

# Welcome to

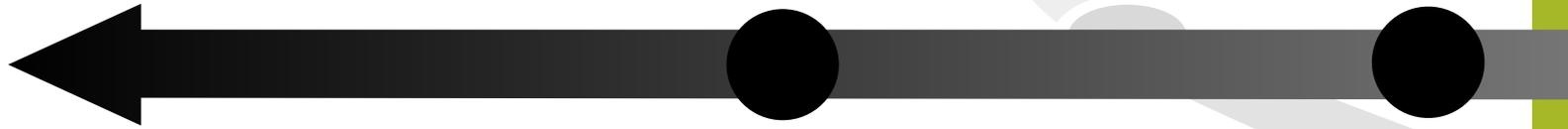


# Stand•Points

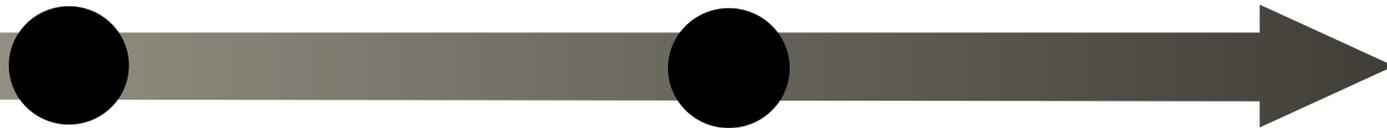


# FACTS HOPE

His People  My Family



Stand•Points



# The Church



# Church



Only 2x in the Gospels

English: “kerk” -- from kyriakos  
= that which belongs to the Lord

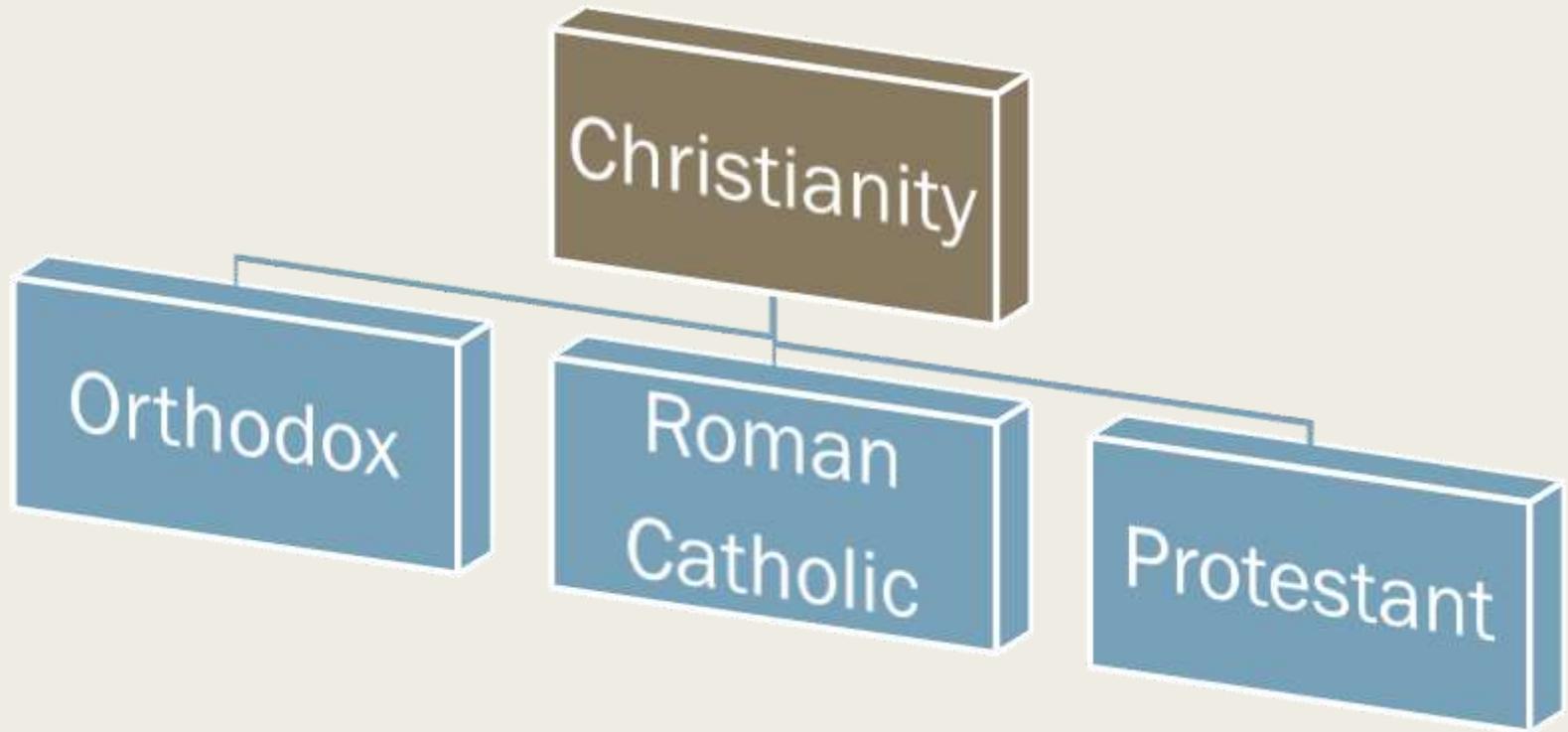


**Church = ek-klesia = Called Out**

# Matthew 16:13-20

## Happy Birthday, Church!

“When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?”