

6-A The Church, His Body

God describes His people through the use of METAPHORS that illustrate in some way WHO we are in relationship with Him. These include: the Body of Christ (EPH 1:22-23), Bride of Christ (EPH 5:25-27, 2CO 11:2), God's field, God's building (1CO 3:9), Family of God (EPH 3:14), a New Man (EPH 2:15), Seed of Abraham, God's Inheritance, heavenly Jerusalem, Israel of God, God's Temple (1CO 3:16), a Holy Temple (EPH 2:20-22), The Chosen, Household of God (EPH 2:19), house of God (1TI 3:15, 1PE 4:17), flock (LUK 12:12, JOH 10:16, ACT 20:28-29), God's husbandry (1CO 3:9), sheepfold, seed of the woman, vine and the branches, vineyard, God's firstborn, the habitation of God (EPH 2:22), a royal priesthood, (1PE 2:9-10), bondservants, God's Elect, the pillar and the ground of the truth (1TI 3:14), the Army of God, Christians, Saints (PHI 4:21-22, HEB 10:10, ROM 1:7), Believers, Children of God, Brethren (HEB 2:10-12), Friends (3JO 1:5), The Church, Church(es) of God (ACT 20:28, 1CO 11:16), Church of the Firstborn, Churches of Christ (ROM 16:16), spiritual house (1PE 2:5), the Commonwealth of Israel (EPH 2:12), the light of the world, etc. These all are pictures of the Church, the topic of this study.

1. **MAT 16:17** Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 "And I also say to you that **you are Peter (Petros), and on this rock (petra) I will build My CHURCH (ekklesia), and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.** 19 "And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

This is the first time in the KJV Bible that the word "**church**" is used. One might think from this and other scriptures that the church is therefore entirely a New Testament entity, and is non-existent in the Old Testament. Yet, in Acts, Paul quotes from **DEU 18:15-19** in the OT and uses the Greek word '**ekklesia**' in the NKJ phrase '**congregation in the wilderness**'. This clearly implies that Paul considered them members of the church or '**ekklesia**'.

2. **DEU 9:10** "Then the Lord delivered to me **two tablets of stone written with the finger of God**, and on them were all the words which the Lord had spoken to you on the mountain from the midst of the fire in the day of **the ASSEMBLY (qahal)**. 11 "And **it came to pass, at the end of forty days and forty nights, that the Lord gave me the two tablets of stone, the tablets of the covenant (beriyth)**. (*Giving of the Law at Mount Sinai---ON PENTECOST !*)
3. **ACT 7:37** "This is that Moses who said to the children of Israel, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear.' 38 "**This is he who was in the CONGREGATION (ekklesia) (CHURCH in KJV) in the wilderness with the Angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai**, and with our fathers, **the one who received the living oracles (the LAW) to give to us**, 39 "**whom our fathers would not obey, but rejected. And in their hearts they turned back to Egypt**, 40 "saying to Aaron, 'Make us gods to go before us; as for this Moses who brought us out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' (A quote from **DEU 18:15-19**)
4. **ROM 9:6** **It is NOT as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. 7 Nor because they are his descendants (seed--sperma) are they all Abraham's children.** On the contrary, "It is **through Isaac that your offspring (seed--sperma) will be reckoned.**" 8 **In other words, it is not the NATURAL (flesh--sarx) CHILDREN who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise (epaggelia--a promise delivered by an angel) who are regarded as Abraham's offspring (seed--sperma).**
5. **ROM 16:20** **And the God of peace will crush Satan UNDER YOUR FEET shortly.** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.
6. **1CO 12:12** For **as THE BODY is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.** 13 For **by one Spirit we were all baptized into ONE BODY—whether JEWS or GREEKS, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.** 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many. 27 Now **you are THE BODY OF CHRIST, & members individually.**
7. **EPH 1:15** Therefore **I also**, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, 16 **do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:** 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 **the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,** 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power 20 **which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,** 21 **far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named,** not only in this age but also in that which is to come. 22 And **He put ALL THINGS UNDER HIS FEET, and gave Him to be head over all things to THE CHURCH,** 23 **WHICH IS HIS BODY, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.**
8. **COL 1:15** **He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.** 16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. 18 And **He is the HEAD OF THE BODY (soma), THE CHURCH (ekklesia), who is**

the beginning (arche), the firstborn (prototokos) from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Ekklesia 1577 Ἐκκλησία { ek-klay-see'-ah} : the church, assembly, congregation. GK
ejkklhsiva

