

The New Testament Church

(Part 6)
Matthew 16:13-18

The New Testament Church

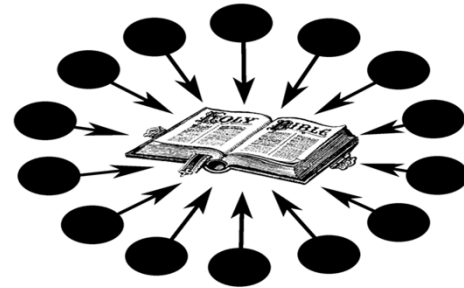
- **Founded upon Jesus Christ, the Son of God.** Matthew 16:18; 1 Corinthians 3:11; 1 Corinthians. 2:2
- **Began in Jerusalem about 33 A.D.** Isaiah 2:3; Matthew 3:2; Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:14-15; Luke 10:9; Matthew 10:7; Mark 9:1; Luke 24:44ff; Acts 1:6-8; 2:1-4,47; 11:15
- **Christ is its head and only source of authority.** Matthew 28:19; Ephesians 1:22-23; Matthew 21:23-27; Matthew 7:21; Luke 6:46

The New Testament Church

- **Organized after the divine pattern.**
Philippians 1:1
 - Elders: Acts 14:23; 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1ff; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-7
 - Deacons: 1 Timothy 3:8-13
 - Members: 1 Corinthians 12:12ff

Clearly "elders," "overseers," "pastors," and "bishops" in these passages are used interchangeably, referring to the same men in the same work. (cf. Acts 20:17, 28; 1 Peter 5:1-3; etc.).

Organization of the Church as Revealed in the Bible



1. Christ is head of every local church.
 2. The Bible is the only written creed for each local church.
 3. Each local church is autonomous and self-governing.
 4. No organizational tie between local churches.
 5. No organization larger than local churches.
 6. Local churches appoint their own plurality of elders.
- www.bible.ca

The New Testament Church

- **Has a divine mission.**
 - Evangelism. 1 Timothy 3:15; Acts 11:22; Philippians 1:3-5; 4:14-16; 2 Corinthians 11:8-9
 - Benevolence. Acts 2, 4, 6; Acts 11:27-30; 1 Corinthians 16:1-3; 2 Corinthians 8:1-5; 9:1-2; Romans 15:25ff
 - Edification. Ephesians 4:11-16

The Lord's Church Is Not ...

- A Political Force. John 18:33-38
- A Business Organization. 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:7
- A Secular School. 1 Corinthians 1:20-21
- A Social Center. Romans 14:17; 1 Corinthians 11:22-34

The New Testament Church

- **No creed but the Bible.**
 - Gospel – God’s power to save. Romans 1:16
- **Complete will of God. 2 Peter 1:3**
 - Promised. John 14:26; 15:26; 16:13
 - Inspired. 2 Timothy 3:16-17
 - Spirit revealed. Ephesians 3:6; 1 Corinthians 2:6-16; 1 Peter 1:12
 - May not add to or change. Galatians 1:6-9; 2 John 9
 - Understandable. Ephesians 3:3-4
 - Once for all delivered. Jude 3

The New Testament Church

- **Scriptural in name.**
 - “The church of God” 1 Corinthians 1:2; 1 Timothy 3:15
 - “The body of Christ” Ephesians 1:22-23
 - “Bride of Christ” Romans 7:4; Revelation 21:9
 - “Church of the firstborn” Hebrews 12:23
 - “House of God” 1 Timothy 3:15
 - “Churches of Christ” Romans 16:16

The New Testament Church

- **Members called by Scriptural names:**
 - Disciples. John 15:8; Acts 11:26
 - Saints. Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; Philippians 1:1
 - Brethren. Luke 8:21; Galatians 6:1
 - Children. Galatians 3:26; 1 John 2:1
 - Christians. Isaiah 62:2; Acts 11:26; 26:28; 1 Peter 4:16
- **Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? 1 Corinthians 1:12-13**

The New Testament Church

- **Worships according to the Scriptures:**
 - Singing. Matthew 26:30; Acts 16:25; Romans 15:9; 1 Corinthians 14:15; Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 2:12; 13:15; James 5:13

Instrumental Music In Worship

- *Definition: “psallo” (make melody)*
- “a. to pluck off, pull out: b. to cause to vibrate by touching, to twang: to touch or strike the chord, to twang the strings of a musical instrument so that they gently vibrate ... in the New Testament to sing a hymn, to celebrate the praises of God in song” (Thayer, page 675).

The instrument is the heart!

Instrumental Music In Worship

Is Not Authorized By The New Testament

“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God”
(Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:4).

Instrumental Music In Worship

The Silence of God is Prohibitive

Hebrews 7:14

Moses spoke NOTHING about the tribe of JUDAH

God Did Not Say:

Not to use strange fire (Leviticus 10)
Not to use oak wood (Genesis 6)

History Of Instrumental Music In Worship

"The Greek word '*psallo*' is applied among the Greeks of modern times exclusively to sacred music, which in the Eastern Church has never been any other than vocal, instrumental music being unknown in that church, as it was in the primitive church ..."

(*McClintock and Strong*, Volume 8, page 739).

History Of Instrumental Music In Worship

"It is not, therefore, strange that instrumental music was not heard in their congregational services ... In the early church the whole congregation joined in the singing, but instrumental music did not accompany the praise"

(W. D. Killen, *The Ancient Church*, pages 193, 423).

History Of Instrumental Music In Worship

The American Encyclopedia says, "Pope Vitalian is related to have first introduced organs into some of the churches of Western Europe about 670 but the earliest trustworthy account is that of one sent as a present by the Greek emperor Constantine Copronymus to Pepin, king of Franks in 755" (Volume 12, page 688).

History Of Instrumental Music In Worship

The *Chambers Encyclopedia* (Volume 7, page 112) says, "The organ is said to have been introduced into church music by Pope Vitalian in 666 A.D."

History Of Instrumental Music In Worship

John Calvin, founder of the Presbyterian Church and an able student of Augustine's doctrine, said, "Musical instruments in celebrating the praises of God would be no more suitable than the burning of incense, lighting up of lamps, and the restoration of the other shadows of the law" (Comment on Psalms 33).