

Morning Lesson

THE BASIS OF HOPE FOR THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST Matt. 6:13-19

INTRO:

1. The church of Christ faces an identity crisis.
2. If we lose our identity, we give up our right to exist.

I. IN RELATION TO GOD THE FATHER: HIS FAMILY

- A. It is his house which is used to denote family. **1 Tim. 3:15; Acts 16:33, 34**
- B. We are his born again children. **1 Pet. 1:22, 23**
- C. We are honored and will be eternally. **Rom. 8:14-18**
- D. Does God have children outside of his family?

II. IN RELATION TO CHRIST: HIS BODY, HIS KINGDOM

- A. The church is Christ's body. **Eph. 1:22, 23; Eph. 4:16**
- B. It is his kingdom. **Col. 1:12, 13**

III. IN RELATION TO THE WORLD: THE CALLED OUT

- A. All people are in either the kingdom or the world.
- B. Kingdom people are called out by the gospel.
2 Thess. 2:13, 14
- C. If one can be saved outside the kingdom, then one can be saved without the gospel.
- D. Christ's people are not of the world. **John 17:15.**
- E. We are to be the light of the world and the salt of the earth.
Matt. 5:13-16

IV. IN RELATION TO OTHER RELIGIOUS GROUPS: UNDENOMINATIONAL

- A. The church about which we read in the New Testament was not about sects and denominations.
- B. Members of the kingdom in the New Testament were not denominated by the various titles that we see today.
Acts 11:26; 1 Pet. 4:16
- C. Jesus promised to build one church, which is his kingdom.
Matt. 16:18, 19

CONC:

1. Remaining the church is a constant challenge.
2. So what is the foundation of hope for the kingdom of Christ? God's word and always will be.
Acts 20:28-32