

LESSON 5 - Our Purpose

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Biblical View Of Church

Jesus used:

- ekklesia: (ek-klay-see'-ah)
- NT word for church 116x
- a compound noun from ek, "out of," and kaleo, "to call."
- **"a regularly summoned legislative body, assembly,"**

A. Pre-Christian Usage

- **"a regularly summoned legislative body, assembly,"**
- *The ekklesia was the designation of the whole body of citizens in a free city-state, "called out of their homes by the kerux, the herald, for the discussion and decision of public business.*
- **clearly characterized as a political phenomenon**
- applied to the popular assembly of full **Greek citizens that helped to govern a city or district**
- an assembly in which **fundamentally political and judicial decisions were taken knew of authority and responsibility to rule**
- *Ep 2:19 NLT So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are **citizens** along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. Eph 2:21 **We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord.***

The ekklesia (church) was made up of a group of people who knew the origin of their position

- *Philip 3:20 But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,*
 - Citizenship = rights of conduct, freedoms
- *YLT Matt 16:18'And I also say to thee, that thou art a rock, and upon this rock I will build my assembly, and gates of Hades shall not prevail against it;*

Application

Look at scriptures describing the application of this.

Purpose of the church is to demonstrate the Kingdom

- *Eph 3:10 God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. NLT*

- *Eph 3:10 [The purpose is] that through the church the complicated, many-sided wisdom of God in all its infinite variety and innumerable aspects might now be made known to the angelic rulers and authorities (principalities and powers) in the heavenly sphere. – AMP*

B. How

*Eph 1:22,23 **22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,23 Which is his body...***

C. Fullness:

- *AMP Eph 1:23 Which is His body, the fullness of Him Who fills all in all [for in that body lives the full measure of Him Who makes everything complete, and Who fills everything everywhere with Himself].*
- "Fullness": **that which fills** or with which a thing is filled:

The Church has power and authority because we are full of Christ!

We are designed to be the full expression of Christ on earth.

Empowered

*Eph 3:20 Now to Him Who, by (in consequence of) the [action of His] power that is at work within us, is able to [carry out His purpose and] do **superabundantly**, far over and above all that we [dare] ask or think [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams]—AMP*

The ekklesia is a group of individuals who have been called out to exercise a spiritual dominion.

For this to be accomplished, they must learn how to allow that indwelling power to manifest itself in their lives. This is what discipleship is about.

Mark 16:17 These signs shall follow them that believe....

Luke 19:10 Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.

COMMISSIONING

Jn 17:18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

*Jn 20:21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace [be] unto
you: as [my] Father hath sent me, even so send I you.*