

# *Ecclesia vs Church*

*(Restoring the Mission that a Man-Made Religious System Stole from God's People)*

*Part 3 2019*

JESUS:  
"I WILL BUILD MY  
~~CHURCH~~" ekklesia

*Today we will continue the message series on the*

## *Ecclesia vs Church*

*Purpose of this message series is twofold:*

- 1. To restore the assignment/mission He has given to His people.*
- 2. To re-ignite our commitment to that assignment/mission.*

*Matt 28:19*

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations,....”*

*He did not say. . . .*

*“Go and make more church buildings with crosses on top, and with glass stained windows and steeples and pulpits and pews and choirs and bands, and a professional clergy vs a laity, etc. OR go and make more converts, or go and make more religious people, or go and make more religious consumers, etc.*

*Instead of focusing on our true God-given mission, a satanic-man-made religious system has deceived Christianity for the past 500+ years to focus on a deliberately perverted assignment that does not serve to advance the KOG but rather serves to advance the kingdom of darkness.*

*Deceived to do “good things” but not the “right things”...as long as we just do “good things” instead of the “right things”, satan is happy.*

## *Lest You Think Me Saying a Satanic-Religious System is Too Harsh*

- *Matt 16:21-23 From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day. 22 Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" 23 But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."*
- *This satanic-religious system is also an offense to Christ.*

*When God said in.....*

*Matt 16:18 ....I will build My church....*

*He promised that He would build something that would serve as  
His  
“Instrument to Disciple Nations”.*

*But Christianity has been building a perverted concept of what  
Jesus the Messiah said He would build.*

*Jesus Did Not Say He Would Build  
A Religion but that He Would Advance a Government*

- Isa 9:6-7 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end,...
- We are not a religious people... we are a people on a “mission” to advance the government/kingdom of God on this earth.
- What’s our mission: “To make disciples who make disciples...”

## *God's Mission to Make Disciples Was His Original Intent*

- *Gen 1:28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."*
- *Matt 28:19-20 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them... 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you;...*
- *These two Scriptures say the same thing... fill the earth with Disciples who duplicate on earth what is in Heaven.*



*Instead of measuring success based on how we are “increasing our influence” over society in order to advance His Kingdom...*

*Christianity measures success based on....*

*church attendance, amount of money, size of buildings, and variety of programs that serve an ever increasing “consumer-entitlement-business-mentality”. It’s more about “get” than “give”....more about pleasing people...more about getting all the freebies you can get with little to no sacrifice.*

## *From “Apostolic” to “Pastoral” Mentality*

*(From “Going to Make Disciples” to “Staying to Take Care of the Sheep”*

- *Although the gift of “pastor” is mentioned only once in the NT (gift of apostle—one sent is mentioned 72 times), the office of pastor dominates . . . .we have pastors for everything: senior pastors, assistant pastors, associate pastors, youth pastors, children’s pastors, worship pastors, missions’ pastors, outreach pastors, men’s group pastors, women’s group pastors, etc.*
- *The focus is on taking care of the church members within the four walls of church buildings. . . .a consumer-people-pleasing mentality.*

*When you compare today's "traditional church" as man has built  
it....*

*TO....*

*what Jesus said He would build....*

*it's obvious that Christians have been building the wrong thing  
for the past 500 years.*

*We have better come to understand what it is that Jesus said  
He would build.....*

*Or Else....*

*we will continue to build the wrong thing for another 500  
years.*

*Important we understand the difference between  
Church vs Ekklesia.*

## Meaning of the Word “Ekklesia”

- Matt 16:18-19 ....I will build My church,... “Ekklesia”
- Jesus did NOT say He would build His “church” (kuriakon – the Lord’s House – church buildings like cathedrals), but He would build His “Ekklesia”. What’s the difference?
- The word ekklesia combines two Greek words:
  - “Ek” = “out of” or “out from among”
  - “klesia” = “calling” or “to call out”
  - Ekklesia = “the called out ones” or “assembly/congregation/gathering”

## *Ekklesia is not a Religious Term*

- *Jesus did not use a “religious term” to describe what it was that He was going to build.*
  - *He did not say, “I will build My Temple” or “I will build My synagogue”, ... these were the two most prominent Jewish religious institutions at the time.*
  - *He used a “secular-governmental-political” term that already existed at the time of Jesus and that had been developed by the Greeks and later adopted by the Romans to advance the Roman Empire as it spread and took over territory all over the world.*

## *The Roman Emperor Had Its “Ekklesias” to Duplicate the Roman Culture throughout the Empire*

- *The “ekklesias” of the Roman Empire were made up of groups of “called out people” who were assigned to city-states throughout the Roman Empire for the purpose of duplicating throughout the Empire the culture of Rome and the mind, wishes, thoughts, and will of the Emperor.*
- *The “ekklesia” was not a worship group where people met in a building to have worship services....it was a political/governmental/secular institution used by the Roman Emperor to execute His wishes throughout the Roman Empire.*

## *Rome Had Its Ekklesia and Jesus Has His*

- *When Jesus said in Matt 16:18, “I will build My Ekklesia”...He was saying that He would be building “groups of His called out ones” with the responsibility of duplicating on earth the governmental-culture of the Kingdom that exists in Heaven where God the Father, Jesus the Messiah, and host of angels dwell.*
- *Use “watch” analogy: This is “my watch” – could mean that there are other “watches” in existence but this one is “mine”. If I were to say, “This is the watch”, it could mean that this is the only watch in existence. Rome had its ekklesias and Jesus His.*



## *Who Are You?*

### *The Church or The Ekklesia*

- *“Church” produces one thing. “Ekklesia” produces another. Jesus did not intend to produce “churches”....He intended to produce “Ekklesias”.*
- *If you know who you are*, you will know what to do....if you see yourself as part of the “church”, that’s what you’ll be and produce....if you see yourself as the “Ekklesia”, then that’s what you’ll be and produce.
- *Words are important....*what if “Marines” were called “Ballerinas” or vice-verse? Church and Ekklesia not same thing.

*Unfortunately the word “church” is so ingrained in the minds of Christians....five centuries of wrong thinking....that Christians have been laboring to produce the wrong thing.*

*How can we expect the world to change when God’s own people are blind to the purpose of our calling.*

*MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF  
HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE  
EARTH.*

- *Rev 18:4-8 And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. 5 For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. 6 Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her.*

*MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.*

- 7 *In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.'* 8 *Therefore her plagues will come in one day — death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her.*
- *Who would want* *to be trapped in such a system... but unfortunately, many of God's people are.*

Next Week

We continue with the meaning of “ekklesia”  
and

its mission, its purpose for existence, & its purpose for gathering  
and assembling.