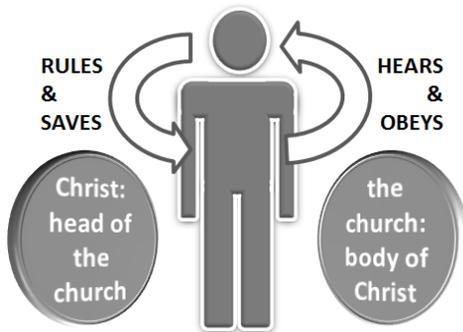


Note also: the church is not what saves. The church is those who are saved (Acts 20:28).

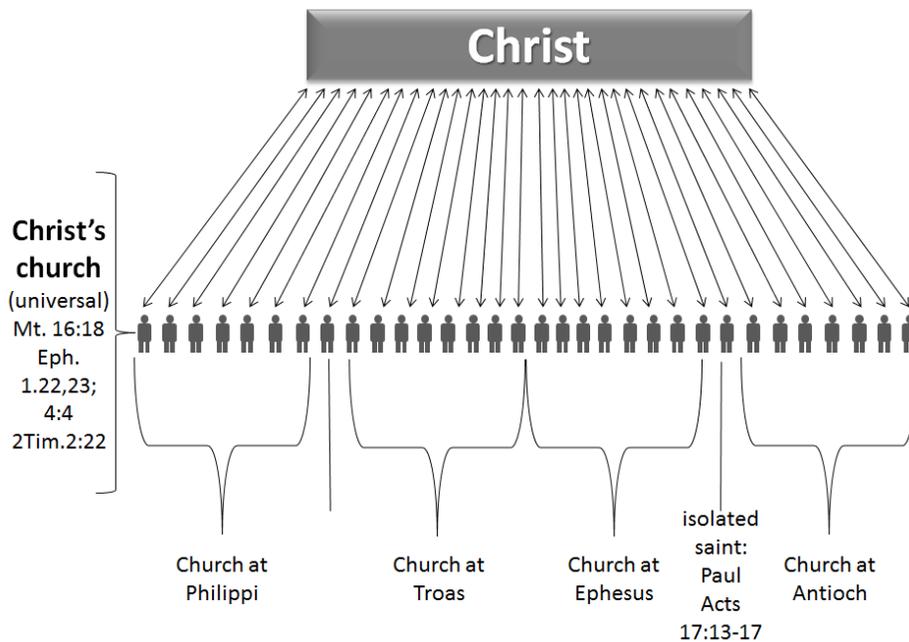
4. The church is described as the body of Christ, with Jesus being its head (Eph. 1:22-23). Chapter 5 repeats this idea, and notes that Jesus is the Savior of the body, and the body is subject to Jesus (vs.22ff). The church is not the maker of the rules, it is those that obey the Lord (see also Heb.5.9).



BEWARE:

- a.) What is the warning in 1 John 1:6?
- b.) What does Jesus make clear in Matt. 7:21-27?
- c.) What are we warned against in Matt.7:15 and 2 Tim. 4:2-4?

8. The NT church is spoken of in both the universal & local sense. Of the universal church, how many are there? See Matt. 16:18; Eph. 1:22-23; 4:3-6



5. Local shepherds & the chief shepherd:

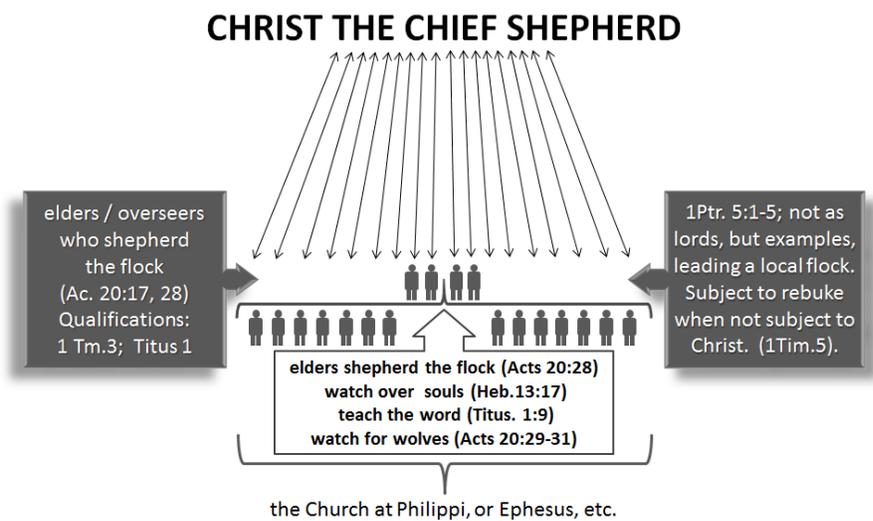
1 Peter 5:

Who do they oversee?