A gathering of citizens called out from their homes into some public place, an assembly

- a. an assembly of the people convened at the public place of the council for the purpose of deliberating
- b. the assembly of the Israelites
- c. any gathering or throng of men assembled by chance, tumultuously
- d. in a Christian sense
 - i. an assembly of Christians gathered for worship in a religious meeting
 - ii. a company of Christian, or of those who, hoping for eternal salvation through Jesus Christ, observe their own religious rites, hold their own religious meetings, and manage their own affairs, according to regulations prescribed for the body for order's sake
 - iii. those who anywhere, in a city, village, constitute such a company and are united into one body
 - iv. the whole body of Christians scattered throughout the earth
 - v. the assembly of faithful Christians already dead and received into heaven

Operation of the Church – His Body – The Temple of God

9. **MAT 18:15** “Moreover **if your BROTHER (adelphos) sins against you, go & tell him his fault between you and him alone.** If he hears you, you have gained your brother. 16 “But **if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that ‘by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word (rhema) may be established.**’ 17 “**And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to THE CHURCH (ekklesia).** But **if he refuses even to hear THE CHURCH, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.** 18 “Assuredly, **I say to you, whatever you bind on earth (ge) will be bound in heaven (ouranos), and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.**
10. **ACT 2:46** So **continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house,** they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. **AND THE LORD ADDED TO THE CHURCH DAILY THOSE WHO WERE BEING SAVED (sozo).**
11. **ACT 5:11** So **great fear came upon all THE CHURCH (ekklesia) & upon all who heard these things.**
12. **ACT 8:1** Now Saul was consenting to his (Stephen's) death. **At that time a great persecution arose against THE CHURCH which was at Jerusalem;** and **they were all SCATTERED (diaspeiro--dia + speiro = sow seed) throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria,** except the apostles. 2 And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him. 3 As for **Saul,** he **made havoc of THE CHURCH, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison.** 4 Therefore **those who were SCATTERED (diaspeiro) went everywhere preaching THE WORD (logos).** 5 Then **Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ (the LOGOS) to them.** 6 And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the **miracles** which he did. 7 For **unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed;** and **many who were paralyzed and lame were healed.** 8 And **there was great joy** in that city.
13. **ACT 9:31** Then **the CHURCHES (ekklesia) throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified.** And **walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.**
14. **ACT 11:22** Then **news of these things came to the ears of THE CHURCH (ekklesia) IN JERUSALEM, and they sent out Barnabas** to go as far as Antioch.
15. **ACT 11:25** Then **Barnabas** departed for Tarsus to seek **Saul.** 26 And when he had found him, **he brought him to Antioch.** So it was that **for A WHOLE YEAR they assembled with THE CHURCH (ekklesia) and taught a great many people.** And **the disciples were first called CHRISTIANS in Antioch.**
16. **ACT 12:1** Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church. 5 **Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by THE CHURCH.**
17. **ACT 13:1** Now **in THE CHURCH (ekklesia) that was at Antioch there were certain PROPHETS and TEACHERS:** Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.
18. **ACT 14:23** So **when they had appointed elders in every CHURCH (ekklesia), and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.** 24 And after they had passed through Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia. 25 Now when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. 26 From there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work which they had completed. 27 Now **when they had come and gathered THE CHURCH (ekklesia) together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.**