<sup>14</sup> So they said, “Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”<sup>15</sup> He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”<sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”<sup>17</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven.”<sup>18</sup> “And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”<sup>19</sup> “And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”<sup>20</sup> Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ.”

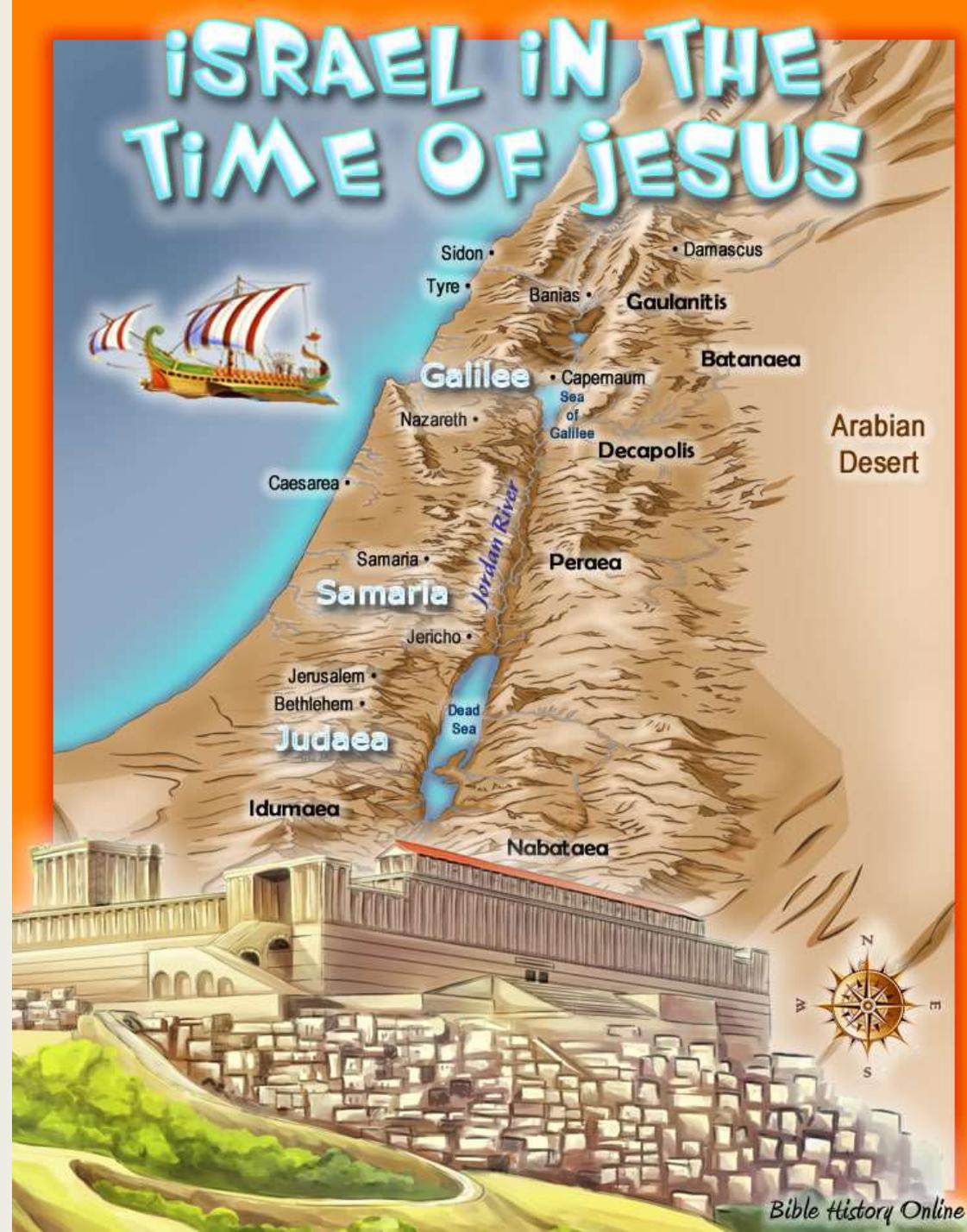


# February 12, 2016

Pope Francis & Russian Orthodox Patriarch Kirill

Where  
are  
we?

