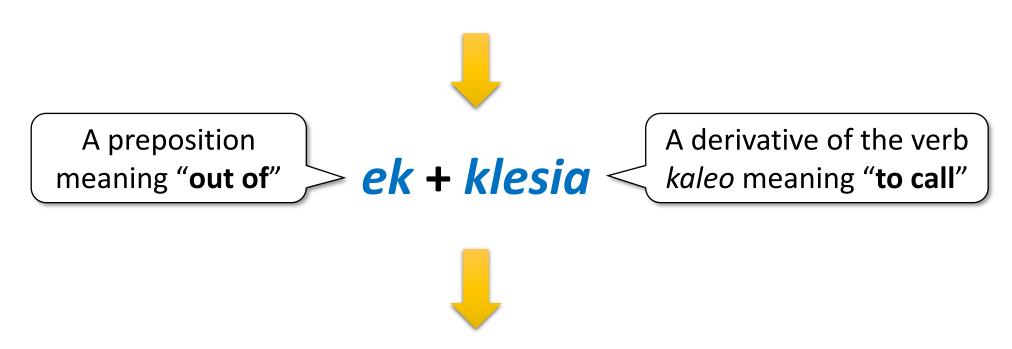
5. The Church, which is His body



I will build My ekklesia

(Matthew 16:18)

ekklesia = church



Any people separated from others for a particular purpose



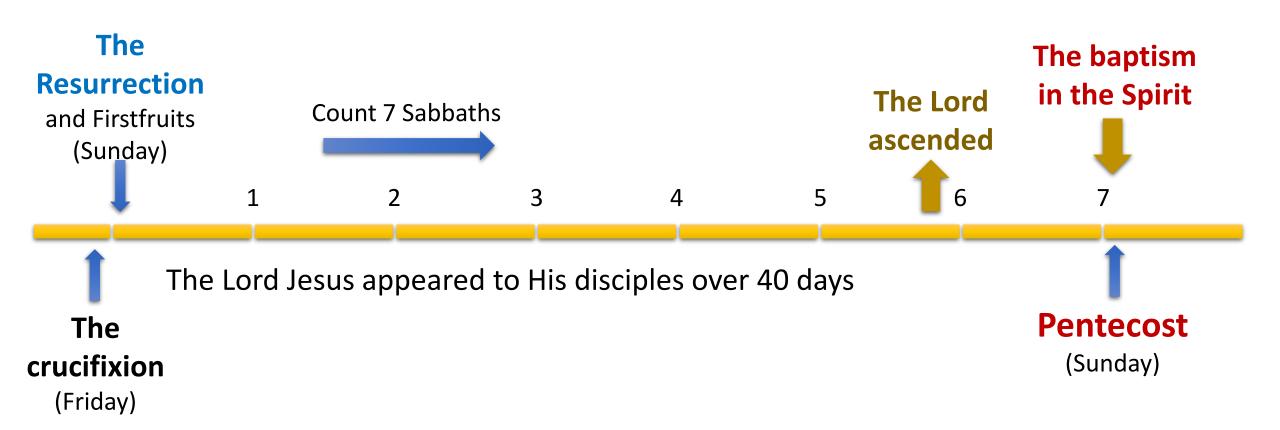
An assembly of people "called out"

by the Lord and set apart for Him





The day of Pentecost







Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ...

(Ephesians 1:3)





His glorious grace

The riches of His grace

The exceeding riches of His grace

The unsearchable riches of Christ



The mystery of His will

The mystery that was hidden in God



...the mystery was made known to me by revelation...

that the Gentiles are

- > fellow heirs
- > members of the same body
- > partakers of **the promise** in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

With the Jews in the *ekklesia*, a new creation

(Ephesians 3:3-6)



To me ... this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ...

so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known

Multifaceted, many sided

The witness of the church

to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places

according to the eternal purpose that He has accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord...

Before creation

(Ephesians 3:8-11)



Paul's prayer:

...that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give **YOU the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation** in the knowledge of Him...