19. **ACT 15:3** So, **being sent on their way by THE CHURCH (ekklesia)**, they passed through Phoenicia and Samaria, **describing the conversion of the Gentiles**; and they caused great joy to all the brethren. 4 And **when they had come to Jerusalem, they were received by the CHURCH and the apostles and the elders; and they reported all things that God had done with them.**
20. **ACT 15:22** Then **it pleased the apostles and elders, with THE WHOLE CHURCH, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas, namely, Judas** who was also named Barsabas, **and Silas, leading men among the brethren.** 23 They wrote this letter by them: The apostles, the elders, and the brethren, To the brethren who are of the Gentiles in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia: Greetings.
21. **ACT 15:40** but **Paul chose Silas** and departed, being commended by the brethren to the grace of God. 41 **And he went through Syria and Cilicia, STRENGTHENING THE CHURCHES.**
22. **ACT 16:4** And **as they went through the cities, they delivered to them the decrees to keep, which were determined by the apostles and elders at Jerusalem.** 5 **So THE CHURCHES were strengthened in the faith, and increased in number daily.**
23. **ACT 17:28** “for **in Him we live and move and have our being**, as also some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also His offspring.’
24. **ACT 20:27** “For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God. 28 “Therefore **take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the CHURCH OF GOD which He purchased with His own blood.** 29 “For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 “Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.
25. **ROM 7:4** Therefore, **my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the BODY OF CHRIST, that you may be married to another— to Him who was raised from the dead,** that we should bear fruit to God.
26. **ROM 8:29** For **whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son,** that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.
27. **ROM 12:4** For **as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function,** 5 **so we, being many, are ONE BODY in Christ, and individually members of one another.**
28. **ROM 16:3** Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, 4 who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also **all the CHURCHES of the Gentiles.** 5 Likewise **greet THE CHURCH that is in their house.** Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia to Christ.
29. **1CO 1:2** **To the CHURCH OF GOD which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints,** with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:
30. **1CO 3:16** Do **you not know that you are the TEMPLE OF GOD & that the Spirit of God dwells in you?**
31. **1CO 6:1** Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? 2 **Do you not know that the saints will judge the world?** And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters? 3 Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life? 4 **If then you have judgments concerning things pertaining to this life, do you appoint those who are least esteemed by THE CHURCH to judge?** 5 I say this to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you, not even one, who will be able to judge between his brethren? 6 But brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers!
32. **1CO 6:15** **Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?** Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! 16 Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For **“the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.”** 17 But **he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.**
33. **1CO 7:17** But **as God has distributed to each one, as the Lord has called each one, so let him walk. And so I ordain in all THE CHURCHES.** 18 Was anyone called while circumcised? Let him not become uncircumcised. Was anyone called while uncircumcised? Let him not be circumcised. 19 **Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing, but keeping the commandments of God is what matters.** 20 Let each one remain in the same calling in which he was called.
34. **1CO 10:16** The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? **The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the BODY OF CHRIST?** 17 For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread.
35. **1CO 10:32** **Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to THE CHURCH OF GOD,** 33 just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.
36. **1CO 11:18** For first of all, **when you come together AS A CHURCH, I hear that there are divisions among you, and in part I believe it.** 19 For there must also be factions among you, that those who are approved may be recognized among you.
37. **1CO 11:23** For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; 24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, **“Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”**
38. **1CO 12:12** For **as THE BODY is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are ONE BODY, so also is Christ.** 13 **For by one Spirit we were all baptized into ONE**

BODY—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many.

