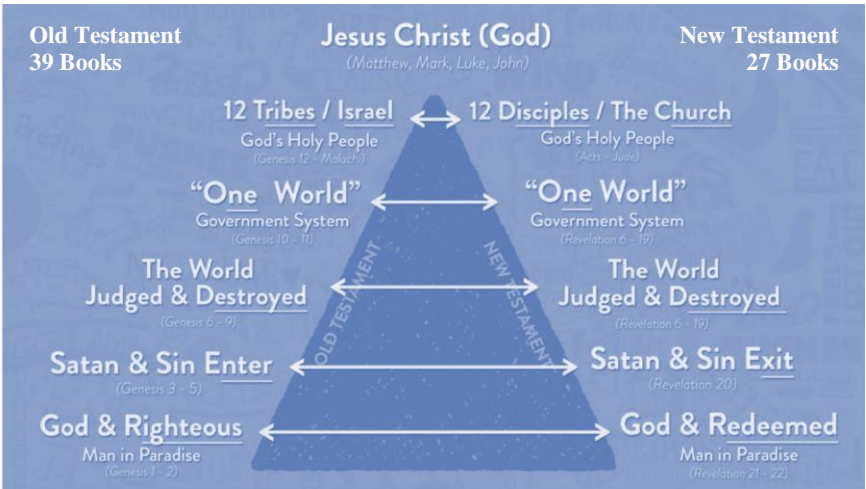




Church: (ekklēsia) [Greek] - "called out ones"
Testament: (diathēkē) [Greek] covenant, compact [contract]

The Bible tells us of what WAS, IS and IS TO COME.



John 3:16 [NIV]
 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 1:12 [NIV]
 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

Acts 1:7-8 [NIV]
 7 He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Being the church is less about what we can GET & more about who we can BECOME.

How to receive forgiveness from God:

- 1) Admit you, like everyone else, need new LIFE in Jesus.
- 2) Ask God to forgive your sins by the sacrifice of Jesus.
- 3) Receive new LIFE from God by trusting in Jesus as your Savior & Lord.

You can do that now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness.

I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to live for you all the days of my life. In Your name, Amen.

If you chose to follow Jesus today, text “FAITH” to 309-250-2007 to receive additional information about next steps in following Jesus.

For Further Reflection:

:: How would you describe the purpose(mission) of the church [ekklesia] that Jesus established?

:: What do you find most exciting/daunting about that?

:: How would you assess/evaluate your engagement in his church and the related purpose(s)?

:: How would you describe the role the Bible plays in your daily life? What do you need to continue? What might you need to change?

:: Take a moment to review the “grand narrative” that Pastor Shawn shared.

:: What stood out to you most as you reflected on it? Why?

:: What did you find most helpful, or challenging, in comparing and contrasting the two halves of the greater journey?

:: Pastor Shawn said, “Being the church is less about what we can get & more about who we can become.”

:: What are some practical implications about that reality?

:: What happens if we try to live in reverse? [i.e. seek to get more than become.]

:: What are tangible ways we can focus on becoming over getting?

:: Read Acts 1:7-8

:: What part of this passage stirs your heart/mind most? Why?

:: How might the Lord want you to live differently this week as a result?

:: Identify 1 thing God is inviting you to more fully “be the church” this week, & do it.

“We are not asked to believe the Bible, but to believe the one whom the Bible reveals.”

– Oswald Chambers

Unless otherwise noted, today’s Scripture is from the New International Version [NIV].

Shawn Cossin (@shawncossin) – February 6 & 7, 2021

Watch this message and other recent messages online at heritageqc.com/watch

Join us for these great in-person opportunities:

9am Worship Service – Sundays at the Rock Island campus

11am Worship Service – Sundays at the Bettendorf campus

It’s not too late to join **Divorce Care** and **Grief Share** support environments--
6:30pm Monday nights at BridgePointe 485

See heritageqc.com and the Church Center App for more info!



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