



## Lesson 1 – God’s Purpose for His Church

1) What is God’s church to reveal to humanity?

**Ephesians 3:10-11** To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be \_\_\_\_\_ by the church the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:

The church is God’s appointed agency for the salvation of men. It was organized for service, and its mission is to carry the gospel to the world. From the beginning it has been God’s plan that through His church shall be reflected to the world His fullness and His sufficiency. The members of the church, those whom He has called out of darkness into His marvelous light, are to show forth His glory.

2) What will God’s house be called?

**Isaiah 56:7-8** Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of \_\_\_\_\_: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for \_\_\_\_\_ . The Lord GOD which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, Yet will I gather others to him, beside those that are gathered unto him.

3) What are God’s plans for His Church?

**Ezekiel 34:29-30** And I will raise up for them a plant of \_\_\_\_\_, and they shall be no more consumed with hunger in the land, neither bear the shame of the heathen any more. Thus shall they know that I the LORD their God am \_\_\_\_\_, and that they, even the house of Israel, are my people, saith the Lord GOD.

4) What are we called to do?

**Isaiah 43:10-12** Ye are my \_\_\_\_\_, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour. I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, that \_\_\_\_\_.

5) What will God do with and for us?

**Isaiah 42:6-7** I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine \_\_\_\_\_, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a \_\_\_\_\_ of the Gentiles; To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.

6) Does God answer when we cry out?

**Isaiah 49:8** Thus saith the LORD, In an acceptable time have I \_\_\_\_\_ thee, and in a day of salvation have I \_\_\_\_\_ thee: and I will preserve thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages;

7) What scars will Jesus keep in Heaven?

**Isaiah 49:15-16** Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have \_\_\_\_\_ thee upon the \_\_\_\_\_ of my hands; thy walls are continually before me.



The church is God's fortress, His city of refuge, which He holds in a revolted world. Any betrayal of the church is treachery to Him who has bought mankind with the blood of His only-begotten Son. From the beginning, faithful souls have constituted the church on earth. In every age the Lord has had His watchmen, who have borne a faithful testimony to the generation in which they lived. These sentinels gave the message of warning; and when they were called to lay off their armor, others took up the work. God brought these witnesses into covenant relation with Himself, uniting the church on earth with the church in heaven. He has sent forth His angels to minister to His church, and the gates of hell have not been able to prevail against His people.

Through centuries of persecution, conflict, and darkness, God has sustained His church. Not one cloud has fallen upon it that He has not prepared for; not one opposing force has risen to counterwork His work, that He has not foreseen. All has taken place as He predicted. He has not left His church forsaken, but has traced in prophetic declarations what would occur, and that which His Spirit inspired the prophets to foretell has been brought about. All His purposes will be fulfilled. His law is linked with His throne, and no power of evil can destroy it. Truth is inspired and guarded by God; and it will triumph over all opposition.

8) How did Jesus teach the Disciples what the Kingdom of God is like?

**Mark 4:30-32** And he said, Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God? or with what comparison shall we compare it? It is like a grain of \_\_\_\_\_, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth: But when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out \_\_\_\_\_; so that the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it.

Jesus could not employ the kingdoms of the world as a similitude. In society He found nothing with which to compare it. Earthly kingdoms rule by the ascendancy of physical power; but from Christ's kingdom every carnal weapon, every instrument of coercion, is banished. This kingdom is to uplift and ennoble humanity. God's church is the court of holy life, filled with varied gifts and endowed with the Holy Spirit. The members are to find their happiness in the happiness of those whom they help and bless.

9) Does God want to heal this Earth?

**Ezekiel 47:8-9** Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea: which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be \_\_\_\_\_. And it shall come to pass, that every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ezekiel 47:12** And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed: it shall bring forth new fruit according to his \_\_\_\_\_, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for \_\_\_\_\_.

10) What did John see in vision?

**Revelation 22:1-4** And he shewed me a pure \_\_\_\_\_ of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the \_\_\_\_\_ of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the nations. And there shall be no more curse:



but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.

**11) How do people lose sight of God?**

**Romans 1:21-22** Because that, when they knew God, they \_\_\_\_\_ him not as God, neither were \_\_\_\_\_; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be \_\_\_\_\_, they became fools,

God chose Israel to reveal His character to men. He desired them to be as wells of salvation in the world. To them were committed the oracles of heaven, the revelation of God's will. In the early days of Israel the nations of the world, through corrupt practices, had lost the knowledge of God.

The people of Israel lost sight of their high privileges as God's representatives. They forgot God and failed to fulfill their holy mission. The blessings they received brought no blessing to the world. All their advantages they appropriated for their own glorification. They shut themselves away from the world in order to escape temptation. The restrictions that God had placed upon their association with idolaters as a means of preventing them from conforming to the practices of the heathen, they used to build up a wall of separation between themselves and all other nations. They robbed God of the service He required of them, and they robbed their fellow men of religious guidance and a holy example.

**12) What were God's people like when Jesus appeared at His 1<sup>st</sup> coming?**

**Jeremiah 2:21** Yet I had planted thee a noble vine, wholly a right seed: how then art thou turned into the \_\_\_\_\_ plant of a strange vine unto me?

**Hosea 10:1** Israel is an empty vine, he bringeth forth fruit unto \_\_\_\_\_: according to the multitude of his fruit he hath increased the altars; according to the goodness of his land they have made goodly images.

**13) What will God do with false messages?**

**Isaiah 5:3-5** And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard. What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth \_\_\_\_\_ grapes? And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up; and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be \_\_\_\_\_ down:

The Jewish leaders thought themselves too wise to need instruction, too righteous to need salvation, too highly honored to need the honor that comes from Christ. The Saviour turned from them to entrust to others the privileges they had abused and the work they had slighted. God's glory must be revealed, His word established. Christ's kingdom must be set up in the world. The salvation of God must be made known in the cities of the wilderness; and the disciples were called to do the work that the Jewish leaders had failed to do.

**14) What did Jesus declare as He left Herod's Temple for the last time?**

**Matthew 23:38-39** Behold, your house is left unto you \_\_\_\_\_. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, \_\_\_\_\_ is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.



15) How did Jesus rebuild His Church?

**Mark 3:13-15** And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him. And he \_\_\_\_\_, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to \_\_\_\_\_, And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out \_\_\_\_\_:

**Can you see God has a plan?**

**Do you want to be part of His designs?**

**When is the time to live life to the fullest?**

