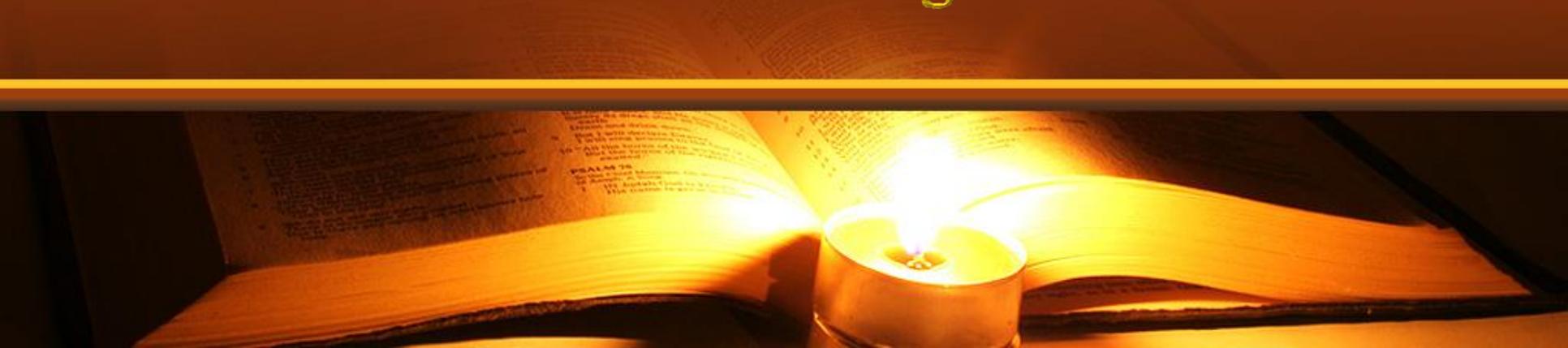


If You Have Your Bibles
and I DO!

Scripture Text:

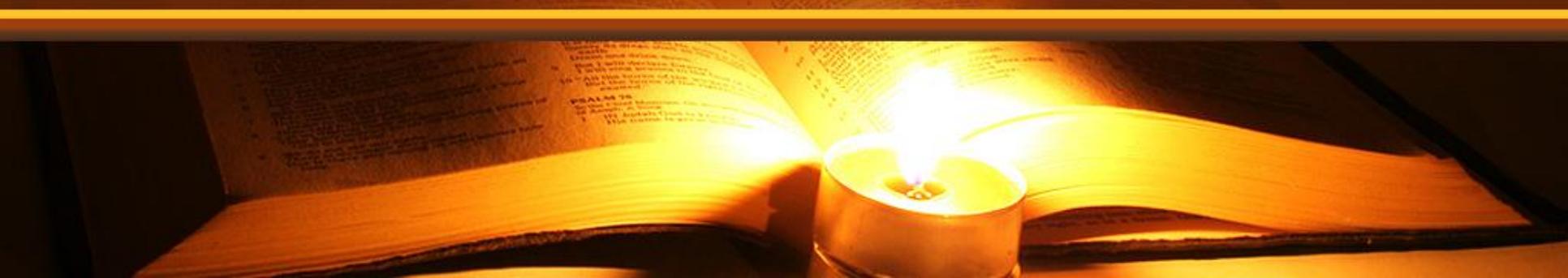
Colossians 1:18

Please stand for the reading of God's Word!



