

“The quintessence of (Paul)” because it “sums up the leading themes of (his) letters & sets forth the cosmic implications of Paul’s mission... to the Gentiles.”

—F.F. Bruce

What is the right church?

THE CHURCH AT EPHESUS

A Topical Study
from Texts on The
Ephesus Church

THE CHURCH AT EPHESUS

A Topical Study
Considering the Text

Jesus Did Intend to Build A Church (Matt 16)

- Rarely used the word ‘church’ [Mt 18:15-20]
- [Eph 1:16-18, 22-23] Jesus is the HEAD of The Church.
- In writings to Ephesus, it’s always The Church, singular.
- Likely why MANY refer to “*the one true church.*”

The word “church” in Ephesians & 1 Timothy

- 9x in Ephesians; 3x in 1 Timothy; Several synonyms...

THE CHURCH AT EPHESUS

A Topical Study
Considering the Text

The word “church” in Ephesians & 1 Timothy

- [Eph 1:21-23] For all ages, Christ is OVER the church.
- [3:8-12] God’s Wisdom is known through the church.
- [3:20-21] We pray to & glorify Him in the church.
- [5:21-33] Do our marriages reflect His glorious church?
Remember, this means submission for BOTH.
- [1 Tim 3:4-5] As His children, are we cooperative & contributing to His household?
- [1 Tim 3:14-15] Are we behaving as Truth supporters?

THE CHURCH AT EPHESUS

A Topical Study
Considering the Text

The word “church” in Ephesians & 1 Timothy

- [Eph 1:21-23] For all ages, Christ is OVER The Church.
- [3:8-12] God’s Wisdom is known through The Church.
- [3:20-21] We pray to & glorify Him in The Church.
- [5:21-33] Do our marriages reflect His glorious church?
- [1 Tim 3:4-5] Are we cooperative children in His house?
- [1 Tim 3:14-15] Are we behaving as Truth supporters?
- [1 Tim 5:16] Good things can burden The Church.

THE CHURCH AT EPHESUS

A Topical Study
Considering the Text

The word “church” in Ephesians & 1 Timothy

Several other words are appropriate:

- *Adopted sons... redeemed & forgiven.* Eph 1:3, 7,
- *Sealed with the Holy Spirit, guarantee of inheritance.* 1:13-14
- *A holy temple built on apostles & prophets.* 2:20-21
- *Fellow heirs & citizens, made into one new man.* 2:15
- *Maintaining unity on: one Lord, one faith, one baptism.* 4:1-6
 - *Go on, read it for yourself...*

THE CHURCH AT EPHESUS

A Topical Study
Considering the Text

The word “church” in Ephesians & 1 Timothy

Several other words are appropriate.

We can read & understand: [3:4, 4:17-24]

- Paul believed His writings were clear. (Cf. 1 Th 2:13)
- Sadly, we know He predicted a falling away. (Acts 20)
- Listen again to [Eph 5:6-11, 15-17] & sadly...
...we find out in [1 Tim 1:3-7] it came about.