

GLC

3/19/22

The Scattered/Spreading Church #3

Text: Acts 1:3-8, 8:1-4

Intro: The Church-ekklesia, the word translated "church" has the literal meaning of people called out and called together. It's a mistake to view Church as only a place or building. God's people are the church when gathering for singing, praying, ministry of the word and fellowship. It is a mistake to think the worship life of the church is a weekend or weekday focused event. God's people are meant to gather and scatter.

- Scattered/spreading—to extend over a wider range, or cause something to cover a wider range than before. To make something widely known.

Jesus declaration concerning the church—Matt.16:18

1. Its Supreme builder—owner —“I will build My...”
 - a. The builder is flawless.
 - b. Transforming flawed people—II Cor.3:18.
2. Its superior community
 - a. Gates of Hades—representation of the underworld, false religions and hostility to things of God.
 - b. Gates of Hades/hell shall not prevail against it (Church-ekklesia, people called out and called together).
 - c. Prevail (kat-is-chuo #2729 Strong's concordance): to be strong to another's detriment, to prevail against, to be superior in strength, to overcome (underline added).
3. Its support system
 - a. Internal—Eph.4:15-16 (God's grace gifted people).
 - b. Imperial—the kingdom of God/heaven.
 - The rule and reign of God (invisible becoming visible)—first and ongoing message—Matt. 3:2, 4:17 (Mk.1:15); **Jn.18:36**; Acts 1:3, 8:12, 28:30-31.
 - Preceded the church.
 - Produced the church.
 - Pursued (seek) by the church—Matt.6:33.
 - Publicized submission of every other kingdom—Dan.7:15-27; Rev.11:15.

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