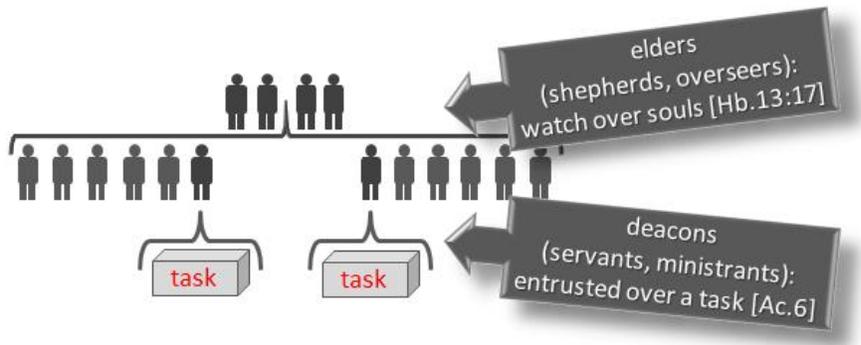
1 Tim. 5:17:

Of what are they worthy?

the role of shepherds in a local church



6. Deacons (servants or ministrants) are church servants entrusted over certain tasks (cf. Acts 6:1-6; where the Greek root word for deacon is here translated as “serving” [NASB] and “serve”). They are ministering servants with qualifications found in 1 Tim.3:8-13.



7. Evangelists (Acts 21:8; Eph. 4:11; 1 Tim. 4:5) teach and preach the gospel to both:
 a.) those outside of Christ: Acts 8; Acts 13; Acts 17
 b.) those in Christ: Rom. 1:15; 1&2 Tim.; Titus; Acts 20
 Evangelists can be supported by churches in their work (1 Cor. 9:13)



Note: "pastors" (Eph. 4:11) are not the evangelists (see vs. 10), but the shepherds (aka: elders, overseers; cf. Ac. 20:17&28). Pastor is an older English word for shepherd, but for modern English, "shepherd" is much clearer.

8. The problem of Clergy & Titles: “clergy & laity” is not spoken of in the NT. Jesus says we are all brothers. Read Mt. 23:5-11. What did Jesus say about the use of special titles like “Father” or “Rabbi” (Teacher)?

Note also: “Reverend” occurs one time in the Bible. It’s in Psalm 111:9 (King James Version). Whose name is reverend? _____. What synonym does your translation use in this verse?

Would that be something we should title ourselves?

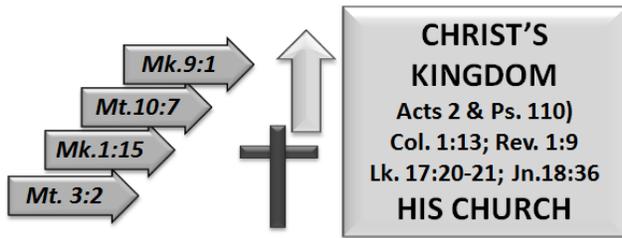
9. The church and the kingdom:

From Matt. 3:2; Mk. 1:15; and Mk. 9:1; what was about to come?

From Acts 2.32-36, where did Jesus go to reign (cf. Ps. 110)?

From Col. 1:13 and Rev. 1:9, what were the early Christians in?

From John 18:36 & Lk. 17:20-21, what was the nature of the kingdom?



10. Activity and work of the local church

Funds collected by the church are for the work of the church. It's not uncommon, unfortunately, to see churches use church funds for a variety of activities - although not wrong, themselves - that are not the work of the church.

For example:

a.) *Social dinners are important (1 Peter 4:9), but was that work of the church (1 Cor. 11:22,34)?*

b.) *Giving money to needy people outside of the church is important (Luke 10:25-37), but that was that the duty of the church (1 Cor. 16:1-2)?*

c.) *Being responsible for one's own mother is required (1 Tim. 5:4,8), but is that necessarily the work of the church (1 Tim.5:16)?*

d.) *Physical exercise profits the body, but would a fitness center be the work of the church (1 Tim. 4:9)?*