Colossians 1:18

18 He is the Head of the body made up of his people—that is, his Church—which he began; and he is the Leader of all those who arise from the dead, so that he is first in everything;



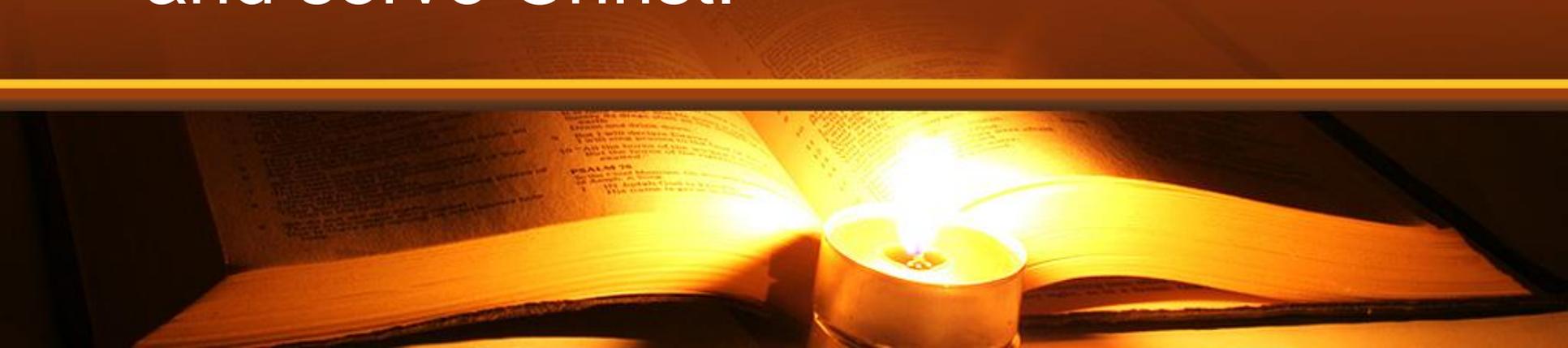
SERMON SERIES

The Church:
What Is It All
About?



The Church: What Is It All About?

- Biblical meaning of the word “church.”
- The term ***ecclesia*** meant a group of people who are called out of the world’s system by God’s grace for the purpose of assembling to worship and serve Christ.



Today's Message

INSTRUCTION



The Church: What Is It All About?

- God's design for this sacred gathering involves:
 - WORSHIP
 - INSTRUCTION**
 - ENCOURAGEMENT
 - EVANGELISM
 - MINISTRY TO THOSE IN NEED, BOTH WITHIN THE FELLOWSHIP AND OUTSIDE ITS WALLS.



THE BIBLE

- **B** – BASIC
- **I** – INSTRUCTIONS
- **B** – BEFORE
- **L** – LEAVING
- **E** – EARTH



THE BIBLE

- It's divine (2 Tim. 3:16)
- **It's truth (Jn. 17:17)**
- It's our map (Ps. 119:105)
- It's our food (Mt. 4:4)
- It's our life (Deut. 32:47)



THE BIBLE

- **It's truth (Jn. 17:17)**
- **John 17:17 (NKJV)**
- **Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.**



THE BIBLE -

- **2 Timothy 2:15 (NKJV) Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.**
- **Psalms 119:160a (NKJV) The entirety of Your word is truth**



The Bible

“Just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught” (Luke 1:2–4).



THE BIBLE

- **It's truth (Jn. 17:17)**
- **John 17:17 (NKJV)**
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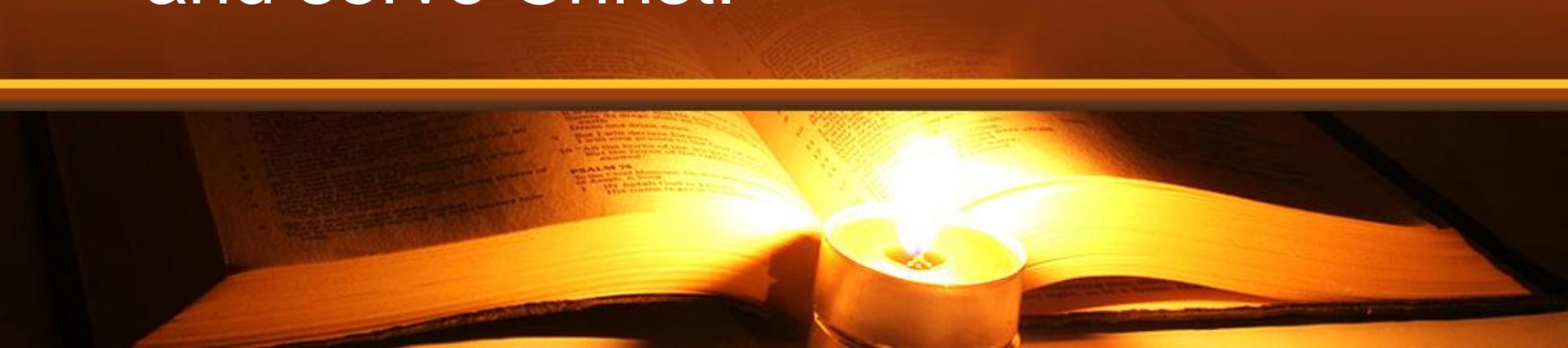
THE BIBLE -

