

MAY 13, 2025

WHO'S WHO IN THE BIBLE:

PART V: THE CHURCH

Good Afternoon Everyone!

LET'S PRAY! Father YAHWEH, please let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be always acceptable in Thy Sight, O LORD, my Strength and my Redeemer! AMEN!

Today, we are going to talk about what the “**church**” is and what the “**church**” is not.

Here are some definitions from Frank Viola and George Barna's book, **Pagan Christianity**:

Pagan: Those practices and principles that are not Christian and/or Biblical in origin. In some cases, it refers to those ancients who followed the pantheon of the

gods of the Greek and Roman Empires. A pagan practice or mindset refers to a practice or mode of thinking that has been adopted from the church's surrounding culture. These pagan practices stand in direct conflict with the teachings of YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, and His Apostles.

Organic Church: An organic church is a living, breathing, dynamic, mutually participatory, every-member-functioning, Christ-centered, communal expression of the Body of Christ.

Institutional Church: This term refers to a religious system, that operates primarily as an organization that exists above, beyond, and independent of the members who populate it. It is constructed more on programs and rituals than on relationships. It is led

by set-apart professionals, known as “Clergy,” who are aided by volunteers, known as “laity.” Institutional Churches are also known as Contemporary Churches, Traditional Churches, Present-Day Churches, and Modern Churches, all of which are considered to be 501©(3) Corporations under the United States Internal Revenue Service Tax Code in America.

Biblical or Scriptural: These terms refer to whether a practice has its origins in the New Testament Scriptures.

Do any of the above terms describe where we usually attend on a Sunday morning and/or evening? I think that all of us can relate to the Institutional Church, that has a hierarchal system made up of “Bishops,” “Pastors,” “Elders,” “Deacons,” “Teachers,” etc., but

what do these words mean when Biblically defined using the original languages of Hebrew and Greek?

Let's find out what YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, has to say on this. Please turn in your Bibles to Matthew Chapter 20, Verses 25 through 28 which states:

“Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles (Nations) exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of Man came not be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His Life a ransom for many.”

Today's Hierarchal Institutional Church System relies on programs and rituals to fill their pews, but who is ultimately responsible for bringing the people into the "churches"? Matthew Chapter 16, Verse 18 clearly states that it is YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ: **"And I say unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against It."**

So, what **"church"** was YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, referring to? Was it something new? Let's find out.

And in Acts Chapter 7, Verses 37 and 38, Stephen, as he was about to be stoned to death, states, "This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your

brethren, like unto me; Him shall ye hear. **This is He,**
that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel
which spake to him in the Mount Sina, and with our
fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto
us.”

So, are both YAHSHUA and Stephen referring to the same “church” even though one is in the New Testament, and the other one is in the Old Testament? In other words, is there only one called-out assembly as mentioned above or are there two as is taught today, with the “**church**” being the called-out assembly of God from the whole world?

Let’s find out!

With regard to the **church**, one needs to Biblically define the following words:

1. Church
2. Bishop
3. Pastor
4. Leader
5. Elder
6. Teacher
7. Overseer
8. Deacon

So, what exactly is the **church**? The term **church** is the Greek word, *Ekklesia*, Strong's No. G1577, and is defined as:

“A calling out, as in a popular meeting, especially a religious congregation; a Christian community of members on earth or saints in heaven or both; an assembly, church.”

That is the conventional definition of today's **church**. The proper definition is as follows:

“A called-out assembly of believers in Jesus Christ from the House of Israel and the House of Judah.”

YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, personally used the word, *Ekklesia*, twice in Matthew and seven times in Revelation, and it is further used seventy times by the New Testament writers. The word, **churches**, is also the Greek word, *Ekklesia*, and is personally used by YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, twelve times in Revelation and twenty-four times by the New Testament writers.

According to Ben William's **Anti-Thought Control Dictionary**:

“The Controlled Meaning of **Church** is a building or organization for Christians to meet regularly for singing, praying, and worshipping.”

“The True Meaning of the word, *Church*, comes from the Scottish word, *Kirk*, and the German word, *Kirche*, all originate from the Greek word, *KURIOKOS*, which means, **THE LORD’S**. A **Church** is anything **belonging to a lord** (any lord). The word origin and meaning has no logical connection to its modern-day usage among churchgoers. Its popular usage hails back to the Fourth Century when the Roman Emperor Constantine created the state-sanctioned institution of **The Church** to bring certain religious sects under state control.”

“The modern religious use of this word is enigmatic and defies all logic. The English Bible translators substituted the word, **Church**, for the actual Bible word, **Ekklesia**. A **Christian Ekklesia** is A **CALLED OUT CIVIL BODY**. In Scripture, it refers to the civil body of **called-out followers of YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ**. The term is meaningful and should not be ignored or replaced by another word. The word, **Church**, does not actually appear in the Bible. When it appears in English translations, it is a mistranslation. **KURIOKOS (CHURCH) is NOT EKKLESIA!** The words are different; the institutions are different. Nowhere in the Bible do we find a *Kuriokos*. There is only **the called out elect Ekklesia**, which unfortunately was mistranslated into **Church**, changing it in English to a

form of state-sanctioned **paganism**. In the New Testament, *Ekklesia*, signifying **convocation**, is the only single word used and/or translated for **Church**.”

“According to the **1889 Ninth Edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica**, it was the name given to the governmental assembly of the citizens of Athens duly convoked (called out) by proper officers, and possessing all political power, including even juridicial functions.”

With regard to the term, **Church Fathers**, Ben Williams has this to say:

“The Controlled Meaning of **Church Fathers** is the great Bishops and defenders of Christianity during its first seven Centuries. Holy men who preserved, taught, and made application of the Word of God from the time

of the Apostles to the time that it was canonized and secured by the church.”