Who  
Is  
Jesus?









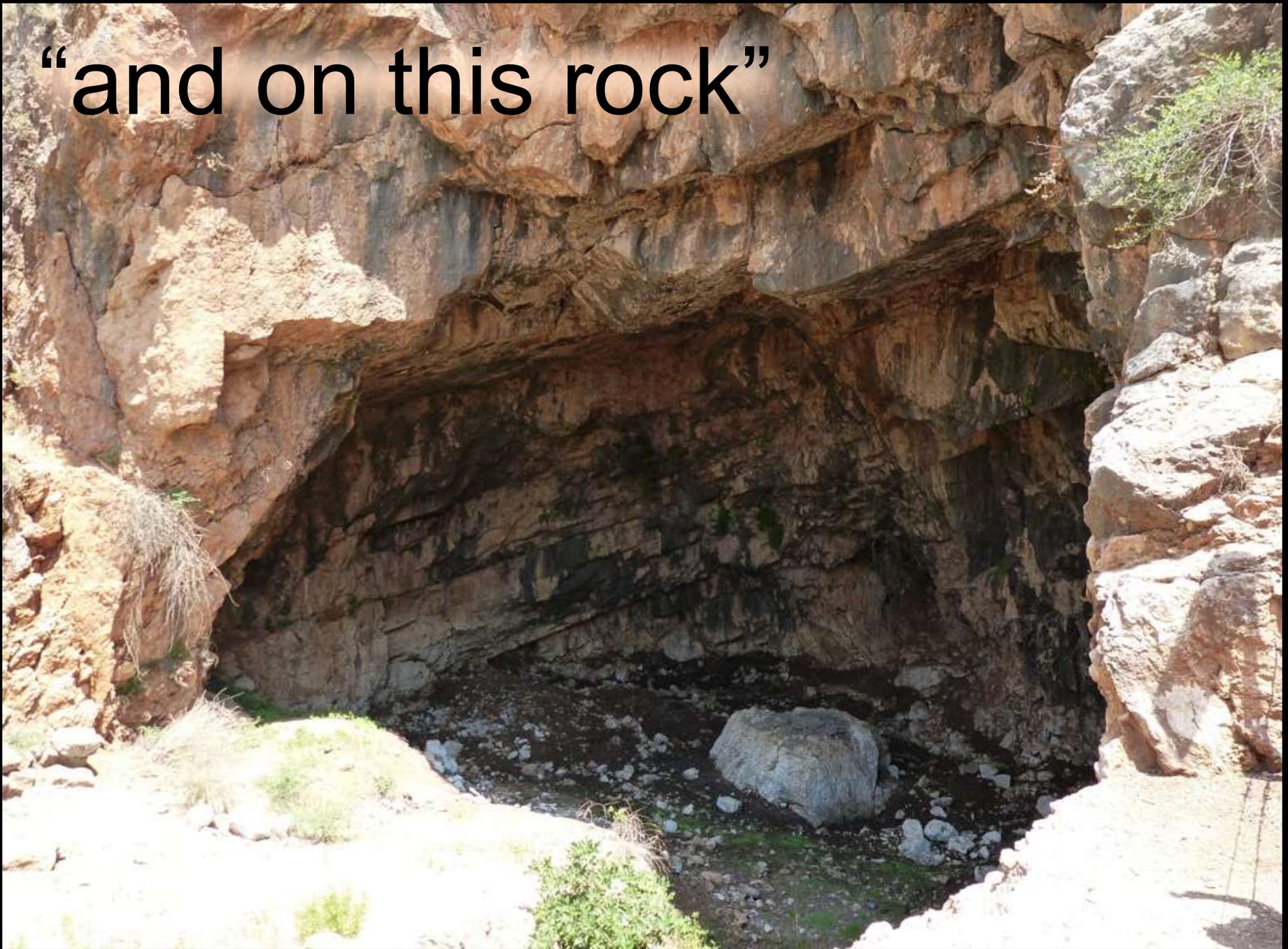


Banias

“Pan”



“and on this rock”



Lebanon

Israel

Syria

# Syrian Border

القنيطرة *al-Qunayṭrah*

דמשק

60  
Km

DAMASCUS

# “and on this ROCK”

Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." <sup>17</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

<sup>18</sup> **"And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church,** and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.





