

# **“Some Things That the Church Is Not and Is”**

## **Eph. 1:9-18**

### Introduction

- I. We live in a time where the church is not thought of very highly.
- II. Statements like “the church is not important, just Christ” shows the ignorance of so many
- III. We need to understand that the church has always been important to God.

### Discussion

- I. The church is not an afterthought or a “plan B”.
  - A. God had always planned for the existence of the church (Eph. 3:10-11).
  - B. Jesus knew that He would establish His church before it was built (Matt. 16:18-18).
  - C. It was always God's plan to bring mankind into “one body” (Eph. 2:13-16).
- II. The church is the pillar and ground of the truth.
  - A. The church is responsible for upholding and proclaiming the truth (John 17:17; 2 Tim. 4:1-4; cf. John 16:13; 2 Pet. 1:3).
  - B. We must mark and avoid those that teach error and division (Rom. 16:17-18; 2 Thess. 3:14-15; cf. 1 Tim. 1:18-20).
- III. The church is not to be like the world.
  - A. The church has very specific commands when it comes to her relationship with the world (Rom. 12:1-2; 1 John 2:15-17).
  - B. The church should be a city on a hill, giving light (Matt. 5:13-16 ; 1 Pet. 2:12).
- IV. The church is the bride of Christ.
  - A. The relationship of marriage is holy, good, and designed by God (Heb. 13:4).
  - B. Jesus is Head over His church that way that a husband should be over his wife (Eph. 5:22-33; cf. Rev. 21:2).

### Conclusion

- I. There is a lot of confusion about the church and her importance.
- II. Let us remind people about what the church is not and what the church is.