

Knowing the Son > the Head of the Church

- Who is the one who builds the church? (Matt. 16:18) - **Jesus**
 - It is a **miracle** and will be **supernaturally** be built (Heb. 11:10)
 - Why in Daniel and Revelation the devil is so against the saints? (Dan. 7:21, 22, Dan 11:32, Rev. 12:17)
 - He recognizes the **only thing** that has authority over Him is Christ and the church (Matt 16:18, 19; Eph. 1:18-22)
 - Co-laborers with Christ (1 Cor. 3:9) – even though Jesus builds the church, **we co-labor with Him**
 - Separate for me Paul and Barnabas for the work of the ministry (Acts 13:2)
 - God has prepared works beforehand to walk in them (Eph. 2:10, Acts 5:29)
 - Miracles of Jesus – wine at Cana, feeding of multitudes etc. – Jesus asked the disciples and servants to help
 - Lord has provided apostles, pastors, teachers etc. for building up the saints for the work of the ministry. (Eph. 4:11)
 - If we in our ability are trying to recruit, plan and build on our own initiative then we are building Babylon (Gen 11:4)
- The Church
 - Zion (Old Testament picture of the church – Heb 12:22)
 - paved way through an **acknowledgement of sin**, Zion is a place with those who have sincere repentance from their sins
 - Deceptive repentance (Judah – Jer. 3:10)/ Sincere repentance (Israel – Jer. 3:12, 13)
 - I Sam. 15:25, 26, 30 – Saul's repentance, sought only the honor before men
 - Luke 5:8 – Peter truly saw his sinfulness and this humility and sense of sin helped in to be one that the Lord used to the end of his life in the building of the church
 - Shepherds after his own heart (Jer. 3:15) – those not seeking their own and own interests
 - He gathers them (Jer. 3:14), different from recruiting by men looking for others on the basis of looking only outward gifts
 - Jerusalem vs. Babylon
 - Comes down from Heaven (Rev. 21:9-11, Php. 2:8)
 - Seek to keep going to lower and lower (Jesus)
 - Tower of Babel from Earth towards heaven (Gen 11:4, Isaiah 14:13)
 - Seek to keep going higher and higher (Satan)
- Members of His Body – How does the church where Jesus is the Head look like
 - **Every** member is **needed** (Rom. 12:21-27)
 - Every one if not gifted the same way and identical **but** there is life in every member and connected to the Head
 - He has placed each member where He desires (Rom. 12:18)
 - Galatians 2:7, Acts 22:19 – Paul believed that the Jews would hear his message and felt his ministry was there but God called him to minister to the Gentiles

- No competition, envy, jealousy because we are one (Rom. 12:26)

➤ Home / Dwelling place

- Psalm 132: 13, 14 – A place the Lord longs to be, God's vacation is with the church ☺
- Isaiah 66: 1, 2 – filled with those who are contrite and tremble at His word
- 1 Peter 2: 4-7 – precious Living stones (brothers and sisters in the church) and Jesus being the precious Cornerstone

➤ Bridal relationship

- Two aspects of Jesus' death
 - God send Jesus to be a propitiation for the sins of the world (John 3:16, I John 4:9,10)
 - **He gave Himself up for the church**, there was a greater depth of love expressed in Jesus giving Himself up for the church (Eph. 5:25, John 10:15)
- Husband and wife
 - The testimony of Christ and His church should be the testimony of our families. (Eph. 5:22-33)
- Our First Love
 - Primary purpose of bridal relationship is **Love and Devotion** (Rev. 2:4,5, 2 Cor. 11: 2,3)
 - Service is secondary (Deut. 11:13)