Photography by Michael Drucker







# Tell es-Sultan - Jericho









الْحَرَامِ  
الشَّرِيفِ

al-haram al-  
quds ash-  
sharif  
“Noble  
Sanctuary”





Peter: masculine = “little rock”

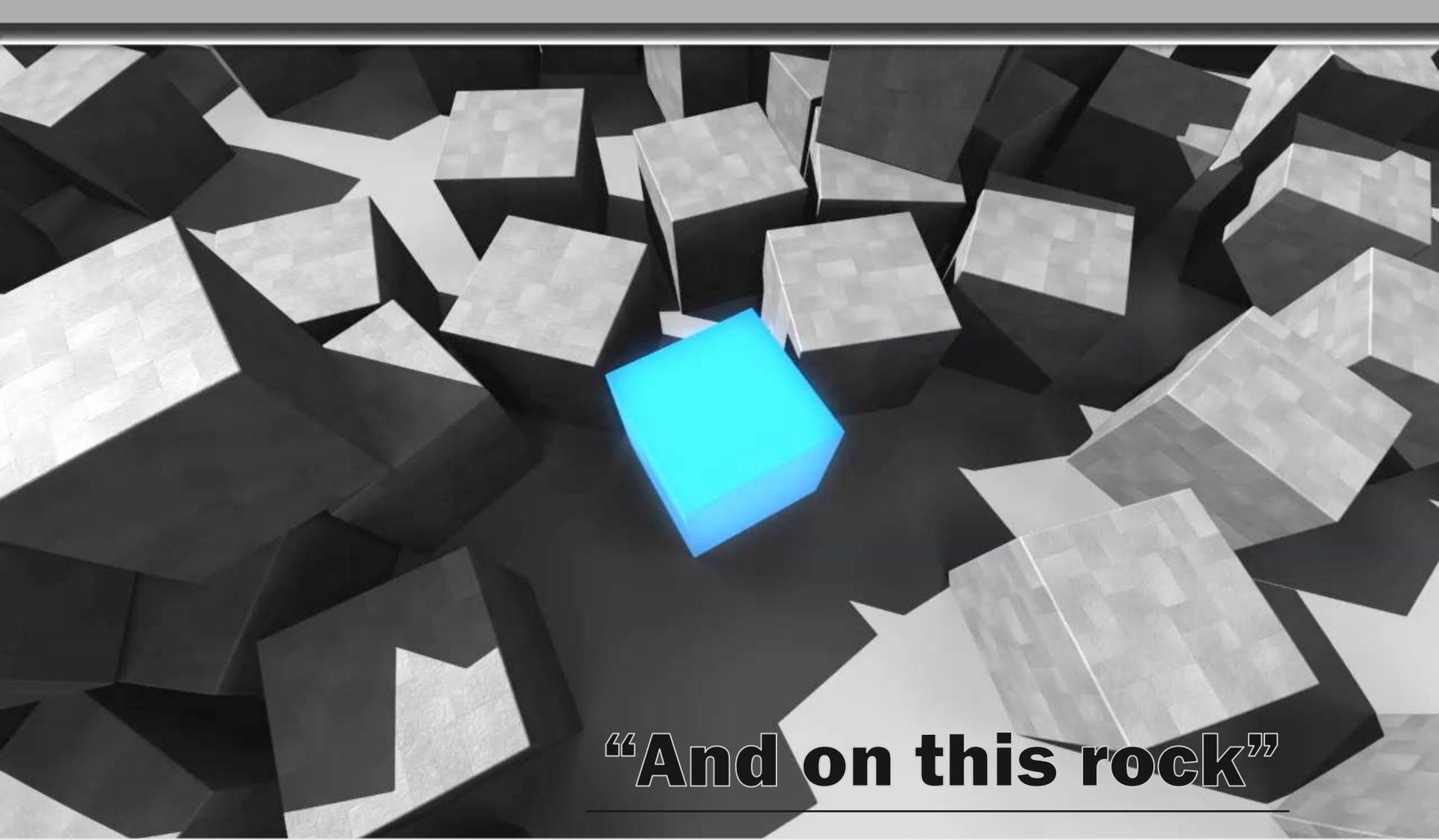
“this rock”: feminine = “big rock”





