

What is the Church?

What is the Church?

- Building
- Organization
- Denomination
- Body of Believers



- Body of Believers

KJV Colossians 1:18 And He (Jesus) is the head of the body, the church . . .



Church?

- Greek - circe
- Goddess of magic
- Daughter of the sun
- Round hoop

Church?

- Greek - kuriakon
- “the lord’s”



- circe
- kuriakon



- —circe

- —kuriakon

Neither word is found
in the Greek New
Testament.



ekklesia

- Strong's 1577
- Combination of:
 - ek (Strong's 1537) – out of
 - kaleo (Strong's 2564) to call
- ekklesia = to call out, an assembly
- a common Greek word – not a religious word

NKJ Matthew 16:18 "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church . . .

The Feast of Pentecost, celebrated the fiftieth day after Easter, commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and the birth of the Church.

<http://www.aquinasandmore.com/catholic-articles/pentecost-the-birth-of-the-church/article/275>

Jesus Christ founded the New Testament Church in the city of Jerusalem on the biblical festival of Pentecost 50 days after His resurrection from the dead.

Between the time of His resurrection and the founding of His Church, Christ appeared to His apostles over the course of the first 40 days, further enlightening them concerning the nature of the coming Kingdom of God (Acts:1:3).

During that time "He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father" (verse 4). He explained to them, "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (verse 8) . . . Therefore the Church, the spiritually transformed body of believers, began when Christ's apostles received the Holy Spirit, just as He had promised (Acts:2:1-4).

The Church Jesus Built; United Church of God, 2010, pg. 5

“With regard to the church as an instrument of service, called by God to take up the mission formerly entrusted to Israel, Luke is certainly presenting the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost as the church’s birthday.”

Expositor’s Bible Commentary; vol. 9; pg. 271; copyright 1981, Zondervan

^{KJV} Acts 7:37-38 This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear. ³⁸ This is he, that was in the church (ekklesia) in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us . . .”

the Septuigint

- 2nd and 3rd century BCE
- Greek translation of the Tnakh
- LXX - 70



ekklesia (Greek)= **kahal** (Hebrew)

- kahal קהל (Strong's 6951) = assembly
- translates into a variation of assembly over 100 times

ekklesia (Greek)= **kahal** (Hebrew)

^{NKJ} Genesis 28:3 "May God Almighty bless you, And make you fruitful and multiply you, That you may be an assembly of peoples . . ."

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^{NKJ} Genesis 28:3 "May God Almighty bless you, And make you fruitful and multiply you, That you may be a church . . ."

ekklesia (Greek)= kahal (Hebrew)

^{NKJ} Joshua 8:34-35 And afterward he (Joshua) read all the words of the law, the blessings and the cursings, according to all that is written in the Book of the Law. ³⁵ There was not a word of all that Moses had commanded which Joshua did not read before all the ~~assembly~~ *church* of Israel, with the women, the little ones, and the strangers who were living among them.

^{NKJ}Acts 20:28 "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the ~~church~~ *assembly* of God which He purchased with His own blood.

^{KJV} 1 Chronicles 28:8 Now therefore in the sight of all Israel the ~~congregation~~ *assembly* of the LORD, and in the audience of our God, keep and seek for all the commandments of the LORD your God: that ye may possess this good land, and leave it for an inheritance for your children after you for ever.

KJV 1 Corinthians 1:2 Unto the ~~church~~ *assembly* of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

KJV Psalm 89:7 God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him.

^{KJV} Hebrews 12:22 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, ²³ To the ~~general assembly~~ festive gathering and ~~church~~ assembly of the firstborn, which are written in heaven . . .

^{KJV} Jeremiah 31:9 They shall come with weeping, and with supplications will I lead them: I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they shall not stumble: for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Review -

- “church” is not a good translation of the Greek “ekklesia”
- ekklesia = assembly
- Israel is called “the assembly” throughout the Tnakh
- the “church” is Israel

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שְׁלוֹם לָכֶם

Shalom Aleichem

Peace be Unto You