

Authentic Church Government

“And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.” 1 Peter 5:4, English Standard Version

Matthew 16:18,19 – How is the church Christ _____ to be _____?

Where The Ultimate Authority Resides

- A. The ultimate authority in the church:
1. Matthew 16:18,19 – If Christ _____ the church, shouldn't He have _____ over every aspect of it?
 2. Ephesians 1:20-23 – Christ _____ at the right _____ of God, and is _____ over all things to the church.
 3. Colossians 1:18 – He is the head of the _____, the _____.
 4. Revelation 2:5 – Christ would _____ the _____ of the church at Ephesus if they didn't _____.
- B. What this affirmation means:
1. No other body of _____ can claim to direct the _____ or the _____ of the church. That's not authentic.
 2. No one _____ can claim to sit on the _____ of Christ.

The Earthly Government Of Christ's Church

- A. Hebrews 13:17 - _____ your _____ and _____ to them, for they keep _____ over your _____. *Who is this?*
- B. Those who lead the church on earth:
1. Titus 1:5-7a – Put things in _____ by appointing _____ in _____ town.
 2. Acts 14:23 – Paul and Barnabas appointed _____ in _____ church.
 3. Acts 20:17,28-29 – Three terms describe the same role: _____, _____, and _____.
 4. 1 Peter 5:1-2,4 – Again, three terms are used: _____, _____, and _____. Jesus is the _____ Shepherd.
 5. Moo: “The church needs this type of _____-leadership to survive in times of persecution.”
- C. Philippians 1:1 – Paul greeted the _____, as well as the shepherds and _____ the saints.

Ephesians 4:11-13 – Christ _____ these roles to the church. Shall we attempt to alter them? His pattern for government is authentic.

Central Church of Christ, Johnson City, Tennessee, March 3, 2024, p.m.