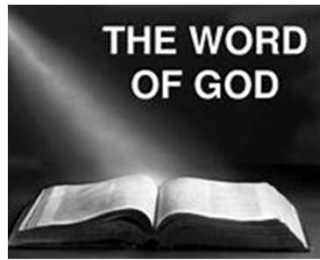


HOLD FIRM TO



THE GOVERNMENT

- Isaiah 9:6, “For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.”
- Malachi 4:5, “Behold, I am going to send Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord.”

SHALL HAVE NO END

- Isaiah 9:7, “There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.”

THE MESSEGER, THE WAY PREPARED

- Malachi 3:1, “Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight, behold, He is coming, says the Lord of hosts.”

BUILD MY CHURCH

- Matthew 16:18-19, “¹⁸ I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.”

GOD GIVES ORDER TO THE CHURCH

- Jesus gave instructions, how to resolve evil before it infiltrates the body of Christ. Many want to play church, they are so serious about things which do not build up the saints.

- Matthew 18:17-20, “¹⁷ If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.”

GOD HAS NEVER CHANGED HIS ORDER

- Proverbs 4:1-11, “¹ Hear, O sons, the instruction of a father, And give attention that you may gain understanding, ² For I give you sound teaching; Do not abandon my instruction. ³ When I was a son to my father, Tender and the only son in the sight of my mother, ⁴ Then he taught me and said to me, ‘Let your heart hold fast my words; Keep my commandments and live; ⁵ Acquire wisdom! Acquire understanding! Do not forget nor turn away from the words of my mouth. ⁶ Do not forsake her, and she will guard you; Love her, and she will watch over you. ⁷ The beginning of wisdom is: Acquire wisdom; And with all your acquiring, get understanding. ⁸ Prize her, and she will exalt you; She will honor you if you embrace her. ⁹ She will place on your head a garland of grace; She will present you with a crown of beauty.’ ¹⁰ Hear, my son, and accept my sayings And the years of your life will be many. ¹¹ I have directed you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in upright paths.”

CHRIST OWNS THE HOUSE

- Hebrews 3:6, “... but Christ *was faithful* as a Son over His house – whose house we are, if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end.”

HEAD OVER ALL THINGS TO THE CHURCH

- Ephesians 1:20-23, “²⁰ which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”

HEAD OF THE CHURCH

- Ephesians 4:14-16, “¹⁴ As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; ¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.”

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT

- Isaiah 28:9-10, “⁹ To whom would He teach knowledge, And to whom would He interpret the message? Those *just* weaned from milk? Those *just* taken from the breast? ¹⁰ For He says, ‘Order on order, order on order, Line on line, line on line, A little here, a little there.’”
- Mark 11:18-22, “¹⁸ The chief priests and the scribes heard this, and began seeking how to destroy Him; for they were afraid of Him, for the whole crowd was astonished at His teaching. ¹⁹ When evening came, they would go out of the city. ²⁰ As they were passing by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots up. ²¹ Being reminded, Peter said to Him, ‘Rabbi, look, the fig tree which You cursed has withered.’ ²² And Jesus answered saying to them, ‘Have faith in God.’”

VAIN WORSHIP

- Matthew 15:6-9, "...⁶ he is not to honor his father or his mother. And by this you invalidated the word of God for the sake of your tradition. ⁷ You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you: ⁸ 'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME. ⁹ BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.'"

HEAD OF THE BODY, THE CHURCH

- Colossians 1:18, "He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything."
- Colossians 2:10, "... and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority"

HEAR THE INVITATION

- HEAR and BELIEVE – 1 Thessalonians 2:13, "For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe."
- CONFESSION – Romans 10:10, "... for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation."
- REPENT and BE BAPTIZED – Acts 2:38, "Peter *said* to them, 'Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'"
- CONTINUE – Acts 14:22, "... strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, 'Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.'"