

Christ's Unchanging Cause

Selected Scripture

I. Identify Christ's Cause

- A. The church is why He came to earth (Jn. 10:14-16; Eph. 2:11-22).
- B. The church is the only entity He promised to build (Matt. 16:18).
- C. The church is at the center of the Great Commission He gave His disciples (Matt. 28:18-20).
- D. The church is the only entity on earth under Christ's immediate, loving leadership (Eph. 5:23, 29).
- E. The church is the supreme object of Christ's love (Eph. 5:25).
- F. The church was the purpose behind His death (Acts 20:28; Eph. 5:25).
- G. The church is being cleansed and purified by Christ Himself (Eph. 5:26).
- H. The church is the primary reason He will return (Eph. 5:27).

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I. Identify Christ's Cause

II. Define Christ's Cause

A. The Universal Church

- *Visible* – as we see it (true and false believers)
- *Invisible* – as God sees it (only true believers)

B. Local Churches

III. Adopt Christ's Cause

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III. Adopt Christ's Cause

- A. Be Committed to Worship: Gathering with His People (Heb. 10:24-25; 1 Cor. 3:9, 16; Eph. 2:21)
- B. Be Committed to Fellowship: Loving His People
 - Common Worship (Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 14:26; Eph. 5:16; Col. 3:16)
 - Common Life (Acts 2:42)
 - Mutual Care (Acts 2:44-45; 4:32; Rom. 15:25-28)
 - Mutual Edification (Rom. 1:10-11; 15:2; 1 Cor. 10:24; 1 Th. 5:11; Heb. 10:24-25)
- C. Be Committed to Service: Serving His People (Mk. 10:43-45; Jn. 13:12-17; Gal. 5:13; 1 Pet. 4:10)
- D. Be Committed to Evangelism: Reaching His People (Acts 18:9-11; 2 Tim. 2:8-10)