“The Actual Meaning of the so-called **Church Fathers**, with the possible exception of one or two of the very earliest, were Romanized change agents who, during the first few Centuries after Jesus Christ’s Ascension, facilitated the replacement of **the faith delivered to the saints** over to a Babylonian/Judean paganism via the Church of Rome. They served the Church System, which usurped the original **Ekklesia of Christ**. The title, **Church Fathers**, is ignominious on its face, for it indicates a body of men, who bred and birthed a beast offspring. They fathered the Church System, which conspired with Central Government to confuse and rule the Western world.

These **Fathers** are responsible for perverting the Word of God, turning It from Truth to paganized fairy tales; from a Godly schematic of how to live a blessed life under the Reign of Jesus Christ and the **Ekklesia**, to a convoluted and confusing collection of disconnected and meaningless nonsense called **Church Doctrine**. Thus, they disabled and dispossessed the Word of God, leaving government, law, and social order to the exclusive purview of evil men. The Church Fathers (including Constantine) put into place the Church System, with its perverted agenda that still holds sway over the minds and lives of most professing Christians. Most so-called Christians today learn church doctrine, rather than Bible Doctrine. Most people, who claim to be **Christians**, are actually **Churchites**. They know the way

of the **Church**, but they know little or nothing of the Way of Jesus Christ.

This is confirmed by Arnold E. Kennedy in his book **The Exclusiveness of Israel**, wherein he states the following:

“The word (**Church**) originates from the Greek word, *kuriakos*, which means, **Belonging to the Lord**. From this word, has developed the German *kirche*, the Dutch *kerke*, the Scottish *kirk*, and the English *church*. The word is first found in **The Great Bible of 1570**. In no way does the word originate from *Ekklesia*, even if tradition would like to say that it does.”

Mr. Kennedy goes on to state:

“The Old Testament equivalent is the Hebrew word, *cahal* (or *qahal*), which means to call or to assemble together, but there is not one place where it is rendered **Church**. *Cahal* is used seventy times and is mostly translated as **congregation**, this being **The Congregation of Israel**. An interesting feature is that this word is used for **those called out of Israel to assemble before the Tabernacle and Temple, and it denies or excludes the mixed multitude** (*edah*, which is also translated as **congregation**), which was comprised of those from other races, who had joined themselves to Israel. In the New Testament, there was a parallel situation of there being a *mixed multitude* in the Judean nation.

In **The Book of Revelation** by R.K. and R.N. Philips (1992):

“The term, *Ekklesia*, is the combination of two Greek words, *ek*, out of or from and *kleis*, to call. *Ekklesia* simply means **an assembly, any assembly of people who are called out from other peoples and from which all aliens and slaves have been excluded** (see Ellicott’s comments on Matthew 16:18). **Hence, it is used of the whole nation of Israel, as distinct from other nations.** For those who claim that trying to limit *Ekklesia* to Israel is a biased view, please read Dr. E.W. Bullinger’s **The Apocalypse of the Day of the Lord** from which these notes are summarized.”

This is also confirmed by **Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary**, wherein when one looks up the

word, **church**, it states “see **ASSEMBLY** and **CONGREGATION**.” As one can see, the word, **church**, means “**belonging to the Lord (Father YAHWEH)**,” not what history and culture have superimposed on the definition.

The next words will be easy to define. If there are not supposed to be any institutionalized **churches** per se, then there should not be any institutionalized **leaders and/or positions**, such as **Bishops, Pastors, Leaders, Elders, Teachers, Overseers, and Deacons**. What do these words/titles actually mean?

According to Spiros Zodhiates’s **The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament**, the following words mean:

Our English word, **Pastor**, comes from the Greek word, *Poimen* (#G4166), which means, “**Shepherd, one who generally cares for flocks. Jesus Christ as the Great Shepherd, who watches over and provides for the welfare of the Ekklesia, His Flock.**” (See Matthew 26:31; Mark 14:27 quoted from Zechariah 13:7; John 10:2, 11, 12, 14, 16; Hebrews 13:20; 1 Peter 2:25).

Poimen is derived from *archipoimen* (#G750), which means, “**chief shepherd;**” *poimaino* (#G4165), which means, “**to tend, take general care of the flock;**” *poimne* (#G4167) and *poimnion* (4168), which mean, “**flock.**”

Our English word, **Leader**, comes from the Greek words, *hegemon* (#G2232), and *archegos* (#G747), which mean, “**a leader.**”

Our English word, **Elder**, comes from the Greek word, *presbuteros* (#G4245), which means, “**elder, spiritual leader as in old man.**”

Our English word, **Teacher**, comes from the Greek word, *didaskalos* (#G1320), which means, “**teacher.**”

Our English words, **Bishop** and **Overseer**, come from the Greek word, *episkopos* (#G1985), which means, “**overseer, superintendent.**”

Our English word, **Deacon**, comes from the Greek word, *diakonos* (#G1249), which is, “**A technical term side by side with *episkopos* or overseer.**” (See 1 Timothy 3:8, 12; Philippians 1:1)

As one can see, all of these positions are associated with **shepherding a flock of sheep**. YAHSHUA, Jesus

the Christ, is **our Great Shepherd** who watches over Israel (His Flock) all of the time and died for the many, so that is why all Israel is saved per Isaiah Chapter 45, Verses 17 and 25, and Romans Chapter 11, Verse 26.

All these so-called Churchianity positions do not exist; they are all part and parcel of Mystery, Babylon the Great. All these terms, when Biblically defined, are older people teaching younger people The Truth of God's Word and making sure that true Biblical Doctrine is being administered in each **Ekklesia**. That is why YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, asks the question in Luke Chapter 18, Verse 8, "**When the Son of Man cometh, shall He find (the) faith (belief) on the Earth?**"

According to Pew Research in 2024, there are over 47,000 "Christian" Denominations in the world today.

Which “church” has The True “Belief” and/or “Faith” of YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, today?

Now, we know that it is YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, Who is in charge of the Ekklesias! This is further corroborated in Colossians Chapter 1, Verse 18 which states, “And He is the Head of the Body, namely of the Congregation (Ekklesia). He who is the beginning is a first born from the dead that in ALL things He might be pre-eminent.”

