

# The House of God

## Introduction

1 Peter 4:17 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. **In this text of scripture we can see that the church (those called out) are referred to the “house of God.”**
2. **This morning I want to examine this special relationship that those of us that are in the church have in the “House of God.”**

## The Church Is the Family of God:

1 Timothy 3:15 “..... 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. **In the Bible, the word house often means family.**

Acts 16:31 So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and **your household**."

Acts 10:1-2 There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment, a devout man and one who feared God with **all his household**, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always.

2. **We learn that Jesus Christ is over the House of God.**

Hebrews 3:6 but Christ as a Son over **His own house**, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

- A. **This would be equivalent as saying that He is the “Head of the body, the church” (Colossians 1:18).**

### 3. Therefore, those that are IN the church are IN the House of God.

Ephesians 2:19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but **fellow citizens with the saints** and **members of the household of God.**"

## God Is the Father

### 1. All Christians are children or sons.

#### A. We have but one Father - our God in heaven

(1 Corinthians 8:6; 1 Thessalonians 1:1).

Matthew 23:9 Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven.

#### B. The right to call ourselves children shows a degree of affection.

**1 John 3:1-3**

## Obligations

### 1. As children, we have obligations in God's house.

#### A. To do righteousness.

1 John 3:10 In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness **is not of God**, nor is he who does not love his brother.

#### B. To love our brethren.

1 Peter 2:17 Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

#### 1) Jesus, our great example tells us how and why:

John 13:34-35 A new **commandment** I give to you, that you love one another; **as I have loved you**, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

**C. In addition, we have an obligation to give God our Father all the glory.**

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

## **Blessings**

**1. As children in God's house, we have certain blessings. We are heirs of God.**

**A. We are heirs according to the promise made to Abraham even before the Law of Moses was given.**

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

**Galatians 3:15-18, 26-29**

**B. We are joint heirs with Christ - if we're His children**

Romans 8:17 and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

**2. God's children have His correction and chastening.**

**A. All of God's children are chastened by the Word of God**  
**Hebrews 12:5-11**

**B. Children of God follow Him even as sheep follow their shepherd.**

John 10:27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

**C. The children in God's house understand that all they do must be done by the authority of Jesus (Col 3:17).**

**3. God's children can approach Him, because they listen to Him.**

**A. Jesus teaches how the Father is to be approached:**

**Matthew 6:8-15**

**B. His children are blessed in that they know that God will answer them.**

**Matthew 7:7-11**

**C. However, those that refuse to listen and obey the Father, will not be heard.**

**Proverbs 1:24-33**

**4. God's children can find a way of escape from sins.**

**A. Those in the House of God have a Father that will not permit temptation greater than His children can bear.**

1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation **will also make the way of escape**, that you may be able to bear it.

**B. Jesus escaped temptations (Matthew 4) and is our great example.**

1 Peter 2:21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

## **How Can One Become a Member of The House of God?**

- 1. Hear the gospel message of God**  
**(Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6)**
- 2. Believe the message of God**  
**(Romans 10:10; John 8:24)**
- 3. Repent (turn around) of your sins, turning to serve God**  
**(Acts 17:30, Luke 13:3)**
- 4. Confess Jesus as the Son of God**  
**(Romans 10:10; Acts 8:37)**
- 5. Be baptized for the forgiveness of your sins**  
**(Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21)**
- 6. Live a faithful life in obedience to God's instruction**  
**(Revelation 2:10)**

**SEE CHART (Seed, Field, Sower)**

