

Jesus Chooses His Church

my impressions

Choose from the following phrases those which best describe your impression of each of the statements below.

- A. Reassuring B. That challenges me C. Makes perfect sense
D. Sounds important E. It boggles my mind F. What-huh?
G. Wow! H. Sobering I. I see it but will need some time
J. That gives me hope K. Lord help me L. Other _____

1. Jesus taught that He has sheep in other folds or other churches. Then He clearly laid out His plan to bring all His true sheep into one church. (John 10:16²)
2. What ultimately defines God's true sheep is not what church they are *presently* attending. Jesus Himself started defining His true sheep by telling us that His sheep, or followers, **listen** to His words and teachings, as well as His Spirit's guiding. (John 10:16¹)
3. God's true "followers" don't just listen. Jesus said they also **do** what He says. (Matthew 28:48, 50⁴)
4. God's true church builds their entire **faith on Jesus**, the solid rock, who loved us enough to die for us. (Matthew 16:16-18⁸; John 10:11³; 1 Corinthians 10:4⁹)
5. One of the things that distinguishes God's true followers from every other church is they prove their love to God by **keeping His commandments**, just like Jesus did. This is also how Satan knows who God's true follower are. (John 14:15¹³; Matthew 5:18¹⁴; Revelation 12:17¹²; John 15:10; Luke 4:16)
6. God's true church is also characterized by the "testimony of Jesus" which is the **Spirit of Prophecy**. (Revelation 12:17¹⁵; 19:10¹⁶; Amos 3:7¹⁷; 2 Timothy 3:16¹⁹; see lesson 20)
7. The difference between God's followers and everyone else – they are **overcomers**. (Revelation 12:11²⁰; 2 Corinthians 3:18²¹; 2 Peter 1:3²²)
8. Jesus Himself commanded each member of His remnant church to be His **witness**, to carry His special last day gospel message **to all the world**. (Mark 16:15²⁵; Revelation 14:6, 7²⁶)

Choices: I know Jesus already wants me to be in His fold. I choose to embrace these simple minimums and so become part of His church.

Thunder IN THE HOLY LAND

LESSON 21

JESUS CHOOSES HIS CHURCH

1. **John 10:16, 19** And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall _____ my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd. There was a division therefore again among the Jews for these sayings.
2. **John 10:16** And _____ sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice...
3. **John 10:11** I am the good _____: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.
4. **Matthew 12:48, 50** asv But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? . . . whosoever shall _____ the will of my Father who is in heaven, he is my brother, and sister, and mother.
5. **Jeremiah 17:9** The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately _____: who can know it?
6. **Luke 6:45** nkj "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth _____."
7. **Numbers 32:23** ... be sure your sin will _____ you out.
8. **Matthew 16:16-18** And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the _____, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, . . . upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
9. **1 Corinthians 10:4** And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was _____.
10. **James 1:18** Of his own will begat he us with the _____ of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.
11. **Jeremiah 6:2** I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and delicate woman.

12. **Revelation 12:17** And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the _____ of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.
13. **John 14:15** If ye love me, keep my commandments.
14. **Matthew 5:18** For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the _____, till all be fulfilled.
15. **Revelation 12:17** And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the _____ of Jesus Christ.
16. **Revelation 19:10** And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of _____.
17. **Amos 3:7** Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the _____.
18. **Isaiah 46:10** Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet _____, ...
19. **2 Timothy 3:16** All scripture is given by _____ of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
20. **Revelation 12:11** And they _____ him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.
21. **2 Corinthians 3:18** But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.
22. **2 Peter 1:3** ...his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and _____, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:
23. **1 John 4:18** There is no _____ in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

24. **John 15:10** If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.
25. **Mark 16:15** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the _____, and preach the gospel to every creature.
26. **Revelation 14:6, 7** And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

Seven Identifiers of God's True Church:

1. God's Church listens. Jesus said His true people hear His voice in Scripture and Holy Spirit promptings.
2. God's Church does what God asks of them.
3. God's Church builds their faith on Jesus, the Rock, who is the way, the truth, and the life.
4. God's Church obeys the commandments – all ten of them including the Sabbath commandment just like Jesus did.
5. God's Church manifests the testimony of Jesus: which is the spirit of prophecy.
6. God's Church is an overcoming church. They allow the Bible to define sin and don't continue in the old habits of sin.
7. God's Church is worldwide, obedient to His command to share the gospel with everyone.