Just as Father YAHWEH called out Israel from among the nations, so did YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, call out His Disciples from the world, including one, who was an Edomite devil, Judas Iscariot.

Please turn in your Bibles to Matthew Chapter 10,
Verses 2 through 4:

“Now the names of the twelve apostles are these.
First, Simon, called Peter, and Andrew his brother;
James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip
and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican;
James, the son of Alpheus, and Lebbeus, called
Thaddeus; Simon the Chananite, and **Judas Iscariot,**
even he who delivered Him up.”

Now, turn to Matthew Chapter 10, Verses 5 through
42, wherein our Head Shepherd, YAHSHUA, Jesus the
Christ, then gives strict instructions to His Ekklesia (the
Disciples) to do everything that He saw His Heavenly
Father do through the Prophets in the Old Testament:

“These twelve Jesus sent forth, having given them a charge, saying, **Go not away to the Gentiles, nor enter a city of the Samaritans; but go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel: and as you go proclaim, saying, The Reign of the Heavens is at hand. Heal the sick; cleanse lepers; raise the dead; cast out demons; freely you have received; give freely. Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass for your purses; nor a scrip for the journey; nor two coats; nor pairs of sandals; nor a staff: for the workman is worthy of his sustenance. Therefore, into whatever city or village you enter, inquire who in it is worthy, and continue there till you leave the place. And when you enter the house, salute the family. And if the family be worthy, the peace you wish them will come upon them; but if**

they be not worthy, the peace you wish will rebound upon yourselves. And whosoever will not receive you, nor hear your words, when you leave that house or that city, shake off the dust of your feet. Verily I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorra in a Day of Judgment, than for that city.”

“Behold I send you forth like sheep in the midst of wolves; be ye therefore wise as serpents and harmless as doves. And be upon your guard against these men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues; and you will be brought before governors and kings for My Sake, for a testimony to them and the nations. But when they deliver you up, be not anxious how or what you shall

speak: for what you are to speak will be suggested to you at the very instant. For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father that speaketh in you. Now brother will deliver up brother to death; and a father, a son; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. And you will be hated by ALL men on the account of My Name. But he who persevereth to the end shall be saved.”

“Now, when they persecute you in one city, flee to another. For, verily I say to you, before you shall have gone through ALL the cities of Israel, the Son of Man will come. The scholar is not greater than the teacher, nor the servant, than the master. If they have called the master of the family Beelzebub, how much more, his domestics. Therefore, be not afraid of them;

for there is nothing hid, which shall not be revealed; nor anything secret, which shall not be known. What I say to you in darkness, speak ye in the light; and what is whispered in your ear, proclaim on the house tops. And be not afraid of them who kill the body but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear Him, Who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for an assar, yet neither of them falleth to the ground without your Father. Nay, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; therefore, for you are of more value than many sparrows. Whosoever therefore will acknowledge Me before men, him I will acknowledge before My Father, Who is in Heaven.”

“Do not imagine that I am come to send peace on the Earth. I am not come to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance with his father; and a daughter with her mother; and a daughter-in-law with her mother-in-law. Even the man’s own domestics will be his enemies.”

“He who loveth father or mother more than Me, is not worthy of Me. And he who loveth son or daughter more than Me, is not worthy of Me. And he who doth not take up his cross and follow Me, is not worthy of Me. He who hath found his life shall lose it. But he, who shall lose his life for My Sake, shall find it.”

“He who receiveth you, receiveth Me; and he who receiveth Me, receiveth Him Who sent Me. He who

receiveth a prophet on the account of his being a prophet, shall receive a prophet's reward. And he who receiveth a righteous man on the account of his being a righteous man, shall receive a righteous man's reward. And whoever shall give anyone of these little ones, were it only a cup of cold water to drink, on the account of his being a disciple, verily I say to you, he shall not lose his reward."

However, **after His resurrection and before His ascension into Heaven**, our Head Shepherd further instructs His Ekklesia, the eleven Disciples, in Matthew Chapter 28, Verses 18 through 20, saying:

ALL power is given unto Me in Heaven and in Earth.

1. **Go ye therefore, and**
2. **Teach all nations (Israelites),**
3. **Baptizing them in the name of:**
 - a. **The Father, and of**
 - b. **The Son, and of**
 - c. **The Holy Ghost:**
4. **Teaching them to observe all things**
whatsoever I have commanded you: and
5. **Lo, I AM with you always, even unto the end**
of the world (age).

Please note that YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, set the precedence as Paul reiterated in Romans Chapter 1, Verse 16, “For I am **not** ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Judahite first, and also to the Greek.”

YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, was all about saving His

own people (the Judahites) and even admonished the Pharisees, the Sadducees, and the scribes and lawyers, (the religious elites of His Day) in Matthew Chapter 16, Verses 2 through 3, saying:

“When it is evening, ye say, it will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, it will be foul weather today: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?”

All of the religious elites of His Day knew that YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, was the Messiah from the miracles that He performed that only His Father YAHWEH did through His Prophets in the Old Testament:

1. Raise the dead (Matthew 9:23–26).
2. Heal the blind (Matthew 20:29–34).
3. Heal the deaf (Mark 7:31–37).
4. Heal the paralytic (Matthew 9:1–8).
5. Heal the leper (Matthew 8:1–4).
6. Cast out demons (Matthew 12:22–23).
7. Cast out a legion of demons (Matthew 8:28–34).
8. Calm a stormy sea (Matthew 8:23–27).
9. Feed four thousand people (Matthew 15:32–39).
10. Feed five thousand people (Matthew 14:15–21).

And remember also that YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, stated that He could only do that which He had seen His Father do as stated in John Chapter 5, Verses 19 through 20:

“Then answered Jesus and said unto them, **Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth Him all things that Himself doeth: and He will shew Him greater works than these, that ye may marvel.**”

Why? Because **“I and the Father are One”** (John 10:30). Does the Ekklesia really know what time it is?

