What's The Big Deal About The Church?

Tony Mauck · Acts 2:38

INTRODUCTION

- Unimpressed and underwhelmed. These are words that describe a lot of our culture toward organized religion.
- I think there's some reasons that contribute to that. Three major reasons time, stress, and money.

1 It Must Be Seen From a Spiritual Perspective

- To understand this, it must be seen from a spiritual perspective.
- The values of this world will not cut it.
- It won't be found on the front pages of the Houston Chronicle. This must be assessed from a spiritual perspective.
- You need to put your spiritual eyewear on. Because only with spiritual eyewear will you be able to see this.

2 Glimpses of the Greatness in the Old Testament

Hebrews 10:22–25

- The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
- Whatever God was doing through Jesus, the chief cornerstone, he says, it is marvelous in our eyes.
- Too many are underwhelmed with God's doings, God's provision.
- Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as is the habit of some. And I'll tell you about those who have that as a habit. They're not getting it.

3 Acts 2 Is Where That Church Was Established

Acts 2:38; Acts 2:41; Acts 2:47

- The Holy Spirit descends in cloven tongues of fire upon the apostles with the sound of a mighty rushing wind.
- Peter and the Apostles preached this great sermon that Jesus is now the king. Sitting on David's throne.
- Those who gladly heard the word were baptized, and there were added that day about 3,000 souls.
- The Lord was adding to their number. He was adding to the church daily, those who were being saved.

4 You Shall Receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:38; Acts 8

- Repent and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins. And we stop. Shame on us.
- That phrase is telling us what the big deal is about the church.
- Is it about speaking in tongues? Yes. In that particular audience at that particular time, it was about that. But it's more than that.
- Receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit is to receive all that the Spirit had promised. And that's what makes it a big deal.

5 Notice This Word Promise in Acts 2

Acts 2:39; Joel 2:28–32; Isaiah 35:8–10

- For the promise is for you and your children, and for all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God shall call to himself.
- Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. That's a key verse. That's going to include the Gentiles.
- Jew and Gentile, the people of all peoples will come together as one under the reign of the Messiah.
- That's just the tip of the iceberg of all the promises of the Old Testament that were anticipating the day of Acts 2.

6 A Chosen Race, the Body of Christ, His Saints

1 Peter 2:9–10; Revelation 5:10; 2 Thessalonians 1:10–12

- You are a chosen race. A royal priesthood. A people for God's own possession.
- For you were once not a people, but now you're the people of God.
- And we are the body of Christ. That's an amazing concept. That Jesus is our head. He directs our movements.
- He's going to be glorified in his saints on that last great day. And that's who we are.

THE CHALLENGE

That's the big deal about the church. Won't you be a part of it?

MY NOTES