

A look at the first century church 1-01

SUBJECTS 1st Century Church study Series

■ Series subjects:

- ◆ 1. The importance of God's Word, and "words" (Heb 4:12).
- ◆ 2. The sources used by Jesus and the disciples
- ◆ 3. The 1st century churches had NO New Testament, only the Hebrew Scriptures.
- ◆ 4. First Century church "services", Constantine - Roman Emperor, introduced the recognition of buildings as churches. Why anything Jewish was removed from the church. Syncretism defined. Church councils still fighting Jewish influences seven hundred years later.
- ◆ 5. The Scriptural definitions of 3 words: Righteousness, Covenant, and Holiness.
- ◆ 6. Passover, Unleavened Bread, Day of Firstfruits, 3 "connected" feasts.
- ◆ 7. Shavuot or Pentecost.
- ◆ 8. Rosh HaShannah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot or Feast of Tabernacles.

A look at the first century church 1-02

The importance of God's Word and "words"

- The importance of God's Word, and "words"
- Hebrews 4:12. (AMP)
- For **the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power** [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; **it is sharper than any two-edged sword**, penetrating to the dividing line of the [g]breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [**of the deepest parts of our nature**], exposing *and* sifting *and* analyzing *and* **judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart.**

A look at the first century church 1-03

The importance of God's Word and "words"

- **Word study:**
- Ekklesia, = assembly, congregation
- Kehilah Khaverut, = "an assembly of called out ones"

- old English "*churche*" = circle.
- The word "Church" is NOT in the original Scriptures.
- Church is only used in **Translations** of the Bible!

- "truth" = "nothing concealed".

A look at the first century church 1-04

The importance of God's Word and "words"

- The King James Translation (KJV), uses the word "church" 80 times, and "churches" 37 times.
- Tyndale used "churche" (*church*) only twice in the ENTIRE Scriptures, in Acts 14:13 and Acts 19:37;
- Tyndale understood "church" as:
 - ◆ a building connected to idol-worship,
 - ◆ representing a pagan house of worship and translated it as thus.

A look at the first century church 1-05

The importance of God's Word and "words"

- "church" as used in Acts 14:13 and 19:37;
- **A building** connected to idol-worship,
 - ❖ **Acts 14:13** Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and garlands **unto the gates**, and would have **done sacrifice with the people**.
 - ❖ **Acts 19:37** For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither **robbers of churches**, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess.
 - ❖ **G2417** hierosulos *hee-er-os'-oo-los* From G2411 and G4813; a *temple despoiler*: - robber of churches.

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The importance of God's Word and "words"

- "churche" as used by Tyndale in Acts 14:13 and 19:37;
- **Tyndale translation:** (1536)
- **Acts 14:13** *Then Iupiters Preste which dwelt before their cite brought oxe and garlondes vnto the **churche porche** and wolde have done sacrificise with the people.*
- **Acts 19:37** *For ye have brought hyther these me whiche are nether **robbers of churches** nor yet despisers of youre goddes.*

A look at the first century church 1-07

The importance of God's Word and "words"

- During the time of Tyndale and King James, the word "Congregation" and "assembly", was available in the English language.
- *Tyndale translation: Acts 19:41* And when he had thus spoken he let the *congregacion* departe.
- (KJV+Strong's) **Act 19:41** And^{G2532} when he had thus^{G5023} spoken,^{G2036} he dismissed^{G630} the^{G3588} **assembly.**^{G1577}
- Strong's **G1577** *ekkleṣia, ek-klay-see'-ah*, From a compound of G1537 and a derivative of G2564; a *calling out*, that is, (concretely) a popular *meeting*, especially a religious *congregation* (Jewish *synagogue*, or Christian community of members on earth or saints in heaven or both): - assembly, church.

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The importance of God's Word and "words"

■ William Tyndale (1494 - 1536, executed)

- ◆ the Captain of the Army of Reformers.
- ◆ in 1530 wrote openly against Henry VIII's divorce,
- ◆ "Architect of the English Language",
- ◆ A man who was **martyred** for his bible by the **Church** leaders.
- ◆ **1st English Bible translated directly from the Hebrew and Greek.**
- ◆ A clergyman hopelessly entrenched in Roman Catholic dogma once taunted William Tyndale with the statement, "***We are better to be without God's laws than the Pope's***".
- ◆ Tyndale was infuriated and answered: "***I defy the Pope and all his laws. If God spare my life ere many years, I will cause the boy that drives the plow to know more of the scriptures than you!***"

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The importance of God's Word and "words"

- Hebrew word "assembly".
- Rabbi Jonathan Cahn defines Hebrew "Kehilah" as:
 - ◆ "an assembly of called out ones".
 - ◆ "Jewish organization, population of a community, deals with charities, communal affairs."
 - ◆ Source: (Saphires, September (5) Edition, 2012.