As a side note, according to Lt. Col. F. Roberts, it is interesting to note that there were **153** special people who received direct blessings/healing from our Lord YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ. This list did not include Zacharias, Elizabeth, John the Baptist, Joseph, Simeon, or Anna as these people were blessed before the birth or

just after the birth of our Lord and Savior, YAHSHUA,
Jesus the Christ.

1. The leper in Matthew 8:2 **(1)**
2. The centurion and his servant in Matthew 8:5 **(2)**
3. The mother of Peter's wife in Matthew 8:14 **(1)**
4. The two possessed with demons in Matthew 8:18 **(2)**
5. The palsied man and his bearers in Matthew 9:2 and Mark 2:3 **(5)**
6. Jairus and his daughter in Matthew 9:18 **(2)**
7. The woman with the issue of blood in Matthew 9:21 **(1)**
8. The blind men in Matthew 9:27 **(2)**
9. The dumb man in Matthew 9:32 **(1)**
10. The eleven apostles in Matthew 10:2 **(11)**
11. The man with the withered hand in Matthew 12:10 **(1)**
12. The blind and dumb with the devil in Matthew 12:22 **(1)**

13. The brethren of the Lord in Matthew 13:55 (4)
14. The Syrophoenician woman and daughter in Matthew 15:22 (2)
15. The lunatic child and father in Matthew 17:14 (2)
16. The blind men leaving Jericho, Bartimeus being one of them in Mark 10:46 (2)
17. Simon the leper in Matthew 26:6 (1)
18. Mary, the sister of Lazarus in Matthew 26:7 (1)
19. The centurion in Matthew 27:54 (1)
20. Salome, mother of Zebedee's children in Matthew 27:56 (1)
21. Mary, mother of James and wife of Cleopas in Matthew 27:56 (1)
22. Mary Magdalene in Matthew 27:56 (1)
23. Joseph of Arimathea in Matthew 27:57 (1)
24. The man with the unclean spirit in Mark 1:23 (1)
25. The deaf and dumb man in Mark 7:32 (1)
26. The blind man in Mark 8:22 (1)
27. The son of the widow of Nain in Luke 7:12 (1)

28. A woman, a sinner in Luke 7:37 (1)
29. Joanna and Susanna in Luke 8:3 (2)
30. A disciple—"follow Me" in Luke 9:59 (1)
31. The seventy disciples in Luke 10:1 (70)
32. Martha, sister of Lazarus in Luke 10:38 (1)
33. The woman with an infirmity in Luke 13:11 (1)
34. The man with dropsy in Luke 14:2 (1)
35. The ten lepers in Luke 17:12 (10)
36. The blind man approaching Jericho in Luke 18:35 (1)
37. Zaccheus in Luke 19:2 (1)
38. Malchus in Luke 22:51 (1)
39. The penitent thief in Luke 23:43 (1)
40. The two disciples at Emmaus in Luke 24:13 (2)
41. Nicodemus in John 3:1 (1)
42. The woman of Samaria in John 4:4 (1)
43. The nobleman and his sick son in John 4:46 (2)
44. The impotent man at Bethesda in John 5:1 (1)
45. The woman taken in adultery in John 8:11 (1)

46. The man born blind in John 9 (1)

47. Lazarus in John 11 (1)

48. Mary, the mother of Jesus in John 19:25 (1)

TOTAL = 153

How many fish did Simon Peter draw from the net in John 21:11? It was **153**. E. W. Bullinger stated that “this is the lesson of the **153** great fishes.” And some scholars believe that there were **153** Books of the Bible at one time. So, where did they go? Are they in the Vatican Secret Archives?

So, to recount, our only Shepherd was YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ; the first Ekklesia of the New Testament was made up of the twelve apostles, who were admonished to preach to the House of Judah first and then to the scattered House of Israel throughout the world; and the religious elites of His Time did not know,

acknowledge, and/or want to acknowledge the times in which they lived because they did not want to lose the power that they had because of their special deal with the Roman Empire. Sound Familiar?

Who added to the Ekklesias? According to Acts 2:47b, **“And The Lord added to the Ekklesia daily such as should be saved.”** Well, to add to something, that means that it has to have previously existed, correct? So, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, was continuing the Ministry of His Father YAHWEH Who called-out Old Testament Israel from the nations, who are known as “Saints,” as found in Psalm Chapter 50, Verse 5 which states, **“Gather His Saints together to Him, them who are in Covenant with Him touching upon sacrifices.”**

When we get to Revelation Chapter 4, you will note that there are 24 Elders with Crowns, sitting upon 24 Thrones, which represent the 12 Patriarchs of Israel and the 12 Apostles of YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, as well as four Living Creatures, which represent the Believing Israelites of the Old Testament, who were in Abraham's Bosom, when YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, freed them when He descended into Hell. They are ALL in Heaven surrounding the Throne of Father YAHWEH!

Why did YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, speak in Parables and to whom was He addressing? After the religious elite accused Him of being Beelzebub/Satan in Matthew Chapter 12, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, addressed everyone in Parables from henceforth, but only explained His Parables to His Disciples.

When you have time, go back and reread the Parables from the perspective that YAHSHUA is addressing the House of Judah and the lost sheep of the House of Israel and that the Kingdom of Father YAHWEH is on this Earth. Everything will make sense then.

This was prophesied to happen. Father YAHWEH states in Isaiah 6:9–10:

“And He [Father YAHWEH] said: **Go and say to this people: Hearing you shall hear, though you may not understand: and seeing you shall see, though you may not perceive: for the heart of this people is stupefied; and their ears are dull of hearing; and they have shut their eyes, that for awhile they may not see with their eyes: and hear with their ears; and**

understand with their hearts; and return that I may heal them.”

YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, reiterates this in Matthew 13. Please turn in your Bibles to Matthew Chapter 13, Verses 13 through 17 which states:

“To them I speak in Parables for this reason, because they overlook what they see, and are inattentive to what they hear; and they do not understand, and in them is fulfilled this prophecy of Esaias, which saith, ‘Hearing you shall hear, though you may not understand, and seeing you shall see, though you may not perceive; for the heart of this people is callous, and their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, that for a while they may not see with their eyes and hear with their ears,

and understand with their heart, and return that I may heal them.’ But blessed are your (The Disciples) eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear. For verily I say to you, ‘Many prophets and righteous men have earnestly desired to see what you see, and have not seen them; and to hear what you hear and have not heard them.’”

