

FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH.

3-13-2022 AM

INTRO.:

- A. Read the text: Matt. 16:18-19.**
- B. Regarding the text:**
 - 1. Jesus clearly claims the church as His own (**Matt. 16:18; Acts 20:28**).
 - 2. The prophets spoke of its establishment (**Isa. 2:1-4; Joel 2; Dan. 2**).
 - 3. There is only one (**Eph. 4:4; 1:22-23**).
- C. For Christ and the Church should be our priority (Matt. 6:33).**
- D. As members of that blood bought institution, we should honor Christ and His church. (WORK, STAND, LIVE, OBEY).**

DISCUSSION: FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH I WILL...

I. I WILL WORK IN THE KINGDOM.

- A. We sing about it... but are often idle!**
 - 1. Work requires action.
 - 2. Many have forgotten this need!
- B. As a congregation we are to work together (1 Cor. 3:9).**
- C. Individually I should work. (Bible studies, etc.)**

II. I WILL STAND FOR TRUTH.

- A. To stand requires effort on my part!**
 - 1. **Jude 3:** Earnestly: Put your heart into it. Contend: To fight for and defend.
 - 2. There is a reason to STAND!
- B. Truth about worship (John 4:24).**
- C. Truth about the ONE church (Eph. 4:4; 1:22-23; Col. 1:18, 24).**
 - 1. Our children need to know!
 - 2. Conversion requires that we understand this fact (**Acts 8:5, 12**).
 - 3. *Stand Up For Jesus:* (Cannot separate Him from the church!)
- D. In all situations.**
 - 1. Opposing false doctrines.
 - 2. Opposing ungodly and immoral things in our present world!
 - 1) Same sex relations (**Rom. 1:26-27**).
 - 2) Removing God from public view (**2 Thess. 1:7-9**) ("know not God...").
- E. Men have no hope without the truth (John 8:32)!**

III. I WILL LIVE SOBERLY...

- A. My example should bring honor to the name of our blessed King.**
 - 1. Walk in the light (**Titus 2:11-12; 1 John 1:7**).
 - 2. Demonstrate Christianity (**1 Cor. 11:1**).
- B. The church needs homes that will "live soberly and godly in this present world."**
 - 1. Fathers are to teach (**Eph. 6:4; Col. 3:21**)!
 - 2. This requires giving a good example to follow.
- C. By my example I can bring glory to Christ and the church (Matt. 5:16; Eph. 5:8).**
- D. Too many act like Christians only on Sunday morning!**

IV. OBEY EVERY COMMAND THE LORD HAS GIVEN.

- A. Obedience is essential (Heb. 5:9).**
- B. Too many want to pick and choose what they will obey.**

- C. By obedience I can look forward to the CALL TO THE SAVIOR'S RIGHT HAND (2 Tim. 4:7-8).**
- D. By obedience we demonstrate our love for the Lord and for the church (John 14:15, 23).**

V. CONCLUSION...

- A. Heaven awaits those who love the church of Christ.**
- B. For Christ and the Church – We have a great work set before us.**
 - 1. Yet it is not an impossible task (**Phil 4:13; Rom. 8:37**).
 - 2. Be encouraged by God's promises (**Titus 1:2**).

VI. INVITATION: