

Pictures of the Church

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

1. **The Church is the Body of Christ.** This picture shows our relationship to each other in the Body.
2. **The Church is the Temple.** This picture shows our relationship to the unsaved.
3. **The Church the Bride of Christ.** This picture shows our relationship with Christ our Bridegroom.
4. **The Church is a Priesthood.** This picture shows our relationship individually with Christ.
5. **The Church is the Flock of God.** This picture shows our relationship with the Undershepherd.

I. The Gathering of the Flock

A. *In the OT, the Jewish People of God was the Flock* (Psalm 23; 79:13; 80:1; 95:7; 100:3; Jeremiah 13:17 “The Lord’s flock.”)

B. *In the Gospels, the disciples were Jesus’ “Little flock”* (Luke 12:22, 32).

C. *In the Epistles, The Church is God’s Flock.*

- 1) John 10 predicts the transition based on the familiar experience of a shepherd (10:1-7)
 - a) Judaism is the fold in John 10:16. The outward organization of the nation of Israel.
 - b) Christ leads Jewish believers out of this fold.
 - c) Jesus has other sheep who in the future will be, not the fold, but the flock or Church.
- 2) Acts 20:28 the flock is the Church of God

II. The Shepherding of the Flock

A. *The Church is God’s Flock* “Feed the flock of GOD” (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:2).

B. *There is one Flock* “Feed THE flock of God.”

- 1) THE flock of God is the universal Church
- 2) “Which is among you” is the local church or flock

C. *The Undershepherds* “FEED (shepherd) the flock of God.”

- 1) John 21:15 “Feed” [Gk. *boske*] with food
- 2) John 21:16 “Feed” [Gk. *poimaine*] Shepherd as in 1 Peter 5:2
- 3) John 21:17 “Feed” [Gk. *boske*] with food