- **1 Peter 1:15–16 (NKJV) but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.”**



The Church: What Is It All About?

- Biblical meaning of the word “church.”
- The term ***ecclesia*** meant a group of people who are called out of the world’s system by God’s grace for the purpose of assembling to worship and serve Christ.



THE BIBLE -

- **John 8:44 (NKJV) You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.**



3 Things of the Enemy (Devil)

- Romans 1:18b (NKJV) **who suppress the truth in unrighteousness . . .**
- Romans 1:25a (NKJV) **who exchanged the truth of God for the lie . . .**



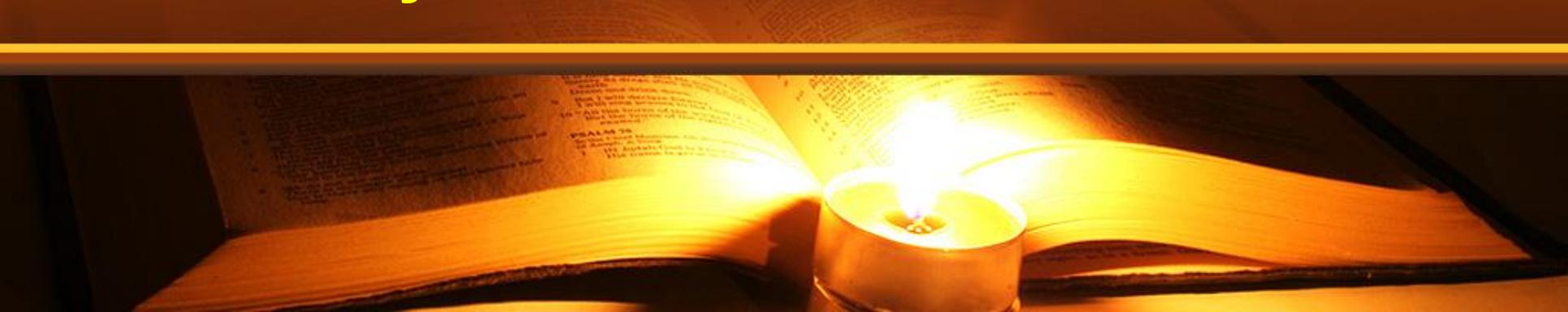
3 Things of the Enemy (Devil)

- **2 Timothy 4:3b–4 (NKJV) because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.**



THE BIBLE -

- **John 8:31–32 (NKJV) Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”**
- **John 8:47 (NKJV) He who is of God hears God’s words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God.”**



3 ways to know the Truth of God

- 1. **God's word is truth.** We first encounter the truth of God through His written Word. The word of truth points us to the person of truth, Jesus.
- 2. **Jesus is truth.** Jesus proclaimed Himself to be the truth: John 14:6a "I am the way, the truth, and the life."



3 ways to know the Truth of God

- **3. The Spirit is Truth.** The Holy Spirit, is truth because the Spirit is one with Jesus and the Father, so there is no contradiction here.
1 John 5:6

