Chosen

- 1Pe 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Leadership

- Christ
- Elders / Presbyters / Bishops (1Ti. 3:1-8; Tit. 1:5-9)
- Deacons
 - Both Elders and Deacons carry the same qualities as appointed leaders of a congregation. The difference is in what they do.
- Preacher / Minister / Evangelist / Pastor?

Serve & Protect

- Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock over which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers (EPISKOPOS), to feed (POIMEN) the church of God which he obtained with his own blood. (Act. 20:28)
- Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you. (Heb 13:17)

Key Points

- A congregation without Elders is incomplete.
 - Where do members go when a need arises, spiritual or otherwise?
- Leadership in the church is purposely simple:
 - Respect for the true head – Christ
 - Minimize Attacks by Evil
 - Minimize Apostasy
 - Keep spiritual growth and development local & personal
- The Best Leaders are the Best Servants