# The Lord's Church is Right

#### Introduction

1. Those who are in Christ understand that the church is the body of Christ, which He is the head.

**Ephesians 1:21-23** 

- 2. The body of Christ is made up of all baptized believers in Jesus Christ from the day of Pentecost (Acts 2), until Christ's return.
- 3. The word "church comes from the Greek word ekklesia, which is defined as "an assembly" or "called-out" ones.
  - A. The root meaning of "church" is not that of a building, but of people.
- 4. The church is right, and we must communicate the blessings and benefits of it.
  - A. This morning, we will now examine what is RIGHT with the church.

## The Foundation is Right

- 1. Everything must have a proper foundation, whether it is a marriage, building, or church.
  - A. Jesus built His church upon the foundation of faith. Matthew 16:13-19
  - B. The church has the right foundation because Jesus is that foundation.

1 Corinthians 3:11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 2:20-21 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,

C. The foundation of Jesus is solid like a rock Matthew 7:24-27

## The Faith is Right

- 1. Doctrine is simply that which we teach. Some teach truth while some teach falsehood.
  - A. Those who teach falsehood pervert the Word of God.
  - B. Those who teach truth affirm the Word of God.
- 2. It is the truth for which we should "earnestly contend" (Jude 3).
  - A. The church has the right doctrine because Jesus is that doctrine.

Acts 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him.

## The Fellowship is Right

#### 1. Fellowship is the life blood of the church.

Philippians 1:3-6

Acts 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

# A. The early church spent time together on the basis of new family relationships in Christ.

#### 1) Over and over came the instructions:

#### a. Suffer and rejoice together

1 Corinthians 12:26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

## b. Carry each other's burdens

Galatians 6:2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

#### c. Restore each other

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

## d. Pray for each other

Romans 15:30 Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me,

### e. Encourage each other

Romans 1:12 that is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.

### f. Forgive each other

Ephesians 4:32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

#### g. Confess to each other

James 5:16 Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

#### h. Be truthful to each other

Ephesians 4:25 Therefore, putting away lying, "LET EACH ONE OF YOU SPEAK TRUTH WITH HIS NEIGHBOR," for we are members of one another.

## i. Spur each other on to good deeds

Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,

## j. Give to each other

Philippians 4:14-15 Nevertheless you have done well that you shared in my distress. Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only.

## The Focus is Right

1. The soul is infinite in value; therefore, the church's fixation is souls.

Mark 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

2. Jesus was moved with compassion when He saw the mass amount of lost souls.

**Matthew 9:35-36** 

- A. Such compassion motivated Him to do two things:
  - 1) He asked His disciples to pray that God might "send out laborers into His harvest."

    Matthew 9:37-38
  - 2) To do something about it Himself that is, to select and to send out His apostles

    Matthew 10:1, 5-7
- B. Do we ever find ourselves filled with compassion for the lost and then do something about it?
  - 1) It would be good if we had the same compassion for lost souls that our Lord has.

## The Future is Right

1. When Jesus returns He's coming for His church

1 Corinthians 15:24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.

- 2. Notice the words of the apostle Paul:
  - 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17
  - A. Each day we should live for the one who died for us!

#### **Conclusion**

- 1. The church is so right that it cannot be wrong.
- 2. We may see the faults of its members, but the beauty of the church is the glory of Christ!
- 3. He constantly shines.

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

1 John 3:2-3 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.

## Invitation

Place		Date	
	<del>-</del>		
	<del>-</del>		
		•	
	<del>-</del>		
		•	
		•	
	<del></del>	•	
	<del></del>	•	
		•	
		•	
	<del>-</del>		
	<del>-</del>		
		•	
	·		

Lord's Church is Right.wpd Richard Thetford – April 2013 (Based on a sermon by Mark N. Posey, March 2013)