

Calgary L'chaim Bible Fellowship

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A study series with Saskatchewan & Bontoc Ekklesia group

Text: Jeremiah 30:18-22

Date: _____

Biblical Ekklesiology

Review: IMPORTANCE of the Torah believing Community

First: There are at least four reasons to participate in a community of believers:

1. The faith community was and is the recipient of biblical revelation.
2. The cycle of worship (Sabbaths and Festivals) was /is given to the faith community rather than to individuals.
3. The Epistles, a large portion of the Apostolic Writings (so called "New testament" or Second Testament) were mostly written to faith/ believing communities.
4. There is a special presence of God in the Community / Ekklesia that is not found elsewhere.

Second: We learned in the Scriptures of synonymous names for God's Community.

1. "Called-Out" Assembly
2. Holy Community
3. Redeemed Congregation
4. Covenant Community
5. Torah Community

Purpose of the Study: To understand that the "Congregation of the Lord" is a continuity from Exodus to the Kingdom age that is consisting of believing Israel and engrafted gentiles. Also to understand that there is NO "church" in the Bible that replaces Israel.

Lesson Proper: We will explore in this study of several main characteristics of the believing community by utilizing the acronym T-O-R-A-H to summarize this characteristics

- T- Torah, The Scriptures, The Bible
- O- Organization
- R- Righteousness
- A- Accountability
- H- Holiness

A. T- Torah, the Scriptures

(Ezra 7:10, Psalm 19:7-11): As a community we are the people of the Book.

1. We **study** the Bible – Prov 9:10, 2 Tim 3:16-17, Acts 17:11
2. We **teach** the Bible – Let the Bible speak for itself.
3. We **live** the Bible – The Bible is not sufficiently studied unless it results in a changed behaviour!
...students and doers, information vs transformation, mind vs heart etc...

B. O-Organization

Some basic review: *Ekklesia* is a Greek word used in the Apostolic Scriptures (AS) and in the Septuagint (LXX), the Greek translation of the TaNaKh for the "Congregation" of the Lord. The Hebrew word for it is *Kahal* or sometimes it is *Adat* (Assembly) as appearing in Exodus 12:5-6.

When did the Ekklesia/ Kahal started according to the Bible? In the wilderness with Moses (Acts 7:37-38 / Deut 18:16)...what about Matthew 16:18 it means that Yeshua is the bedrock of the called out assembly that has flourished for a thousand years. Everyone that makes that truth the foundation of life will have promises untold (Acts 16:31).

Where did the word "church" came from? *Kuriakon* in greek , house of kurios (lord) a pagan temple.