

"And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. (Matthew 16:18 NKJ)

I. A *Building*: "My Church."

What is the church? What is it made up of?

The Church of our text is made up of _____ in the Lord Jesus Christ, of all who are really _____, and _____ people. It comprehends all who have _____ of sin, and fled to Christ by _____, and been made new creatures in Him. It comprises all God's _____, all who have received God's grace, all who have been washed in Christ's _____, all who have been clothed in Christ's _____, all who have been _____ again and sanctified by Christ's Spirit.

The members of this Church do not all worship God in the _____ way, or use the _____ form of government.

II. A *Builder*: Christ says, "I will build my Church."

Are All Three Members of the Godhead, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit involved in some way with the building of the Church? Yes or No?

Yet, is the church also in a special way Christ's work? Yes or No?

What does each of the Bible verses below tell us Christ does for us?

among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ; (Romans 1:6 NKJ)

He _____ us

"For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to *them*, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. (John 5:21 NKJ) He _____ us

and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, (Revelation 1:5 NKJ) He _____ us

"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. (John 14:27 NKJ) He gives or gave us _____

"And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. (John 10:28 NKJ) He gives us _____

"Him God has exalted to His right hand *to be* Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. (Acts 5:31 NKJ) He gives us _____ and _____ of sins.

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: (John 1:12 NKJ) He gave us the _____ to _____

It is Jesus Christ who "_____."

III. *A Foundation:* "Upon this rock I will build my Church."

What is the Foundation of Christ's Church?

It is Christ's _____ ship, and Christ's _____ ship. It is the blessed truth, that Jesus is the promised Savior, the true Surety, the real Intercessor between God and man. This is the rock, and this the foundation, upon which the Church of Christ is built.

IV. *The Trials of the Church*

What is meant by the Gates of Hell / Hades mentioned by Christ in Matthew 16:18?

The history of Christ's true Church has always been one of _____ and _____. It has been constantly assailed by a deadly enemy, _____, the prince of this world. The devil hates the true Church of Christ with an _____ hatred. He is ever stirring up opposition against _____ its members. He is ever urging the children of this world to do his will, and to injure and harass the people

of God. If he cannot bruise the head, he will bruise the heel. If he cannot rob believers of heaven, he will vex them by the way.

(a) *Marvel not* at the _____ of the gates of hell. “_____ will go on murdering Abel so long as the Church is on earth.”

(b) *Be prepared* for the enmity of the gates of hell. Put on the whole _____ of God.

(c) *Be* _____ under the enmity of the gates of hell. It is all working together for your good. It tends to _____.

(d) *Be not cast* _____ by the enmity of hell.

Why shouldn't we be discouraged by Hell's enmity? The warfare of the true child of God is as much a mark of _____ as the inward peace which he enjoys. No cross, no _____! No conflict, no _____ Christianity!

V. *Security Asserted*: “The gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

The true Church is Christ's _____. The Captain of our salvation loses none of His soldiers. His plans are never _____.

The devil may cast some of the members of the true Church into prison. He may kill, and burn, and torture, and hang. But after he has killed the body, there is _____ that he can do.

VI. Application -

(1) ... I ask you, whether you are a member of the one _____ Church of Christ?

(2) Come into the _____-boat of the one true Church.

(3) Strive to live a _____ life. Strive to live a _____ /ife. Strive to live a _____ life.