

Questions About The Church

(Ephesians 5:23-27)

- Introduction:
1. There are many people who are cynical when they speak of the church.
 2. They see church as a cold, sterile, formal, institution that will run over people if they get in the way.
 3. However, many people see the church as we do: Something to love and of great value both to God and man.
 4. In this morning's lesson, I'd like to answer a few questions that are often asked about the church.

I. Do I Have To Be A Member Of The Church?

- A. Sometimes questions can reveal a wrong attitude.
 1. Do I have to hug my kids?
 2. Do I have to kiss my wife?
- B. Why would one not want to be a part of something that God gave us and was intended for our good?
- C. (Acts 20:28).
- D. (Ephesians 5:23-27).
 1. The church isn't our Savior, Jesus is.
 2. Consequently, some see it as dispensable.
 3. However, while the church doesn't save, it is the saved.

II. Does It Matter Which Church I'm A Member Of?

- A. There are so many from which to choose.
- B. Note that this was not a part of God's plan.
 1. (John 17:20-21).
 2. (1 Corinthians 1:10-13).
 3. (Ephesians 4:4-6).
- C. It has always mattered what church you're a member of...even in the first century.
 1. (Revelation 3:1) The church at Sardis.
 2. (Revelation 3:16) The church at Laodicia.
- D. Would anyone want to be a member of a church that distorts God's plan of salvation?
- E. Would anyone want to be a member of a church that usurps the authority of its head, Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:18).

III. Why Do I Need The Church?

- A. Because of family. We are "children of God" (Galatians 3:26) and "brothers and sisters" (1 Timothy 5:1-2).
- B. Because we're family, we have support.
- C. Ills. Of Redwood Roots.

- Conclusion:
1. As great as John the baptist was, Jesus said that the least in the kingdom of heaven (the church) would be greater than him (Matthew 11:11).
 2. Ills. Of Jester and the dying king.