

THE CHURCH

MATTHEW 16:13

13 ¶ When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

MATTHEW 16:14

14 And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

MATTHEW 16:15

15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

MATTHEW 16:16

16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

MATTHEW 16:17

17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

MATTHEW 16:18

18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

[STOP]

MATTHEW 16:16

16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

EPHESIANS 2:19

19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and **of the household of God**;

EPHESIANS 2:20

20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

I PETER 2:6

6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, **Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious:** and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

I PETER 2:7

7 Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made **the head of the corner,**

I PETER 2:8

8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

MATTHEW 16:18

18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my ***CHURCH**; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

CHURCH: GREEK LEXICON -- STRONG'S NUMBER 1577

ekklesia {ek-klay-see'-ah}

assembly, a gathering of citizens called out from their homes into some public place; an assembly of Christians gathered for worship in a religious meeting

DEUTERONOMY 9:10

10 And the LORD delivered unto me two tables of stone written with the finger of God; and on them was written according to all the words, which the LORD spake with you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of **the assembly.**

DEUTERONOMY 10:4

4 And he wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, the ten commandments, which the LORD spake unto you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of **the assembly**: and the LORD gave them unto me.

DEUTERONOMY 16:8

8 Six days thou shalt eat unleavened bread: and on the seventh day shall be **a solemn assembly** to the LORD thy God: thou shalt do no work therein.

DEUTERONOMY 18:16

16 According to all that thou desiredst of the LORD thy God in Horeb in the day of the **assembly**, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not.

PSALM 26:12

12 My foot standeth in an even place: **in the congregations** will I bless the LORD.

ACTS 7:38

38 This is he, that was in **the church in the wilderness** with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:

EPHESIANS 2:11

11 ¶ Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;

EPHESIANS 2:12

12 That at that time ye 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:

EPHESIANS 2:13

13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

EPHESIANS 2:14

14 ¶ For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;

EPHESIANS 2:15

15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for **to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;**

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But now He is standing in the midst of the Church. As He stands there revealing Who He is in this last age, He calls Himself the "Author of the creation of God". **This is ANOTHER CREATION. This has to do with the church. This is a special designation of Himself. He is the CREATOR of that church. The heavenly Bridegroom created his own bride.....**

....He was the Son of God. He was of the NEW creation. Man and God met and joined; **He was the first of this new race.** He is the head of this new race.

Colossians 1:18,

"And He is the head of the body, the church: Who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; that in all things He might have the preeminence."

II Corinthians 5:17

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation, old things have passed away, behold all things are become new."

There you can see that though man was of the OLD ORDER or creation, now in UNION WITH CHRIST, he has become the NEW CREATION of God.

Ephesians 2:10,

"For we are His workmanship CREATED IN UNION WITH CHRIST JESUS unto good works."

Ephesians 4:24,

"And that ye put on the NEW MAN which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."

This New Creation is not the old creation made over, or it could not be called a new creation. This is exactly what it says it is, "NEW CREATION". It is another creation, distinct from the old one. No longer is He dealing by ways of the flesh. That was how He dealt with Israel. He chose Abraham, and of Abraham's issue through the godly Isaac line. But now out of every kindred, tribe and nation He has purposed a new creation. **He is the first of that creation. He was God created in the form of man.** Now by His Spirit He is creating many Sons unto Himself. God the creator, creating Himself a part of His creation.

This is the true revelation of God. This was His purpose. **This purpose took form through election.** That is why He could look right down to the last age when all would be over and see Himself still in the midst of the church, as author of this New Creation of God. His Sovereign power brought it to pass.

By His own decree He elected the members of this New Creation. He predestinated them to the adoption of children according to the good pleasure of His will. By His omniscience and omnipotence He brought it to pass. How else could He know that He would be standing in the midst of the church receiving glory from His brethren if He did not make sure? All things He knew, and all things **He worked out according to what He knew in order that His purpose and good pleasure be brought to pass.**

Ephesians 2:11

"In Whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him Who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will."

Hallelujah! Aren't you glad that you belong to Him!

MATTHEW 16:18

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EPHESIANS 2:19

19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

EPHESIANS 2:20

20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

EPHESIANS 2:21

21 In whom all **the building** fitly framed together groweth unto an **holy temple** in the Lord:

EPHESIANS 2:22

22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

I TIMOTHY 3:15

15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

MATTHEW 5:14

14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

REVELATION 21:2

2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared **as a bride** adorned for her husband.

PSALM 48:1

1 ¶ A Song and Psalm for the sons of Korah. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness.

PSALM 48:2

2 Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.

PSALM 48:3

3 God is known in her palaces for a refuge.

MATTHEW 16:18

18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and **the gates of hell** shall not prevail against it.

DEUTERONOMY 21:19

19 Then shall his father and his mother lay hold on him, and bring him out unto the elders of his city, and unto the gate of his place;

DEUTERONOMY 21:20

20 And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard.

DEUTERONOMY 22:13

13 ¶ If any man take a wife, and go in unto her, and hate her,

DEUTERONOMY 22:14

14 And give occasions of speech against her, and bring up an evil name upon her, and say, I took this woman, and when I came to her, I found her not a maid:

DEUTERONOMY 22:15

15 Then shall the father of the damsel, and her mother, take and bring forth the tokens of the damsel's virginity unto the elders of the city **in the gate**:

II SAMUEL 19:8

8 Then the king arose, and sat **in the gate**. And they told unto all the people, saying, Behold, the king doth sit in the gate. And all the people came before the king: for Israel had fled every man to his tent.

RUTH 4:1

1 ¶ Then went Boaz up **to the gate**, and sat him down there: and, behold, the kinsman of whom Boaz spake came by; unto whom he said, Ho, such a one! turn aside, sit down here. And he turned aside, and sat down.

RUTH 4:11

11 And all the people that were **in the gate**, and the elders, said, We are witnesses. The LORD make the woman that is come into thine house like Rachel and like Leah, which two did build the house of Israel: and do thou worthily in Ephratah, and be famous in Bethlehem:

MATTHEW 16:18

18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.