March 13, 2013

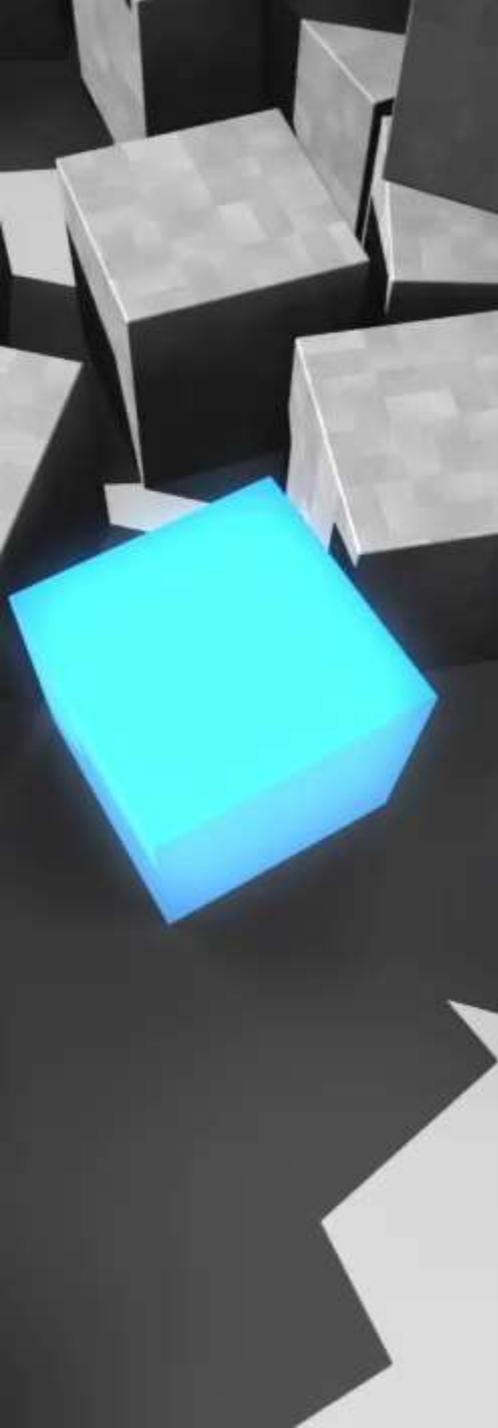




**“And on this rock”**

**Jesus Christ the Cornerstone**



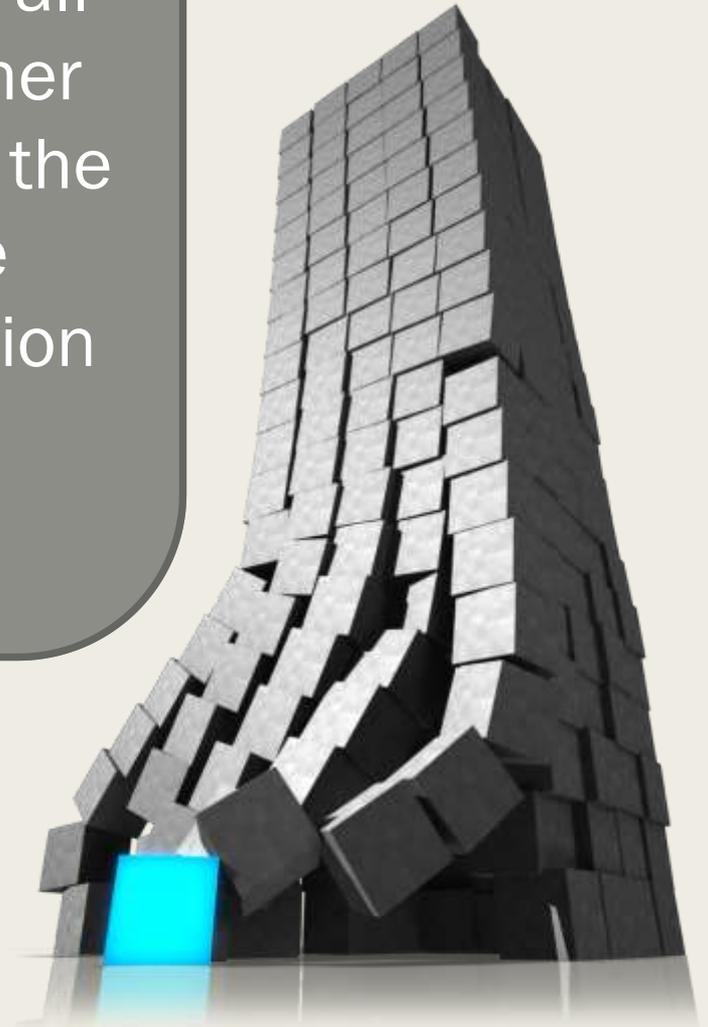


Isaiah 28:16

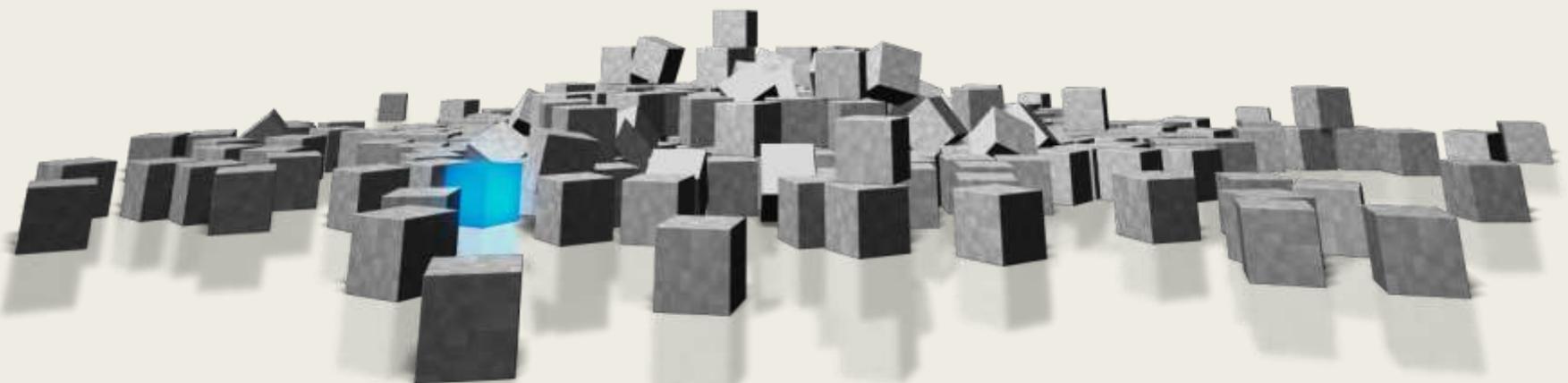
“Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner *stone*, a sure foundation.”

“And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*; <sup>21</sup> In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: <sup>22</sup> In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.”

Ephesians 2:20-22



“Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded” (1 Peter 2:6) [put to shame]



“Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: <sup>25</sup> And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock” (Matthew 7:24-25).



“and upon this rock I will build my church; and the  
gates of hell shall not prevail against it”  
(Matthew 16:18)

# Matthew 16:19



“And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”



“Woe to you experts in religious law! You have taken away the key to knowledge! You did not go in yourselves, and you hindered those who were going in.” Lk 11:52

# Church. *Now What?!*

## 1. Cross and Resurrection

“From that time on Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things . . . And be killed, and on the third day be raised” (Mt 16:21).

## 2. Second Coming (Matthew 17)

## 3. Ministry (Matthew 18-20)



# Ephesians 4: Church. Manual.

“And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.”



