

# A Portrait of The Church

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Introduction:

1. Paul's letter to the Ephesians is packed with several descriptions of the church.
2. Chapter 2 ends with one such description.
3. **Ephesians 2:19-21**

Discussion:

## I. A Kingdom - Citizens

- A. **Ephesians 2:19** - "Now therefore you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but *fellow citizens* with the saints...." Citizenship req. kingdom
- B. **Matt. 16:15-19** = the church = the kingdom
- C. **Col. 1:12-14** - God conveyed (transferred) us into the kingdom of His Son.
- D. **Dan. 2:44-45** - kingdom which shall stand forever
- E. We need to be diligent to make our election sure (**2 Pt. 1:10-11**)

## II. A Household

- A. **Eph. 2:19b** - "members of the household of God"
- B. Adopted as sons - **Eph. 1:3-6**.
- C. **John 1:11-13** - right to become children, born of God
- D. **Romans 8:14-17** - Spirit of adoption -> "Abba, Father"-> children of God -> heirs
- E. Adopted and born into - **John 3:3,5-8; 1 Pt. 1:23**

## III. A Building - Foundation

- A. **Ephesians 2:20** - build on the foundation of the apostles and prophets
- B. **Mt. 16:16-18** - the truth, Jesus is the son of God
- C. **1 Cor. 3:10-11** - Jesus is the only foundation

## IV. A Building - Cornerstone

- A. **Ephesians 2:20** - Jesus Christ chief cornerstone
- B. **1 Peter 2:4-7** - rejected by men, chosen by God
- C. **Is. 28:16** - precious cornerstone, sure foundation
- D. **Psalm 118:22-24** - The stone which the builders rejected

## V. A Temple - Dwelling place of God in the Spirit

- A. **Ephesians 2:21-22** - the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple
- B. **1 Cor. 3:16-17** - we are the holy temple of God
- C. **1 Pt. 2:5** - a spiritual house, holy priesthood

Conclusion:

1. Since we are part of the Kingdom, we have responsibility to serve God acceptably (**Heb. 12:28-29**)
2. We are to uphold the truth of God (**1 Tim. 3:14-15**)
3. If you are not part of the Kingdom, or have been separated from the Kingdom, you need to come to the Kingdom.