39. **1CO 12:17** If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? 18 But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. 19 And if they were all one member, where would the body be? 20 But **now indeed there are many members, yet one body.**
40. **1CO 12:27** Now **you are THE BODY OF CHRIST, and members individually.** 28 And **God has appointed these IN THE CHURCH: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.** 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? 30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.
41. **1CO 14:4** He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but **he who prophesies edifies THE CHURCH.** 5 **I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that THE CHURCH may receive edification.** 12 Even so you, **since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of THE CHURCH that you seek to excel.**
42. **1CO 14:18** I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all; 19 yet **in THE CHURCH I would rather speak five words with my understanding, that I may teach others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue.**
43. **1CO 14:27** If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret. 28 But **if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent IN CHURCH, and let him speak to himself and to God.**
44. **1CO 15:42** So also is the resurrection of the dead. **The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption.** 43 It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. 44 **It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.** 45 And so it is written, **“The first man Adam became a living being.”** The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. 46 However, **the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual.** 47 The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven. 48 As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly. 49 **And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.**
45. **1CO 16:1** **Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to THE CHURCHES OF Galatia, so you must do also: 2 On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.**
46. **2CO 6:13** Now in return for the same (I speak as to children), you also be open. 14 **Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?** 15 And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? 16 And **what agreement has the TEMPLE OF GOD with idols?** For **YOU ARE THE TEMPLE OF THE LIVING GOD.** As God has said: “I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.” 17 Therefore **“Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord.** Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you.” 19 Or **do you not know that yOUR BODY IS THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT who is in you,** whom you have from God, and you are not your own? 20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.
47. **GAL 3:5** Therefore **He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?**— 6 just as Abraham “believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” 7 Therefore know that **only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.** 8 And **the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.”** 9 So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham. 29 and **IF YOU ARE CHRIST’S, THEN YOU ARE ABRAHAM’S SEED, and heirs according to the promise.**
48. **EPH 2:11** Therefore remember that **you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision** by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—12 that at that time **you were without Christ, being aliens from the COMMONWEALTH OF ISRAEL and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.** 13 But **now IN CHRIST JESUS you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.** 14 For **He Himself is our peace, who has made both ONE,** and has broken down the middle wall of separation, 15 **having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, THE LAW OF COMMANDMENTS** contained in ordinances, **so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,** 16 and **that He might reconcile them both to God IN ONE BODY through the cross,** thereby putting to death the enmity. 17 And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. 18 For **through Him we BOTH have access by one Spirit to the Father.** 19 Now, therefore, **you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,** 20 having been **built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,** 21 **IN WHOM the whole BUILDING, being joined together, grows into A HOLY TEMPLE in the Lord,**

49. **EPH 3:8** To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to make all see what is the fellowship of **the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God** who created all things through Jesus Christ; 10 to the intent that now **the manifold wisdom of God might be made KNOWN BY THE CHURCH to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places**, 11 according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.
50. **EPH 3:21** **to Him be glory IN THE CHURCH** by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.
51. **EPH 4:4** **There is ONE BODY and one Spirit**, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.
52. **EPH 4:11** And **He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers**, 12 **for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of THE BODY OF CHRIST**, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, **to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ**; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, **may grow up in all things into Him who is THE HEAD—CHRIST**— 16 from whom the whole body, joined & knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.
53. **EPH 5:22** Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. 25 **Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.** 28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. 30 For **we are members of His body, of His flesh & of His bones**. 31 “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.
54. **PHI 3:20** For **our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform OUR LOWLY BODY that it may be conformed to HIS GLORIOUS BODY**, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.
55. **COL 1:24** **I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of HIS BODY, which is THE CHURCH, 25 of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God** which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God, 26 **the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints.** 27 To them God willed **to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is CHRIST IN YOU, the hope of glory.**
56. **1TI 3:14** **These things I write to you**, though I hope to come to you shortly; 15 but if I am delayed, I write so **that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD, the pillar and ground of the truth.**
57. **1TI 5:16** **If any believing man or woman has widows, let them relieve them, and do not let THE CHURCH be burdened**, that it may relieve those who are really widows. 17 **Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine.** 18 For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain,” and, “The laborer is worthy of his wages.” 19 **Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses. 20 Those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may fear.** 21 I charge you before God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels that you **observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing with partiality. 22 Do not lay hands on anyone hastily, nor share in other people’s sins; keep yourself pure.**
58. **IPE 2:4** Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, 5 **you also, as living stones, are being built up A SPIRITUAL HOUSE, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.**
59. **HEB 10:5** Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: “**Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But A BODY You have prepared for Me.**
60. **HEB 11:8** **BY FAITH Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance.** And he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; 10 for **he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.** 11 **BY FAITH Sarah herself also received strength to conceive SEED, and SHE BORE A CHILD** when she was past the

age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised. 12 Therefore **from one man, and HIM AS GOOD AS DEAD, were born as many as THE STARS OF THE SKY in multitude—innumerable as THE SAND WHICH IS BY THE SEASHORE.**

