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the sphere in which our radiant Creator is to be reflected by His Son.

Is Christ’s church perfect in its reflection? No. There are always greater intensities of glory to be reflected. Yet, even a dim light illumines in an ever-darkening world. The life of Christ Jesus in relation to God, fellow believers, and the world is nurtured and labored through love in His church. Personal Bible studies, family worship, or “house churches” are no substitute for the glory of Christ’s church. *And hath put all things under his feet* [Christ Jesus the Lord], *and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all* (Ephesians 1:22-23).

“Unto Him be glory in our church by Christ Jesus . . . Amen.”

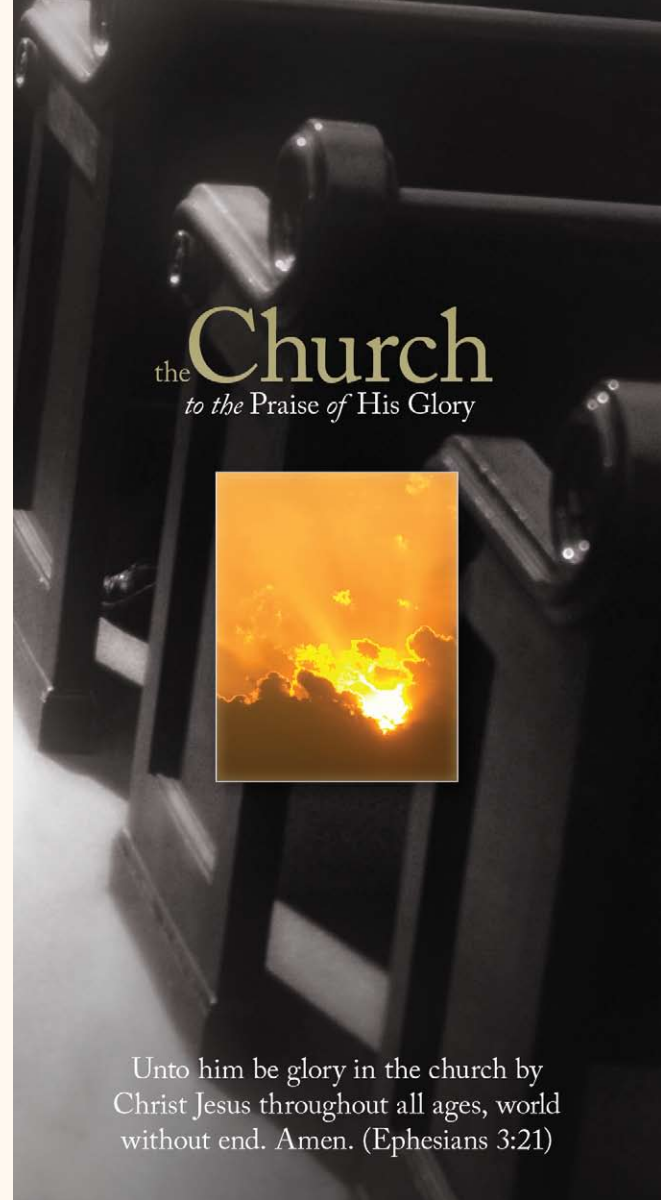
by Frank Jones

IT IS OUR DESIRE AND PURSUIT IN CHRIST to be a gathered body of believing people glorifying the Creator of heaven and earth through His Son, Jesus Christ.

If you are hungering for a New Testament church that desires a transformative ministry by Bible exposition and taking His life into all the world, we invite you to our services.

Faith Memorial Baptist Church

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the **Church** *to the Praise of His Glory*



Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen. (Ephesians 3:21)

Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy him forever. In every segment of the history of God's dealings with mankind there has been a God-appointed place at which He has placed His Name. Today, that God-appointed place is *the church, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all* (Ephesians 1:22, 23). Each New Testament church is *the body of Christ* (1 Corinthians 12:27) and is to be the radiant light of Christ's glory in their geographic location (Revelation 1:12, 20).

The Church—Upholding and Supporting Truth

But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

1 TIMOTHY 3:15

The church is the base and support of the truth. Doctrinal faithfulness and propagation are responsibilities of each New Testament church. Sound teaching concerning God and His Trinity, the Scriptures, heavenly beings, man, sin, the Lord Jesus Christ, salvation, the church, and future events comprise a portion of what every believer needs for healthy maturity. These needs have been appointed by Christ Jesus to be satisfied, nurtured, and protected within each New Testament church body. The church is to hold forth the Word of life for the written Word reflects the Living Word, Jesus Christ.

The Church—Occupation and Action of Jesus

The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach.

ACTS 1:1

The book of Acts is the continuation of *all that Jesus began both to do and teach*. In the gospels, we have recorded the ministry of Christ Jesus through an earthen body. The record of Acts is the ministry of the resurrected Jesus through His spiritual body; that is, the church. The church therefore is the focus and occupation of the Lord. It is the gathered members that form His body by whom the resurrected and ascended Jesus Christ teaches and lives His life. The church is the arena in which believers *draw near, hold fast*, and encourage each other unto love and labor (Hebrews 10:22, 23, 24). To abandon this sphere of His occupation and action is symptomatic of grave danger (Hebrews 10:25ff).

The Church—Radiant Glory of God's Son

Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

EPHESIANS 3:21

Believers are to be unto *the praise of his glory* (Ephesians 1:6, 12, 19). Everlasting glory is the privilege and responsibility of every member of

Christ's body. Being conformed into the image of Jesus Christ is the accurate reflection and representation of Himself as presented in the Scriptures (2 Corinthians 3:18). This glory being given by believers unto God the Father is to be through His Son, Jesus Christ the Lord. Therefore it is the purpose of God for the life of His Son to be demonstrated and exhibited locally.

This local likeness is to be found *in the church*. The New Testament church is the sphere in which everlasting glory is to be reflected to the Father by His Son. The diverse wisdom of God is on public display, both to men and heavenly beings (Ephesians 3:9, 10), through the church. Even human relationships are to be understood within the relation of Jesus Christ to His church (Ephesians 5:23-25, 27, 29, 32).

The Church—Undervalued and Neglected

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

HEBREWS 10:25

Throughout professing Christianity, the church is being undervalued, neglected, and in some cases, dismissed. Believers absenting themselves from a New Testament church are not without consequences. They would be neglecting the locality that Jesus our Lord *gave himself* (Ephesians 5:25). They would be undervaluing