

Ephesians Series

Lesson #148

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Dean Bible Ministries

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What is the Goal of the Meeting of the Church?

Ephesians 4:12–13



EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

Eph. 4:11, “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

Eph. 4:12, “for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

Eph. 4:13, “till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”

~NKJV

What the Bible Teaches About

“The Church” (Review)



1. When did the Church begin? When will the Church end?

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The Church began in AD 33 on the Day of Pentecost in Acts 2; and will end at the Rapture, 1 Thess. 4:13–18

Matt. 16:18 – Jesus said it was future.

By Acts 5:11 it has already begun.

2. What is the distinctive sign of the Church?

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The Baptism by the Holy Spirit (BHS):

The BHS was future for John the Baptist (Matt. 3:11; Acts 1:5). But is stated as having already occurred in Acts 8:14–17.

Gal. 3:27, “For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Gal. 3:28, “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

3. How and when does someone enter the Church?

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In all ages salvation is by faith alone in the provision of a Savior who will pay the penalty for our sins. Before the Cross, it was faith in the future fulfillment of the promise; after the Cross it is faith in what Christ did on the Cross.

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Since the beginning of the Church, entry into the universal Church, the Body of Christ, is the instant we trust Christ, and are simultaneously baptized by the Holy Spirit.

4. Whose Church is it?

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The Church is Christ's. We are His body. He bought us with a price.

5. Who is the Head of the Church, the ultimate Authority over the Church?

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Christ is the head of the Church, also stated in Eph. 4:15, 5:23; Col. 1:18.

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The Church is further defined as “His Body”, Rom. 7:4; 12:5; 1 Cor. 10:16, 17; 12:12–27; Eph. 4:4, 12, 16; 5:30; Col. 1:18, 24; 2:19, 29; 3:15; Heb. 13:3.

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Eph. 3:5, “which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets:

Eph. 3:6, “that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,”

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There is the visible church—local churches in various areas composed of believers and unbelievers.

There is the local church—the particular assembly with which I have my primary and sustained relation.

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The visible manifestation of the body of Christ, meeting in a local assembly.

The local church is led by the pastor-teacher. He is aided by deacons and in larger congregations with other gifted leaders.

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Christ supplies the leadership.

11. How is the Church related to the Kingdom?

Uses of “Kingdom”

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Uses of “Kingdom”

The Church is not the Kingdom. The Kingdom relates to Israel to whom the promises and covenants were made. The Church is the Bride of Christ who will rule and reign with Christ in the Kingdom.

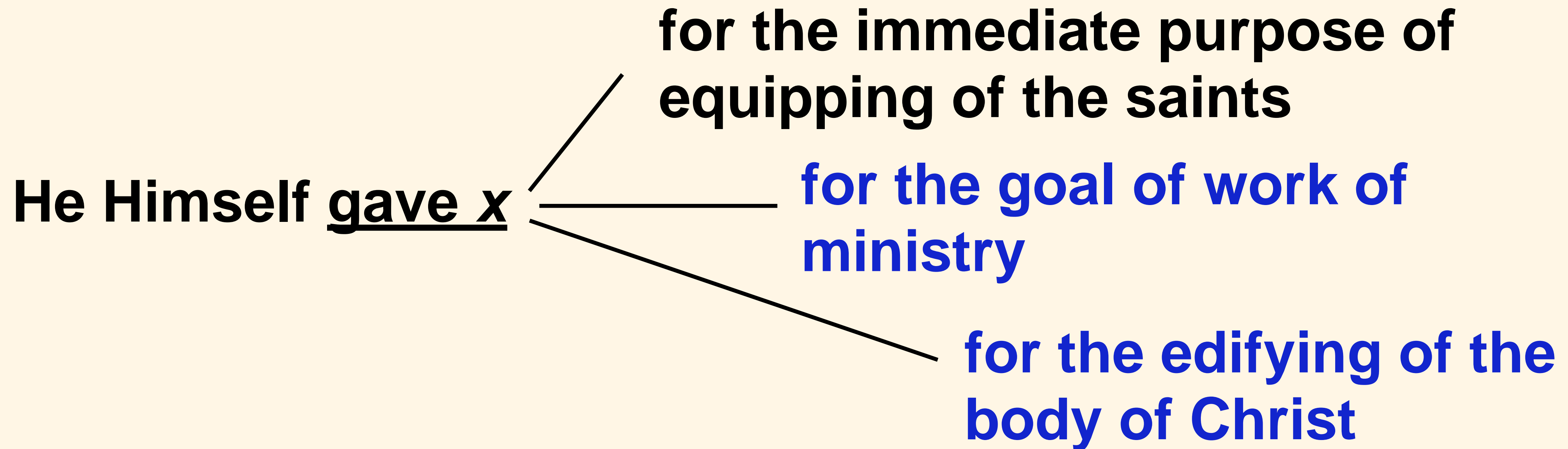
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Uses of “Kingdom”

- a. The universal rule of God over all of His creation**
- b. The theocratic rule of God over Israel**
- c. The future reign of Messiah from the throne of David in Jerusalem. This is an earthly, geo-political kingdom that is yet future. Its initial stage is 1,000 years, Rev. 20:1–8.**

The purpose of the gifts [option 4]:

Eph. 4:12, “for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,”



Eph. 4:12, “For the immediate purpose of training all Church Age believers to do the work of service, toward the ultimate goal of spiritually strengthening the body of Christ;” ~RD

Eph. 4:13, “till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

Eph. 4:14, “that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

Eph. 4:15, “but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—

Eph. 4:16, “from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.”

~NKJV

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καταντάω *katantaō*

1 plur aor act subj

to come, arrive