

Which Church?

Eph. 3:21

Introduction:

- A. Many good people wonder about the church.
 - 1. Should they be a member of a church?
 - 2. If so, which church?
- B. Many good people are actively searching for a church.
 - 1. Think it would be good for themselves and family.
 - 2. Search for church like for bank, grocery store, barber shop, health club, etc.
- C. When asked “which church,” I recommend stop and ask some more fundamental questions first:

Discussion:

I. What must I Do to Be Saved?

- A. Be convinced that Jesus is: Christ, Lord, God’s son. (John 8:24; Acts 2:37, 38).
- B. Be obedient to Jesus for forgiveness of sins:
 - 1. Repent “in his name” (Lk 24:47).
 - 2. Confess his name (cf. Rom. 10:9, 10; Acts 8:37).
 - 3. Baptized in his name (Acts 2:38; 10:48).
- C. Being saved one is added to the church of God’s choice (Acts 2:47)
 - 1. One of God’s “called out assembly.”
 - 2. A citizen in His kingdom.
 - 3. A branch in the vine.
 - 4. A part of His body.
 - 5. A stone in His building.
- D. No longer need to ask “which church?” Are in the church.

II. What must I Do to Stay Saved?

- A. Abstain from every form of evil (1 Thess. 5:22; Rom. 6:1-6).
- B. Fulfill moral duties of this life.
 - 1. To family (1 Tim. 5:8).
 - 2. To government (Rom. 13:1-5).
 - 3. To neighbor (Jas. 1:27).
- C. Walking in the light, confessing sins (1 Jno. 1:7-2:1)
- D. Worship and serve the Lord individually (1 Thess. 5:17; Acts 16:25)
 - 1. Do it in spirit and in truth (John 4:24)
 - 2. Do it as God commands, not as men (cf. Lev. 10:1-2; Matt. 15:9).
- E. Worship and serve the Lord collectively with other disciples in your community (Acts 9:26)
 - 1. This band of disciples are called “churches” (Rev. 1:11; Rom. 16:16).
 - 2. Join them in coming together for worship (Heb. 10:25; Acts 20:7).
 - a. Singing together (Eph. 5:19).
 - b. Praying together (1 Cor. 14:15-17)
 - c. Teaching/learning together (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 14:31).
 - d. Eating Lord’s supper together (Acts 20:7).
 - e. Contributing together (1 Cor. 16:1, 2).
 - 3. Join them in the legitimate church work (Phil. 4:15-17; Rom 15:26; Eph. 4:16).
 - 4. Which local church? One that you can join in scriptural worship and service.

Conclusion:

- A. Instead of trying to sort one out of many, just look at what Jesus expects of us to be and stay saved.
- B. Just get you Bible down and find out what God expects of you – church question will be solved.