

The Lord's Church Is Precious!

Ephesians 5:23-32

4-12-15 AM


Matthew 16:18 Because of its builder

“And I also say to thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”

Church = Singular in number

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“Church” Defined



An Assembly

- Israel, Acts 7:38
- Riot, Acts 19:32, 41
- Gov't body, Acts 19:39

ekklesia: “to call out of” ... “the called out ones”

Body of the Saved


“Called out” of darkness by God, by the gospel
2 Thessalonians 2:14

CHRIST

Baptized into

CHURCH (Universal)
Matthew 16:18

CHURCH (Local)
(elders, deacons, saints)
Acts 14:23;
Philippians 1:1



Local Church Acts 11:22-26

Local Church Revelation 2:1

Churches of Christ

Romans 16:16

“Precious” Defined

timios – “Held as of great price, i.e. precious: metaphorically, held in honor, esteemed, especially dear.” (Thayer)

1. 1 Peter 1:18-19 Blood of Christ.
2. 1 Peter 2:4 Christ rejected of men, precious with God.
3. 2 Peter 1:4 Precious promises.
4. Hebrews 13:4 Marriage
5. Romans 12:10 Relation to other Christians.

“Precious” Defined

polutimos – “Very valuable, of great price.” (Thayer)

1. Matthew 13:46 Pearl of great price.
2. John 12:3 Pound of ointment.
3. 1 Peter 1:7 Faith more precious than gold.

“Precious” Defined

“Of great value or high price – Precious jewels
 “Highly esteemed or cherished –
 A precious friend

Antonym: cheap (Webster)

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The Church Is Precious

The Church Is Precious Because It Is purchased by the Blood of Christ. Acts 20:28

- ❖ Price determines value. cf. Matthew 13:46
- ❖ No higher price! cf. John 15:13

➤ For those NOT in the church, Christ shed His blood in vain!

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The Church Is Precious

Blood Purchased Redemption. 1 Peter 1:18-19

- ❖ Man needs redemption.
 - Sin is presented as slavery and sinners as slaves. John 8:32-36; Romans 6:17,20; 2 Peter 2:19.
 - Deliverance from sin is freedom. Galatians 5:1.
- ❖ Redemption is “IN CHRIST.” Ephesians 1:7; Romans 3:24-25

For those NOT in the church, Christ shed His blood in vain!

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The Church Is Precious

Blood Purchased Justification. Romans 3:20-26; 5:9

- ❖ Man needs justification ...
 Freedom from condemnation. Romans 8:1
 - Cannot be justified by “law keeping.” Galatians 3:11

➤ For those NOT in the church, Christ shed His blood in vain!

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