



EKKLĒSIA: CALLED OUT ASSMEBLY (MATTHEW 16:13-20)

Introduction: You may have heard the term before but, what is it? Defining a term by what the words mean is one thing. Seeing it illustrated within the context of what is written broadens our understanding of a term.

I. Ekklēsia: Definition

A) Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon

1. "a gathering of citizens called out from their homes into some public place, an assembly"
2. Compound word formed from 2 other words.
 - (a) *ek* - "out of, from, by, away from"
 - (b) *kaleō* - "to call"

B) Strong's Greek Dictionary

1. From a compound of "*ek*" and a derivative of "*kaleō*"; a calling out, that is, (concretely) a popular meeting, especially a religious congregation (Jewish synagogue, or Christian community of members on earth or saints in heaven or both): - assembly, church.

II. Ekklēsia: Use in Scripture (116 times)

- A) Acts 7:38 - "the _____ (or _____) in the wilderness"
- B) Acts 19:32, 40 - confused, group or riot
- C) Acts 19:39 - "_____ assembly"
- D) Hebrews 12:23 - "the assembly (church) of the firstborn who are enrolled in _____"
- E) "*Ekklēsia*" is used designate "church(es)" most of the time.
 1. Matthew 16:18 - Jesus, beginning of the church (_____)
 2. Romans 16:16 - *local* churches in various places or cities
 3. 1 Corinthians 1:1-2 - a *local* church in Corinth
 4. Note: Universal and local church are not the same.

III. Ekklēsia: Differences in the Universal and Local

- A) _____ - Romans 6:1-6; Acts 2:41; Acts 9:26-28
- B) _____ - Philippians 1:1
- C) _____ - 2 Corinthians 8:10-11
- Universal only has a purpose - 1 Pet. 1:1; 2:9
- D) _____ - 1 Corinthians 5:11-13
- E) _____ - Revelation 2:5, 19; 3:1, 8

Conclusion:

Broaden your understanding of what this called out assembly of believers in Jesus Christ consists of and how they worked together.

Thanks be to God that he calls aloud for us to come out of the world and be added to His assembly of children.

May we dedicate ourselves to be God's children today and enjoy the eternal blessings of being a part of that assembly in heaven.

"Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ."

(Matthew 16:13-20 - ESV)