

RALAVENRUE LITERATURE, LLC

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Sons and Daughters; Students and Scholars, of the Holy Bible; **Grace to You!**

CLASS IS IN SESSION. May the blessings of God rest upon each of you as we study the Bible lesson together! Today, we will teach about the:

***THE CHURCH, YESTERDAY,
TODAY, AND
FOREVER!***

(Matthew 16:13-18-NKJV).

Read with me these wonderful words flowing from the river of the Holy Bible in Matthew's Gospel. **LET US PRAY!**

There is an Attitude of Gratitude deep within me as I examine the history of the Church, and ascertain the knowledge granted unto me from God in reference to the beginning and Importance of the Church.

Without the Church, we would all be lost. But thank God, the Church will last forever! It's Eternal State is secure, because it is the Lord's Church built on Christ!

The entrance into the Church comes only through being "born again," that is (Spirit Baptized), and placed into the family of God, by the power of The Holy Spirit! Jesus, the Christ infuse within the saints a New life, changing a Non-Saint from the Gutter-most, to the Utter most eternally!!

I remember when my new birth took place; It was on May 6, 1956, at a Revival meeting in Victorville, CA., while I was Stationed at George Air Force Base. From that day forward, my life has been filled with the joy of the Lord! My new birth was accompanied with a desire to study the Holy Bible in order to ascertain The Lord's will for my life in Him. Studying about His Vicarious Sacrifice for me and the whole world, brought joy unspeakable and full of glory!!!

Thus, my grow in His Word has spilled over for the sharing with others the blessing of walking with the LORD, and power of the Holy Spirit Igniting a flame of joyful praise every sense. HALLELUJAH!!!

The Church of Jesus, the Christ was established in the spring of the year A.D. 30, in Jerusalem City, Israel; And from that date, thousands of lives have been “born again” into the holy family of God; His Vicarious death on a Hill called “Calvary,” (Golgotha), one Friday afternoon.

MY MEDITATION comes from (Matthew 16:13–18). The Gospels: (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), of the New Testament Scriptures of the Holy Bible, records the parables of the kingdom of heaven.

The “kingdom of heaven” which Is “The rule and Reign of Christ within the Saints today.” But the “Kingdom of God,” is the Celestial third heaven, in the presence of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; with the Angeles, Seraphim, Cherubim; Arc-Angeles, and other created beings.

Matthew’s Gospel was written in Sections and are noted as:

- a) The Sermon on the Mount–(Chapters 5–7), including the Beatitudes, (Chapter 5:2–12),
- b) The Lord’s Prayer, (Chapter 6:9–13);
- c) The Parables of the Kingdom (chapter 13); and,
- d) The Olivet Discourse concerning future events, (Chapters 24–25),
- e) The Passion of the King, (Chapters 26:1–27:66),
- f) The Power of the King, (Chapters 28:1–20).

The Theme of the book of Matthew is Christ the king; and the outline reflects the same. Notice what Jesus asks His disciples Chapter 16:15:

“But who do you say that I am”? Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ the Son of the living God.”

Jesus answered and said to him, *“Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jo’nah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build My church, and the gates of Ha’des shall not prevail against it.”* This leads me to formulate (Five biblical Principles):

FIRST,

THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH--

- A. Jesus says: **'You are Peter.'** The name Peter in (Greek, Petros) means rock or rock-man. In the next phrase used *petra* ("upon this rock"), a feminine form for "rock," not a name. Christ used a play on words here.
- B. Jesus does not say "upon you, Peter" or "upon your successors," but "upon this rock"—Which was Simon's Peter's divine revelation and Profession of faith in Jesus, the Christ—"Messiah!"
- C. I will build shows that the formation of the church was still in the future. The Church was born on the Israelites' "Feast of Weeks"—Four of Seven Feast days, (Leviticus 23:15–22). Feast of Weeks, the same as PENTECOST, the Greek term, (Acts 2).
 - 1) The word **"CHURCH,"** means: "Ecclesia" {the called out assembly}, it appears in the Gospels only here and in (Matthew 18:17).
 - 2) This, is the foundational Institution of Christ's Church and was clearly set forth by Jesus' response to Simon Peter and the rest of the disciples.
 - 3) It is important to note that His disciples were not known as **"Apostles"** at this time. Not until they had been "born again," **(Spirit—Baptized)** into the family of God, on what is called.

SECOND,

THE FORMATION OF THE CHURCH---

"I will build"—this shows the church is still in the future, when Jesus spoke—
This. Jesus spoke these words to Simon Peter, before the church was not born.

When He died, buried, and rose again from the dead; He ascended to the Third heaven into the presence of His Father (YAHWEH).

But ten days later, while His disciples were in the Upper Room, early one Sunday morning, The Holy Spirit Descended upon **(120-men and women)** who were Jesus' disciples, learners and now they are being "Born Again" (Spirit Baptized), transformed into the body of Jesus, the Christ.

The Holy Bible says:

“When the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. {“Fully come,” {6:00am Sunday morning}. they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one set upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance,” ----- (Acts 2:1–4–NKJV).

That day was the fourth of seven feast days following: (Passover, Unleavened Bread, and Firstfruits), It came 50–days after Firstfruits). (First fruits a type of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, (I Cor. 15:23).

The book of (Acts 2), marks the beginning of the Church, (Matt. 16:18). These (120–men and women), disciples of Jesus were “born again,” into the family of God; “And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance,”----- (Acts 2:4–NKJV). “Filled” controlled by the Holy Spirit.

- 1) The word “filled” [*Pimplemi*–and *Pletho*] –to fill–full.
- 2) The word “other,” (*Heteros*)–actual languages unknown to the speakers but understood by the hearers (V.8).

THIRDLY,

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE CHURCH---Jesus said: “**My Church**” The church belongs to Christ Jesus. Moreover, there is but one Church. And you cannot join the church; you must be born into the church.

- A. When the church was born, you will note in (Acts 2: 9–11), the countries gathered in Jerusalem City, Israel form a circuit around the Mediterranean Sea. (15–different nations).
- B. Read (Matthew verse 10) with me: These were Romans who were temporarily residing in Jerusalem.

FOURTHLY,

THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH---Jesus said:

“The gates of Hades shall not prevail against it,” (verse 18–NKJV).

- A. It begin on a Sunday morning at 6:am., the day had fully come. The day for the Jewish religion begin at 6:pm. And end at 6:am.
- B. The day started back in Genesis, “The evening and the morning were the first day,” (Genesis 1:5). Also note (Leviticus 23:32). The day times closes at evening and the night ends with the morning.

FIFTHLY,

THE FUNCTION OF THE CHURCH---

“Whatsoever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in (Matthew 16:19–NKJV).

Shall have been bound....shall have been loosed.

Heaven, not the disciples Initiates all binding and loosing, while the disciples announce theses things in (John 20:22–23), sins are in view here, “things”—Literally, practices on people is seen in (Acts 15:20).

We, the Saints of God worldwide comprises the Church, and we must publicize the CHURCH; for which Jesus Died; for the church is the body of “Born Again” (Spirit Baptized) believers in Jesus, the Christ, the only “Begotten Son of God” GOD, (YAHWEH). *“Eternal generation of the Son in the Godhead.”* AMEN. -----

Do tell others to join us in our Systematic Exegetical Bible Study, every other Tuesday at 4:00pm. AMEN.

Until He Comes, I Am
Serving Christ Joyfully,
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