# E-Mail:



“Instead of keeping the ministers at work for the churches that already know the truth, let the members of the churches say to these laborers: “Go work for souls that are perishing in darkness. We ourselves will carry forward the services of the church. We will keep up the meetings, and, by abiding in Christ, will maintain spiritual life. We will work for souls that are about us, and we will send our prayers and our gifts to sustain the laborers in more needy and destitute fields.” 6 T30

# #church members #priorities

“God has not given his ministers the work of setting the churches right. No sooner is this work done apparently, than it has to be done over again. Church members that are thus looked after and labored for become religious weaklings. If nine tenths of the effort that has been put forth for those who know the truth had been put forth for those who have never heard the truth, how much greater would have been the advancement made!” 7T 18

“The ministers are hovering over churches, which know the truth, while thousands are perishing out of Christ. If the proper instruction were given, if the proper methods were followed, every church member would do his work as a member of the body. . . . They should be taught that unless they can stand alone, without a minister, they need to be converted anew, and baptized anew. They need to be born again.”

*(GC Bulletin, Apr 12, 1901, p. 204).*



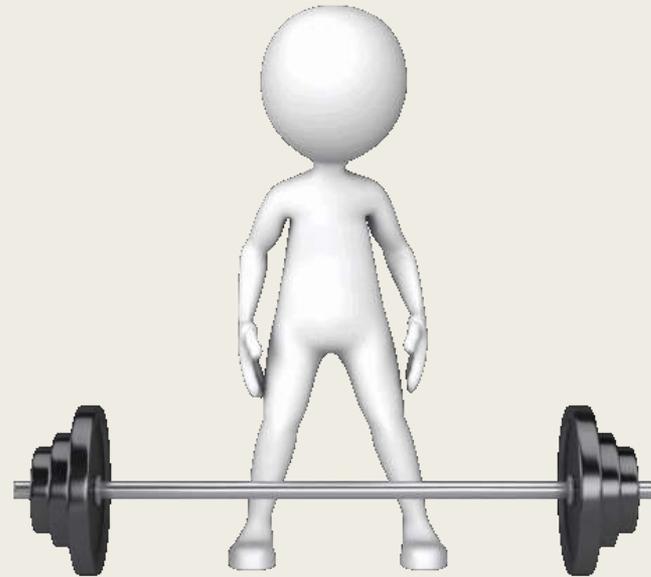
# Helicopter Pastors

# Maximum Ministry

“The work of God in the earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers.” GW 351-352