(Ephesians 1:17)



...that you may know what is the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His great might that He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come, and put all things under His feet and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. (Ephesians 1:19-23)

A spiritual reality



Psalm 8, Hebrews 2:8

He put all things under His feet and gave Him as head over all things

Matthew 28:18

Why He is reigning for the church

to the church, which is His body,

His reigning is for the benefit of church

Yet He is complete and entire in Himself

who fills all in all.

the fullness of Him

The church completes Him!!!



The church, which is His body

But what does all this mean for us practically?





The church, which is His body

Let's consider...

- 1. Our relationship to God
- 2. Our relationship to each other
- 3. Our relationship to the world

- 1. Our relationship to God
- 2. Our relationship to each other
- 3. Our relationship to the world

God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us...

made us alive together with Christ...

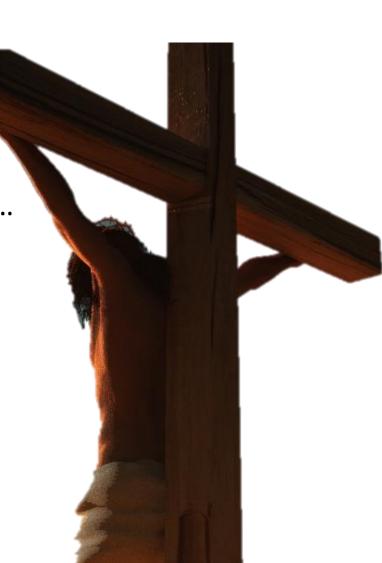
and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus...

(Ephesians 2:4-6)

In one Spirit

we were all baptised into one body... (1 Corinthians 12:13)

See Romans 8:30



- 1. Our relationship to God
- 2. Our relationship to each other
- 3. Our relationship to the world

Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to Me.

(Matthew 25:40)

Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?

(Acts 9:4)

Abide in Me, and I in you. ...
I am the vine; you are the branches.
(John 15:4-5)

Whoever receives this child in My name receives Me, and whoever receives Me receives Him who sent Me.

(Luke 9:48)

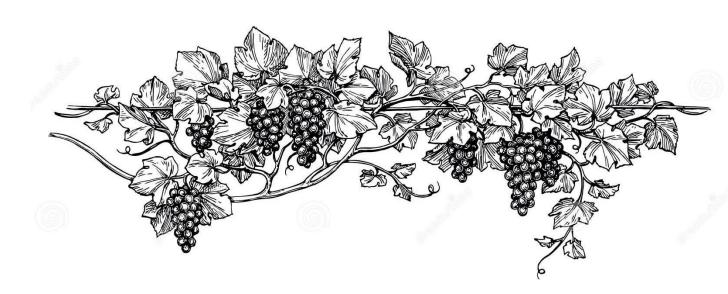
- 1. Our relationship to God
- 2. Our relationship to each other
- 3. Our relationship to the world

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are **one body in Christ**, and individually **members one of another**.

Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them...

(Romans 12:4-6)

- 1. Our relationship to God
- 2. Our relationship to each other
- 3. Our relationship to the world



THE CHURCH IS NOT

an institution or an organisation, a denomination or a sect.

It has no membership role on earth, and it has no human government.

- 1. Our relationship to God
- 2. Our relationship to each other
- 3. Our relationship to the world



THE CHURCH IS NOT

ours to do with as we please.

Christ is the head

and the Holy Spirit has come to save, seal and sanctify the redeemed.

- 1. Our relationship to God
- 2. Our relationship to each other
- 3. Our relationship to the world



THE CHURCH IS NOT

of this world.

It is for God and for His glory.

- 1. Our relationship to God
- 2. Our relationship to each other
- 3. Our relationship to the world



WHAT MATTERS MOST

is our relationship with the Lord Himself and our faithfulness to Him.



The church, which is His body

Vision Obedience Life, witness, fruitfulness, joy