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The importance of God's Word and "words"

- Khaverut is another Hebrew word:
- "assembly such as a church or meeting which is translated "fellowship".
- Greek Ek-klay-sia (Ecclasia): "fellowship, assembly".
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- Name of Thursday evening River Falls study group:
- "KEHILA KHAVERUT" or:
- "THE ASSEMBLY OF CALLED OUT ONES"

A look at the first century church 1-11

The importance of God's Word and "words"

- 2 Hebrew and 3 Greek words used in The Bible
- H6951, H5712, G1577, G3831, G4864 (Strongs' concordance)
- **H6951**
- קהל
- qaḥal
- *kaw-hawl*
- From H6950; *assemblage* (usually concretely): - assembly, company, congregation, multitude.

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The importance of God's Word and "words"

- **H5712**
- עדה
- 'êdaḥ
- *ay-daw'*
- Feminine of H5707 in the original sense of *fixture*; a stated *assemblage* (specifically a *concourse*, or generally a *family* or *crowd*): - assembly, company, congregation, multitude, people, swarm. Compare H5713.

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The importance of God's Word and "words"

- **G1577**
- ἐκκλησία
- ekkleṣia
- *ek-klay-see'-ah*
- From a compound of G1537 and a derivative of G2564; a *calling out*, that is, (concretely) a popular *meeting*, especially a religious *congregation* (Jewish *synagogue*, or Christian community of members on earth or saints in heaven or both): - assembly, church.

A look at the first century church 1-14

The importance of God's Word and "words"

- **G3831**
- πανήγυρις
- panēguris
- *pan-ay'-goo-ris*
- From G3956 and a derivative of G58; a *mass meeting*, that is, (figuratively) *universal companionship*: - general assembly.

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The importance of God's Word and "words"

- **G4864**
- συναγωγή
- sunagōgē
- *soon-ag-o-gay'*
- From (the reduplicated form of) G4863; an *assemblage* of persons; specifically a Jewish "synagogue" (the meeting or the place); by analogy a Christian *church*: - assembly, congregation, synagogue.
- The word "synagogue" is **not** an original Hebrew word.

A look at the first century church 1-16

The importance of God's Word and "words"

- "truth" is: "nothing concealed".
- **Verses speaking about TRUTH:**
- Psa 25:5 thy **truth**,^{H571}
- **truth**: H571= 'emeth' = *eh'-meth*, Contracted from H539; *stability*; figuratively *certainty, truth, trustworthiness*: - assured (-ly), establishment, faithful, right, sure, true (-ly, -th), verity.
- Psa 25:5 Lead me in Thy **truth**, and teach me: for thou *art* the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day. (wait='qavah'="bind together, twisting)
- Psa 25:10 All^{H3605} the paths^{H734} of the LORD^{H3068} *are* mercy^{H2617} and **truth**^{H571} unto such as keep^{H5341} his covenant^{H1285} and his testimonies.^{H5713}
- Psa 33:4 For^{H3588} the word^{H1697} of the LORD^{H3068} *is* right;^{H3477} and all^{H3605} his works^{H4639} *are done* in **truth**.^{H530}

A look at the first century church 1-17

The importance of God's Word and "words"

- **CONCLUSIONS:**
- God used **WORDS** to speak the physical realm into being.
- When God speaks **WORDS**, things happen.
- **WORDS** spoken carry power.
- **WORDS** spoken live on.
- James 3:2 (AMP) ² For we all often stumble *and* fall *and* offend in many things. And if anyone does not offend in speech [never says the wrong things], he is a **fully developed character** *and* a **perfect man**, able to control his whole body *and* to curb his entire nature.
- Prov. 18:21 (AMP) **Death and life are in the power of the tongue**, and they who indulge in it shall eat the fruit of it [for death or life].

A look at the first century church 1-18

The importance of God's Word and "words"

- **CONCLUSIONS:**
- 1. Church does NOT mean what most Christians assume it means: "circle", a building connected to idol worship.
- 2. "Church" does NOT occur in the original languages, with 2 exceptions where the Apostle Paul is addressing pagan worship.
- 3. "Church structure" facilitates worldly power structure and passive believers.

A look at the first century church 1-19

The importance of God's Word and "words"

- **CONCLUSIONS:**
- Side effect of the "Constantine CHURCH Structure":
- 4. "Church structure" facilitates burn-out among the congregational pastors. (one person can not do it all !!).
- 5. "Church structure" tends to result in a powerless assembly of believers lacking true fellowship.
- 6. "Church structure" hinders the work, mission, and purposes of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is not given place to "settle".
- 7. Return to the fellowship model that Jesus instructed the disciples to use, allows The Holy Spirit to operate in the Body of Christ, and minister to the lost world thru the believers.

A look at the first century church 1-20

The importance of God's Word and "words"

- End - The importance of God's Word and "words"