

"For the time has come for judgment to begin at the **house of God**; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?"

1 Peter 4:17

This scripture teaches that the church (those called out) are referred to as the "house of God"



The Church is the Family of God

"but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the **house of God**, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

1 Timothy 3:15

- House means family
 - Acts 16:31; 10:1-2
- Christ is over the house
 - Hebrews 3:6; Colossians 1:18



- Those in the church are in the house of God
 - Ephesians 2:19



God is the Father

- All Christians are children
 - Matthew 23:9
- The right to call ourselves children shows a degree of affection



"Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure." 1 John 3:1-3



Obligations

As children, we have obligations in God's house

- To do righteousness
 - 1 John 3:10
- To love our brethren
 - 1 Peter 2:17; John 13:34-35
- To give God all the glory



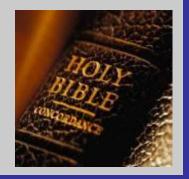
"to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen." **Ephesians 3:21**



- We are heirs of God
 - Heirs according to the promise of Abraham
 Galatians 3:15-18, 26-29

Heir – "one who inherits or is entitled to inherit another's property or title upon the other's death."

Joint heirs with Christ,if we're His childrenRomans 8:17





- We have God's correction and chastening
 - God's children are chastened by the Word of God Hebrews 12:5-11
 - Children of God follow HimJohn 10:27
 - Children in God's house understand that all must be done by the authority of Jesus

Colossians 3:17





• God's children can approach Him because

they listen to Him

Jesus teaches how the Father is to be approached
 Matthew 6:8-15

- Know that God will answer them
 Matthew 7:7-11
- Those who refuse to listen and obey the Father, will not be heard
 Proverbs 1:24-33





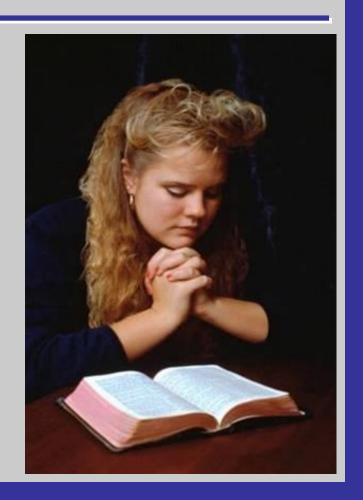
- God's children can find a way of escape from sins
 - God will not permit temptation greater than His children can bear
 - 1 Corinthians 10:13
 - Jesus escaped temptations and is our great example1 Peter 2:21





How Can One Become a Member of the House of God?

- Hear the gospel message
 - Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6
- Believe the message of God
 - Romans 10:10; John 8:24
- Repent of your sins, turning to serve God
 - Acts 17:30; Luke 13:3

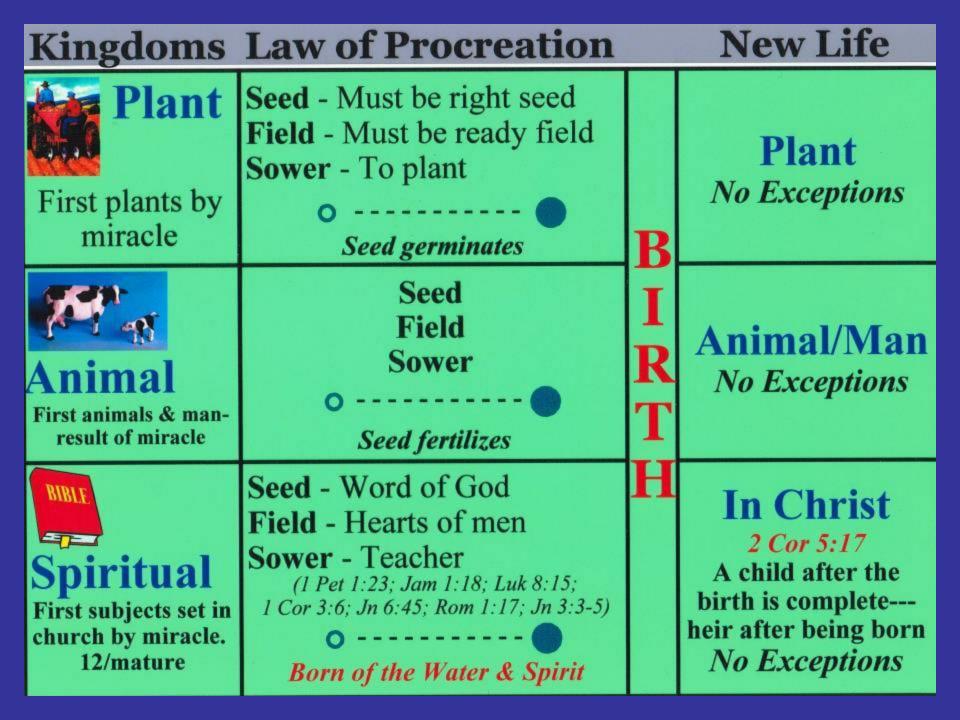




How Can One Become a Member of the House of God?

- Confess Jesus as the Son of God
 - Romans 10:10; Acts 8:37
- Be baptized for the forgiveness of your sins
 - Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16;1 Peter 3:21
- Live faithful to God
 - Revelation 2:10







CONCLUSION

- One cannot be a child of God and NOT be in God's family, the church
- Those in the house of God love one another
 - We refer to one another as brother and sister
- There is no closer relationship than that of the family of God
- Be determined to remain faithful