So, are there people that Father YAHWEH and YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, know that won’t be saved? Yes, of course – they are the Seed of Serpent! Malachi Chapter 1, Verses 1 and 2, and Romans Chapter 9, Verse 13, both states, **“Jacob have I (Father YAHWEH) loved, but Esau have I hated.”** Who made up the majority of Judaeans during the Time of YAHSHUA and who crucified Him? The Edomite Jews did!

Also, remember The Parables of the Potter and the Clay, The Wheat and the Tares, and The Sheep and the Goats? Need I say more?

Now, please turn in your Bibles to Revelation Chapters 2 and 3. You will note that it is also our Lord and Savior, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, who:

1. is in the midst of the Age of the Ekklesias
(Revelation Chapter 1, Verses 12 through 16),
2. has outlined the Age of the Ekklesias
(Revelation Chapters 2 through 3), and
3. has stated that He will come back for us in the event known as the Resurrection, and the Transfiguration and Rapture.

So YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, the Head of the Ekklesias, who continued to add to the New Testament Ekklesias, is in the midst of His Ekklesias, has outlined Its history in advance, and will come back for us.

Now, according to Tim LaHaye's **Prophecy Study Bible**, the seven periods of the Church Age are as follows:

1. **Ephesus** is The Apostolic Church which lasted from 30 to 100 A.D.
2. **Smyrna** is The Persecuted Church which lasted from 100 to 313 A.D., which is the year that Emperor Constantine changed the times and laws of Father YAHWEH.

3. **Pergamos** is The State Church which lasted from 313 to 590 A.D.
4. **Thyatira** is The Papal Church which lasted from 590 to 1517 A.D., the year of the Protestant Reformation.
5. **Sardis** is The Reformed Church which lasted from 1517 to 1730 A.D.
6. **Philadelphia** is The Missionary Church which lasted from 1730 to 1900. This is the time period in which Father YAHWEH's Seven Time Judgment (2,520 Years) had ended for the House of Israel and the 200 Walled Villages of the House of Judah.

7. **Laodicea** is The Apostate Church which started in 1900 and is currently the church age in which we live. It is an age of apostasy from The True Faith in YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ. This is the Age of 47,000 Corporate Denominations, with parlor tricks to entertain the masses. Because of this, YAHSHUA will spit this Apostate Church out, as in VOMIT!

With regard to these Seven Churches, theologians have posited the following theories:

1. They existed literally and historically at the end of the First Century A.D.
2. They are seven types of churches, which exist at any time throughout history.

3. They represent seven types of churches that will exist at the end of the age.
4. They correspond to the seven periods of church history.

Regardless of how one interprets the Age of the Ekklesias, the seven lampstands definitely represent the seven Ekklesias, and YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, is definitely standing in the midst of them. According to John Chapter 8, Verse 12, He is the light of the world, and we are responsible for proclaiming His Light to the world, as well as being both salt and light!

Therefore, the Ekklesias receive their light from YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, and unless He Alone is standing in the midst of the Ekklesias, they will not have

any light. The Ekklesias must make sure that YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, is in their midst, as well as proclaim His light to the world. Otherwise, they are worthless!

You will note that True Believers of The Way of YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, have faced severe persecution, even unto death! For an indepth study on this, please read Foxe's **Book of Martyrs**. These are the Souls of the Fifth Seal Martyrs that are under the altar in Revelation Chapter 6. IF we truly believe in YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, we should not love our lives, even unto death, as well!

YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, warned us in advance that we would face tribulation in this world because of our belief in Him.

Please turn in your Bibles to John Chapter 16, Verse 33 which states:

“These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world, ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer: I have overcome the world.”

The English word **tribulation** is the Hebrew word, *tsarah*, Strong's No. H6869, which means, “**adversity, affliction, anguish, distress, tribulation, trouble,**” and is the Greek word, *thlipsis*, Strong's No. G2347, which means, “**afflicted, anguish, burdened, persecution, tribulation, trouble.**” This word is used by both Paul and John throughout the New Testament.

Throughout the Age of the Ekklesias, the true Ekklesias have been persecuted by the Jews and the Roman Emperors, but especially by the Roman Popes during the Dark Ages, as well as the Muslims. According to Dr. Wallace in his book, **Baptist Church History**, “The Dark Ages would last for about eleven and a half Centuries, from the middle of the 5th Century to the beginning of the 16th Century.”

Dr. Wallace then goes on to quote J. M. Carroll from his book, **The Trail of Blood**:

“I again call your attention to those upon whom the hard hand of persecution fell. If fifty million died of persecution during the 1,200 years of persecution during the “Dark Ages,” as history seems positively to teach, then they died faster than an average of four million

every 100 years. That seems almost beyond the limit of human conception. As before mention, this iron hand, dripping with martyr blood, fell upon Paulicians, Arnoldists, Henricians, Petrobrusians, Albigenses, Waldenses, and Ana-Baptists—of course much harder upon some than others.”

This period of Babylonian church history is addressed by YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, in His Letters to Pergamos, which is the State Church from 313 to 590 A.D. and Thyatira, which is the Papal Church from 590 to 1517, which was the beginning of the Protestant Reformation.

From a secular historical perspective, the world was in upheaval with two major events:

1. By 476 A.D., the Western Roman Empire was invaded by Barbarians and, as a result, broke up into ten kingdoms. Sir Isaac Newton argued that these ten kingdoms were the ten horns of Daniel 7 and consisted of:
 - a. The Kingdom of the Vandals and Alans in Spain and Africa,
 - b. The Kingdom of the Suevians in Spain,
 - c. The Kingdom of the Visigoths,
 - d. The Kingdom of the Alans in Gallia,
 - e. The Kingdom of the Burgundians,
 - f. The Kingdom of the Franks,
 - g. The Kingdom of the Britains,
 - h. The Kingdom of the Hunns,
 - i. The Kingdom of the Lombards, and
 - j. The Kingdom of Ravenna.