61. **REV 1:19** “Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this. 20 **“The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: THE SEVEN STARS ARE THE ANGELS OF THE SEVEN CHURCHES, AND THE SEVEN LAMPSTANDS WHICH YOU SAW ARE THE SEVEN CHURCHES.**

Elders, Deacons, Bishops, Servants, Ministers, etc.

62. **MAT 23:11** “But **he who is greatest among you shall be your servant (diakonos--deacon, minister).**
63. **ACT 14:21** And **when they had PREACHED THE GOSPEL to that city & MADE MANY DISCIPLES, they returned** to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, 22 **STRENGTHENING THE SOULS (psuche) of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, “We must through many tribulations (thlipsis) enter the kingdom of God.”** 23 So **when they had APPOINTED (KJ ordained) ELDERS (presbuteros) IN EVERY CHURCH, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the LORD in whom they had believed.**
64. **ACT 15:4** And **when they (Paul & Barnabas) had come to Jerusalem, they were received by the church and the apostles and the ELDERS;** and they reported all things that God had done with them. 5 But some of the sect of the Pharisees who believed rose up, saying, “It is necessary to circumcise them, & to command them to keep the law of Moses.” 6 Now **the apostles & ELDERS (presbuteros) came together to consider this matter.**
65. **ACT 16:4** And **as they went through the cities, they delivered to them the decrees to keep, which were determined by the apostles and ELDERS at Jerusalem.** 5 **So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and increased in number daily. (note the result)**
66. **ACT 20:28** “Therefore **take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you OVERSEERS (episkopos), to shepherd the church of God** which He purchased with His own blood. 29 “For I know this, that **after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock.**
67. **2CO 3:5** Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but **our sufficiency is from God,** 6 **who also made us sufficient as MINISTERS (diakonso--deacon, servant) of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.**
68. **EPH 3:7** **of which I became a MINISTER (diakonos--deacon, servant) according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power.**
69. **1TH 3:1** Therefore, when **we** could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, 2 and **sent Timothy, our brother and MINISTER (diakonos--deacon, servant) of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith.**
70. **1TI 5:17** **Let the ELDERS (presbuteros) who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word (logos) and doctrine (didaskalia).** 19 **Do not receive an accusation against an ELDER except from two or three witnesses.**
71. **1TI 3:1** This is a faithful saying: **If a man DESIRES the position of a BISHOP (episkopos), he desires a good work.** 2 **A BISHOP (episkopos) then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach;** 3 **not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous;** 4 **one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence** 5 (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of THE CHURCH of God?); 6 **not a novice,** lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. 7 Moreover **he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.** 8 **Likewise DEACONS (diakonos) must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money,** 9 **holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience.** 10 But **let these also first be tested; then let them serve as DEACONS (diakonos), being found blameless.** 11 Likewise their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. 12 **Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.** 13 For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.
72. **TIT 1:5** For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and **appoint ELDERS (presbuteros) in every city as I commanded you—** 6 **if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination.** 7 For a **BISHOP (episkopos) must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money,** 8 but **hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled,** 9 **holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.**

73. **JAM 5:14** **Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the ELDERS (*presbuteros*) of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.** 15 **And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.**
74. **1PE 5:1** **The ELDERS (*presbuteros*) who are among you I exhort,** I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: 2 **Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as OVERSEERS (*episkopos*), not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly;** 3 **nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;** 4 and **when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.**