

THE CHURCH AND THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

Introduction:

1. The New Testament uses many terms and concepts to describe the church of Christ.
2. As members of the church, it is important for us to know what the church is – and what the Lord expects it to be.
3. Thus, as we study these divine descriptions of the church, we will learn how we are to conduct ourselves individually and as a congregation of God's people.
4. Before we discuss the specific terms of designation, there are a few fundamental facts that must be considered.
5. First, we must understand the role of the church in God's plan of redemption...
 - a. Eternal purpose
 - b. Connected to the crucifixion

- I. The Resurrection and Authority (Acts 2:22-41, 47)
 - A. Jesus was raised from the dead (Matthew 28:1-10).
 - B. The resurrection of Jesus is the seal and proof of all His other miracles (Matt. 12:38-40; John 2:18-22).
 - C. The resurrection proved the deity and authority of Jesus (Romans 1:4).
 - D. By this power, Jesus established the church (Acts 2:22-41, 47).

- II. The Resurrection and Victory (1 Corinthians 15:12-26)
 - A. By His resurrection, Jesus won the victory over...
 1. Sin (Hebrews 2:18; 4:15)
 2. Satan (Hebrews 2:14-15; John 14:30)
 3. Death (Acts 2:24; Matt. 16:18; 1 Cor. 15:55-57; 2 Tim. 1:10)
 - B. His triumph assures the Christian of victory as well (Heb. 2:10).
 - C. We can have victory over sin (Rom. 4:23-25; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:24).
 - D. We can have victory over Satan (Eph. 6:10ff).
 - E. We can have victory over death (1 Cor. 15:12-26).

- III. The Resurrection and Salvation (Romans 6:1-13)
 - A. In baptism, we reenact the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.
 - B. As Jesus was raised from the grave, the sinner is raised to walk in newness of life!
 - C. Thus, the Christian is freed from sin – making baptism essential for salvation.
 - D. The Christian has fellowship with Christ (vs. 8).
 - E. The Christian does not allow sin to reign in his life.