Sir Isaac went on to state that the Pope, representing the little horn (i.e., the Antichrist), uprooted three horns:

- a. The Exarchate of Ravenna
- b. The Kingdom of the Lombards
- c. The Senate and Dukedom of Rome

This was whereby the Pope “acquired Peter’s Patrimony out of their dominions; and thereby rose up as a temporal Prince or King or Horn of the Fourth Beast.

So, Sir Isaac Newton believed that the Pope/Papacy was the little horn, thus representing the Antichrist; and obviously, Satan has had “an Antichrist” waiting in the wings throughout history for Jesus Christ’s

return. These kingdoms were later reformed and eventually reorganized into a new “Holy Roman Empire.” It is interesting to note that until the 1500s, the Ekklesias historically recognized that the Pope/Papacy was the Antichrist system. What has happened since? How did the Pope go from being the Antichrist in the Sixteenth Century to being a brother in Christ in the Twenty-First Century?

2. In 623 A.D., a man by the name of Muhammad came on the scene in Arabia and began to push his new political religious ideology, Islam, which means *submission*, which was a culmination of Jewish, Christian, and ancient Pagan Arab beliefs. At first, this ideology was

not accepted; but eventually, because of massive proselytizing through violence and threat of death (jihad), Islam eventually spread and conquered the lands of Arabia, the Middle East, and Northern Africa. Before 1924, Islam was spread through “violent jihad.” Today, Islam is spread through “cultural jihad,” wherein Muslims:

- a. **Immigrate** to Western nations;
- b. **Infiltrate** those same Western nations, which would eventually lead to the establishment of a **Caliphate**; and
- c. **Implement** Sharia law.

Will the world see a neo-Ottoman Sunni Caliphate or an Iranian Shi’ite Caliphate soon that has nuclear weapons and/or a combination of both?

From an Ekklesiastical historical perspective, the rise of the Paganized Babylonian Church took place during this same time-period, wherein “the Church became more Roman and less Christian in its practices.”

For example:

220: Origen introduced **infant baptism**.

300: There were **prayers for the dead**.

The **sign of the cross** was made.

312: Constantine adopted Christianity.

320: **Wax candles** were introduced.

325: **The Edict of Toleration**, which made “Christianity” the state endorsed religion of the Roman Empire under Constantine.

375: **Dead saints and angels were venerated and worshipped**.

380: **House churches were outlawed**.

Bishops Theodosius and Gratian ordered that there should be **only one state-recognized Orthodox church**.

Every Roman citizen was forced to be a member and should be made **to believe *lex fidei*, the law of faith.**

- 394: **Mass, as a daily celebration,** was first instituted.
- 416: **Infant baptism became compulsory** in the Western world.
- 431: The Council of Ephesus: **Mary was worshipped as the “Mother of God.”**
- 440: Leo the Great became the **“Bishop of Rome.”**
- 445: Valentinian was confirmed as **“spiritual leader of the Western Empire.”**
- 500: Common **priestly dress code** was introduced.
- 526: **Extreme Unction** was introduced.
- 565: Justinian made a **state-ordained church.**
- 593: The **doctrine of purgatory** was introduced.
- 600: Worship services were conducted in **Latin.**
Prayers were directed to Mary.
- 607: Boniface III became the first **Pope of the Catholic Church.**

- 709: **Kissing of the Pope's feet** began.
- 750: Pepin gave the City of Rome and its surrounding territory to the Pope.
- Temporal power of the Popes** began.
- 786: **Worship of the cross, images, and relics** was authorized.
- 850: **Use of "holy water"** began.
- 890: **Veneration of Saint Joseph** began.
- 965: **Canonization of dead saints** began.
- 998: **Fasting on Fridays and during Lent** was introduced.
- 1079: **Celibacy of the priesthood** was instituted.
- 1090: The **rosary (prayer beads)** was adopted from paganism.
- 1184: **The Inquisition of heretics** began and would last until 1826.
- 1215: **Transubstantiation of the wafer and wine** was introduced.
- Confession of sin to a priest at least once a year** was instituted.
- 1220: **Adoration of the wafer (Host)** began.

- 1229: **Reading of the Bible was forbidden to laypeople.**
- 1254: **Pope Innocence IV officially established the sale of indulgences.**
- 1414: **The communion cup was forbidden to laypeople.**
- 1439: **The doctrine of purgatory was decreed.**
The doctrine of seven sacraments was affirmed.
- 1508: **The Ave Maria was approved.**
- 1534: **The Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) was founded.**
- 1545: **The Council of Trent: Tradition was granted equal authority with the Bible.**
- 1546: **Apocryphal books were put into the Bible.**
- 1560: **The Creed of Pope Pius IV was imposed as the official creed.**
- 1854: **The immaculate conception of Mary was instituted.**
- 1864: **The Syllabus of Errors was proclaimed.**
- 1870: **The Infallibility of the Pope was declared.**

1930: **Public schools were condemned.**

1950: **The assumption of the Virgin Mary was declared.**

1965: **Mary was proclaimed as the Mother of the church.**

The Second Vatican Council decreed that the Jews were not responsible for the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

With the above list, which is not all-inclusive, it is no wonder why Dave Hunt argues that the Roman Catholic Church is **the woman who rides the beast** in Revelation 17, wherein he states:

The leaders of the Reformation were certain that she [the woman] represented the Roman Catholic Church in general and the Pope in particular . . . and that the vision of The Woman riding the Beast provides insights into occurrences which have shaped world history in the past and which will

profoundly determine human destiny in the future.

She sits, in fact, not only astride the Beast, but upon the culmination of centuries of relation Bible prophecy.

