

Lesson 6 - By D.B. Ray

Page 73 – 83

What is the proper name of the True Church?

- - The angel told John, “Come hither; and I will show thee the Bride...”
- - There was No denominational name mentioned by the angel
- - The Church is to be identified by her characteristic features.

Page 73- 74: The followers of the Lord are called by a variety of names

- “Children of God” because of their relation to God as their Father
- “Children of the Kingdom” because of their relation to the Kingdom of God
- “Heirs of God” because of their relation to God and anticipated inheritance
- “Children of Promise” as compared to Isaac, Gal 4:28
- “Children of Abraham” because of their figurative relation to Abraham
- “Saints” and “The Sanctified” to indicate they have been set apart to the Lord
- “My Sheep” because of their relation to the Lord as their only Shepherd
- “Disciples” because of their relation to the Lord as their great Teacher
- “Brethren” because of their relation to the Lord as their elder Brother
- “Christians” because their enemies called them this by reproach, Acts 11:26
- “My Church” is what the Lord used when referring to what He would build
- - Not one of these are used for the name of the True Church
- - All of these present characteristic features of the Lord’s Church

Page 75 – 76: References used in Letters written to the Churches

- The Churches of Christ – Rom 16:16
- - This usage does Not mean this was the Church’s name
- - Rather, this indicates the relation these Churches held to Christ
- The Church of God – 1 Cor 1:2
- - Same as above, this indicates the relation they held to God
- Churches of the Saints – 1 Cor 14:33
- - This indicates the usage of the word “Saint” to refer to Church members
- - Shows that the Church is the place where child of God are set aside to service
- House of God – 1 Tim 3:15
- - Indicates the position of the Church to God as His house.
- Temple of God – 1 Cor 3:16
- - Church is called this because it is the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit
- God’s Elect or the Very Elect – Tit 1:1
- - Expresses the relation of the Church to God as His chosen ones

Page 77: The Bible Name

- Clearly an indication of the divine wisdom that No specific name is stated in NT
- - Men could have setup the most heretical sets and adopted this name
- - It is obvious that many “Man Made” sects in this day have done just this thing
- - Isaiah 4:1 is being fulfilled when such “Man Made” claims are made

Page 78: The Bride, the Lamb’s Wife, Rev 21:9

- John was allowed to see the Bride, who is the Lamb’s Wife
- - The angel showed John the Holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven
- - The city had organic members for there were names written in it, Rev 21:14
- - The Lord prayed all night before ordaining these as apostles, Luke 6:12-13
- - Also clarified when reading Eph 2:19-20 to see how Church was built
- - 1 Cor 12:18 and 28 states who God first set in the Church

Page 78: Questions about this Church

- Did this Church fall away and apostatize?
- - Apostatize means: To abandon one's profession or church; to forsake principles or faith which one has professed
- - The Church does Not fall away
- - Members in the Church are who falls away, see 1 John 2:18-19

Page 80 - 83: Rise and Establishment of Roman Catholic church

- “The mystery of iniquity” began early in Church history, 2 Thes 2:7
- This work is dated around 54 A.D. when 2nd Thes letter was written
- Baptismal Salvation, the fundamental heresy of Rome, early as 150 A.D.
- Infant Baptism, flowing from Baptismal Salvation, in 3rd Century
- Elevation of larger city pastors over other Churches in region, late 3rd Century
- True Churches declared non-fellowship with false members/churches 251A.D.
- False churches united with State Government under Constantine 312 A.D.
- First general counsel of hierarchy under Constantine at Nice 325 A.D.
- Boniface III was declared the universal bishop, or pope, 606 A.D.
- Pepin of France established pope with temporal power, 754 A.D.
- Dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, 1854 A.D.
- Infallibility of the pope declared in 1870 A.D.

2Th 2:3-4, Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; (4) Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

QUESTIONS for REVIEW

1. How is the Lord’s True Church to be identified?
2. What does the characteristic name “Brethren” say about the Church?
3. What does the reference of “Churches of Christ” indicate about the Church?
4. What does “God’s Elect” and “Very Elect” express about the Church?
5. In Isaiah 4:1, who is the “One Man” spoken of in this verse?
6. In Isaiah 4:1, what do these seven women want of this One Man?
7. What does it mean that names of literal men are found in city’s foundation?
8. Explain what “Apostatize” means