“If pastors would give more attention to getting and keeping their flock actively engaged at work, they would accomplish more good, have more time for study and religious visiting, and also avoid many causes of friction.” GW 197-198

“Sermons have been in great demand in our churches. The members have depended upon pulpit declamations instead of on the Holy Spirit. Uncalled for and unused, the spiritual gifts bestowed on them have dwindled into feebleness.” 1 SM 127



“The greatest help that can be given our people is to teach them to work for God, and to depend on Him, not on the ministers.” 7T 19



# The Church: A Body



# The Church: A Flock





*The Church: A Bride*

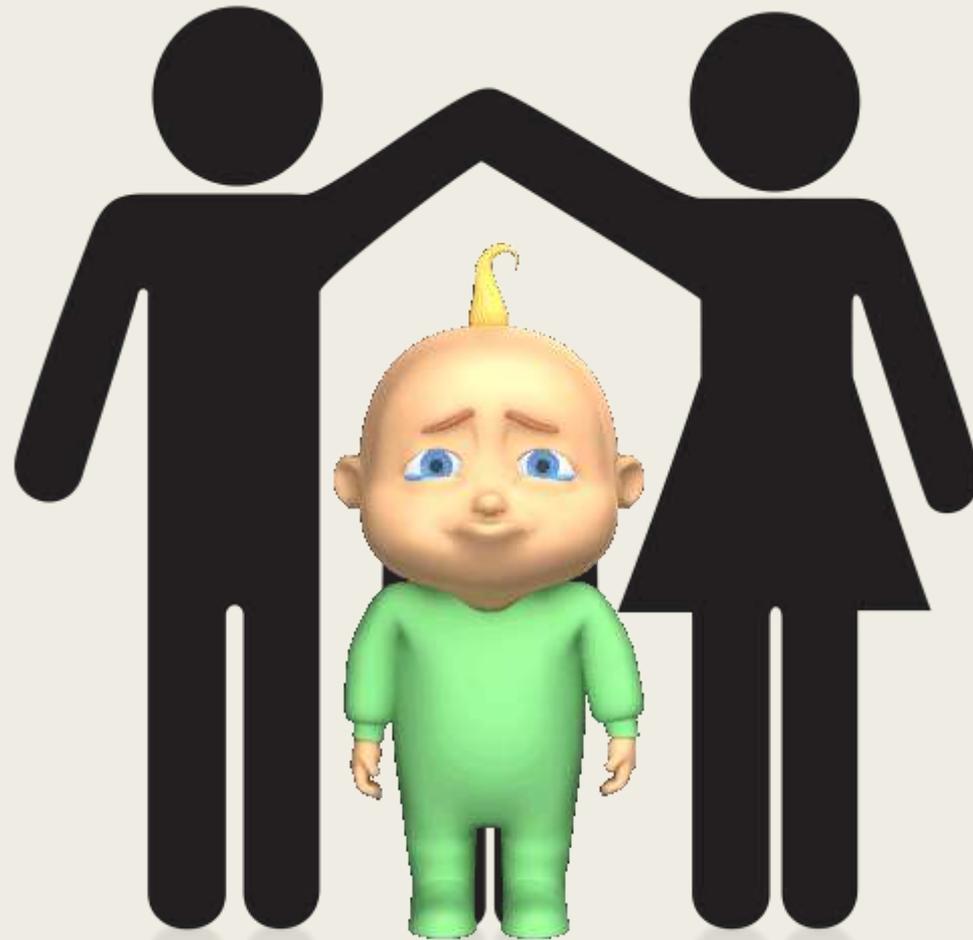
# The Church: An Army





“But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light” (1 Peter 2:9).

# The Church: A Family



# Church Attendance

“When I first became a Christian . . . I thought that I could do it on my own by retiring to my room and reading theology, and I wouldn’t go to the churches. . . . I disliked very much their hymns, which I considered to be fifth-rate poems set to sixth-rate music. But as I went on I saw the great merit of it. I came up against different people of quite different outlooks and different education, and then gradually my conceit just began peeling off. I realized that the hymns (which were just sixth-rate music) were, nevertheless, being sung with both devotion and benefit by an old saint in elastic-sided boots in the opposite pew, and then you realize that you aren’t fit to clean those boots. It gets you out of your solitary conceit.”