With regard to this same period, Frank Viola and George Barna have written a book entitled **Pagan Christianity: Exploring the Roots of Our Church Practices**, wherein they quote G.W.F. Hegel, who states, **“What history teaches us is that men have never learned anything from it.”**

The following summary is neither complete nor detailed. Note that **“all of the practices are postbiblical, postapostolic, and mostly influenced by pagan culture”**:

The Church Building:

The Church Building:

First constructed under Constantine around 327. The earliest church buildings were patterned after the Roman basilicas, which were modeled after Greek temples.

The Sacred Space:

Christians borrowed this idea from the pagans in the Second and Third Centuries. The burial places of the martyrs were regarded as “sacred.” In the 4th Century, church buildings were erected on these burial places, thus creating “sacred” buildings.

The Pastor’s Chair:

Derived from the cathedra, which was the bishop’s chair or throne. This chair replaced the seat of the judge in the Roman basilica.

Tax-Exempt Status for Churches and Christian Clergy:

Emperor Constantine gave churches tax-exempt status in 323. He made clergy exempt from paying taxes in 313, a privilege that pagan priests enjoyed.

Stained-Glass Windows:

First introduced by Gregory of Tours and brought to perfection by Sugar (1081–1151), Abbot of St. Denis.

Gothic Cathedrals:

12th Century. These edifices were built according to the pagan philosophy of Plato (on ley lines).

The Steeple:

Rooted in ancient Babylonian and Egyptian architecture and philosophy, the steeple was a medieval invention that was popularized and modernized by Sir Christopher Wren in London around 1666. The Steeple is an ancient phallic symbol, an obelisk.

The Pulpit:

Used in the Christian church as early as 250. It came from the Greek *ambo*, which was a pulpit used by both Greeks and Jews for delivering monologues.

The Pew:

Evolved from the Thirteenth through the Eighteenth Centuries England.

The Order of Worship:

The Sunday Morning Order of Worship:

Evolved from Gregory's Mass in the 6th Century and the revisions made by Luther, Calvin, the Puritans, the Free Church tradition, the Methodists, the Frontier-Revivalists, and the Pentecostals.

The Centrality of the Pulpit in the Order of Worship:

Martin Luther in 1523.

Two Candles Placed on Top of the "Communion Table" and Incense Burning:

Candles were used in the ceremonial court of Roman Emperors in the Fourth Century. The Communion table was introduced by Ulrich Zwingli in the 16th Century.

Taking the Lord's Supper:

Ulrich Zwingli in the Sixteenth Century.

The Congregation Standing and Singing When the Clergy Enters:

Borrowed from the ceremonial court of Roman Emperors in the Fourth Century. Brought into the Protestant liturgy by John Calvin.

Coming to Church with a Somber/Reverent Attitude:

Based on the medieval view of piety. Brought into the Protestant service by John Calvin and Martin Bucer.

Condemnation and Guilt over Missing a Sunday Service:

Seventeenth Century New England Puritans.

The Long “Pastoral Prayer” Preceding the Sermon:

Seventeenth Century Puritans.

The Pastoral Prayer Uttered in Elizabethan English:

Eighteenth Century Methodists.

The Goal of All Preaching to Win Individual Souls:

Eighteenth Century Frontier-Revivalists

The Altar Call:

Instituted by Seventeenth Century Methodists and popularized by Charles Finney.

The Church Bulletin (Written Liturgy):

Originated in 1884 with Albert Blake Dick's stencil duplicating machine.

The “Solo” Salvation Hymn, Door-to-Door Witnessing, and Evangelistic Advertising and Campaigning:

D. L. Moody.

The Decision Card:

Invented by Absalom B. Earle (1812–1895) and popularized by D. L. Moody.

Bowing Heads with Eyes Closed and Raising the Hand in Response to a Salvation Message:

Billy Graham in the Twentieth Century.

“The Evangelization of the World in One Generation” Slogan:

John Mott around 1888.

Solo or Choral Music Played during the Offering:

Twentieth Century Pentecostals.

The Sermon:

The Contemporary Sermon:

Borrowed from the Greek sophists, who were masters at oratory and rhetoric. John Chrysostom and Augustine popularized the Greco-Roman homily (sermon) and made it a central part of the Christian faith.

The One-Hour Sermon, Sermon Crib Notes, and the Four-Part Sermon Outline:

Seventeenth Century Puritans.

The Pastor:

The Single Bishop (Predecessor of the Contemporary Pastor):

Ignatius of Antioch in the early Second Century. Ignatius' model of one-bishop rule did not prevail in the churches until the Third Century.

The “Covering” Doctrine:

Cyprian of Carthage, a former pagan orator. Revived under Juan Carlos Ortiz from Argentina and the “Fort Lauderdale Five” from the United States, creating the so-called “Shepherding-Discipleship Movement” in the 1970’s.

Hierarchal Leadership:

Brought into the church by Constantine in the Fourth Century. This was the leadership style of the Babylonians, Persians, Greeks, and Romans.

Clergy and Laity:

The word *laity* first appears in the writings of Clement of Rome (d. 100). *Clergy* first appears in Tertullian. By the Third Century, Christian leaders were universally called Clergy.

Contemporary Ordination:

Evolved from the Second Century to the Fourth Century. It was taken from the Roman custom of appointing men to civil office. The idea of the ordained minister as the “holy man of God” can be traced to Augustine, Gregory of Nazianzus, and Chrysostom.

The Title “Pastor”:

Catholic priests who became Protestant ministers were not universally called pastors until the Eighteenth Century under the influence of Lutheran Pietists.

Sunday Morning Costumes:

Christians Wearing Their “Sunday Best” for Church:

Began in the late Eighteenth Century with the Industrial Revolution and became widespread in the mid-Nineteenth Century. The practice is rooted in the emerging middle-class effort to become like their wealthy aristocrat contemporaries.

Clergy Attire:

Began in 330 when Christian clergy started wearing the garb of Roman officials. By the Twelfth Century, the clergy began wearing everyday street clothes that distinguished them from the people.

The Evangelical Pastor’s Suit:

A descendant of the black scholar’s gown worn by Reformation ministers, the black lounge suit of the Twentieth Century became the typical costume of the contemporary pastor.

The Clerical (Backwards) Collar:

Invented by Rev. Dr. Donald McLeod of Glasgow in 1865.

Ministers of Music:

The Choir:

Provoked by Constantine's desire to mimic professional music in Roman imperial ceremonies. In the Fourth Century, the Christians borrowed the choir idea from the choirs used in Greek dramas and Greek temples.

The Boys Choir:

Began in the Fourth Century, borrowed from the boys' choirs used by the pagans.

Funeral Processions and Orations:

Borrowed from Greco-Roman paganism in the Third Century.

The Worship Team:

Calvary Chapel in 1965, patterned after secular rock concerts.

Tithing and Clergy Salaries:

Tithing:

Did not become a widespread Christian practice until the Eighth Century. The tithe was taken from the 10 percent rent charge used in the Roman Empire and later justified using the Old Testament.

Clergy Salaries:

Instituted by Constantine in the Fourth Century.

The Collection Plate:

The alms dish appeared in the Fourteenth Century. Passing a collection plate began in 1662.

The Usher:

Began with Queen Elizabeth I (1533-1603). The predecessor of the usher is the church porter, a position that can be traced back to the Third Century.

Baptism and The Lord's Supper:

Infant Baptism:

Rooted in the superstitious beliefs that pervaded the Greco-Roman culture, it was brought into the Christian faith in the late Second Century. By the Fifth Century, it replaced adult baptism.

Sprinkling Replacing Immersion:

Began in the late Middle Ages in the Western churches.

Baptism Separated from Conversion:

Began in the early Second Century as a result of the legalistic view that baptism was the only medium for the forgiveness of sins.

The “Sinner’s Prayer”:

Originated with D. L. Moody and made popular in the 1950s through Billy Graham’s **Peace with God** tract and later with Campus Crusade for Christ’s **Four Spiritual Laws**.

Use of the Term “Personal Savior”:

Spawned in the mid-1800s by the Frontier Revivalist influence and popularized by Charles Fuller (1887–1968).

The Lord’s Supper Condensed from a Full “Agape” Meal to Only the Cup and the Bread:

The late Second Century as a result of pagan ritual influences.

Christian Education:

The Catholic Seminary:

The first seminary began as a result of the Council of Trent (1545–1563). The curriculum was based on the teachings of Thomas Aquinas, which was a blending of Aristotle’s philosophy, Neoplatonic philosophy, and Christian doctrine.

The Protestant Seminary:

It began in Andover, Massachusetts, in 1808. Its curriculum, too, was built on the teachings of Thomas Aquinas.

The Bible College:

Influenced by the revivalism of D. L. Moody, the first two Bible colleges were the Missionary Training Institute (Nyack College, New York) in 1882 and Moody Bible Institute (Chicago) in 1886.

The Sunday School:

Created by Robert Raikes from Britain in 1780. Raikes did not find the Sunday school for the purpose of religious instruction. He founded it to teach poor children the basics of education.

The Youth Pastor:

Developed in urban churches in the late 1930s and 1940s as a result of seeking to meet the needs of a new sociological class called “teenagers.”

Re-Approaching the New Testament:

Paul’s Letters Combined into a Canon and Arranged according to Descending Length:

Early 2nd Century.

Chapter Numbers Placed in the New Testament:

University of Paris professor Stephen Langton in 1227.

Verses Added to New Testament Chapters:

Printer Robert Stephanus in 1551.

As a result of the paganism that is free flowing in today's Laodicean Babylonian church, Frank Viola and George Barna suggest the following:

1. A new approach to worship
2. A new approach to spiritual growth
3. A new approach to managing resources
4. A new look at your identity

This is the final result: the Babylonian Church of Laodicea, the “**Church**” of the power of the laity over the people and people's opinions with regard to the Bible. This is the end of the so-called church age. A second dark age has set in, only this time it is voluntary. We have the technological resources to truly find out for ourselves what the Bible truly says, yet we use these same resources for personal gratification. Satan's intended purpose is to keep us occupied with ourselves,

hence the iPhone, the iPad, the iWatch, and so on. Please remember the times in which we live.

Paul clearly stated that this would be the case in the End Times in his Second Epistle to Timothy. Please turn in your Bibles to Second Timothy Chapter 3, Verses 1 through 5 which states:

This know also, that in the last days, perilous times shall come. For men shall be

1. lovers of their own selves,
2. covetous,
3. boasters,
4. proud,
5. blasphemers,
6. disobedient to parents,
7. unthankful,
8. unholy,

9. without natural affection,
10. truce breakers,
11. false accusers,
12. incontinent,
13. fierce,
14. despisers of those who are good,
15. traitors,
16. heady,
17. high-minded,
18. lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God,
19. having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof:

From such turn away!

Do the true Ekklesias of YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, really know what time it is? What will happen to this so-called Hierarchal Institutionalized 501 © (3) Corporate Babylonian Church System?

One must remember First Corinthians Chapter 10, Verse 11 which states:

“Now all these things came upon them for examples and were written for the instruction of us on whom the ends of the ages have met.”

That means that we had better pay attention to the Old Testament because of Its ramifications on the New Testament.

However, we do live in the age of Mystery, Babylon the Great, and the Laodicean Babylonian Churches are neither hot nor cold; they are lukewarm. You will note that by the time we get to the end of Revelation Chapter 3, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, is **NO LONGER IN THE MIDST** of the Churches. He is on the outside, and

is personally knocking on individual hearts to come in. Will you let Him in today? IF you do, there is a price to pay. Are you willing to die for Him as He did for you? I know that I am!

LET'S PRAY! We thank You Father YAHWEH for the Bread of Life that we have received today! We also thank You for opening up our ears to hear and our eyes to see Your Word! I pray for all of our brothers and sisters and their families Whom You have brought here today, as well as those watching online! May Your Name be Blessed Among ALL the Nations! I pray all this in the Name of our Lord and Savior, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ! AMEN!

Please receive the Benediction:

May the Peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always! AMEN!