C. S. Lewis, *God in the Dock*, “Answers to Questions on Christianity” (1944), ans. 16, pp. 61-62

# Hebrews 10:25-26

“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is*; but exhorting *one another*: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

<sup>26</sup> For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.”

“I turned to see whose voice was speaking to me, and when I did so, I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the lampstands was one like a son of man.” Rev 1:12-13

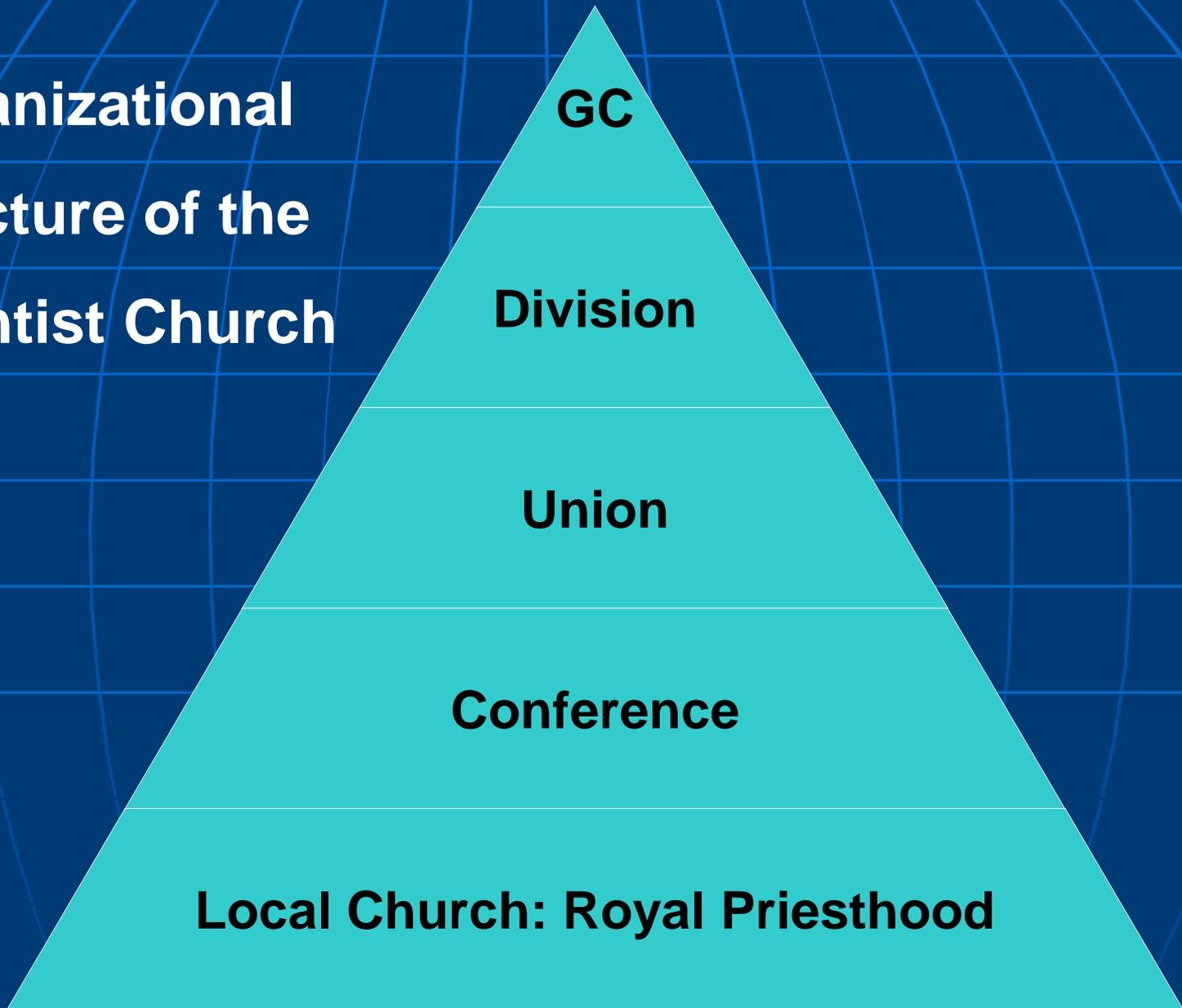


# Original Copy



# “Remnant”

**Organizational  
Structure of the  
Adventist Church**

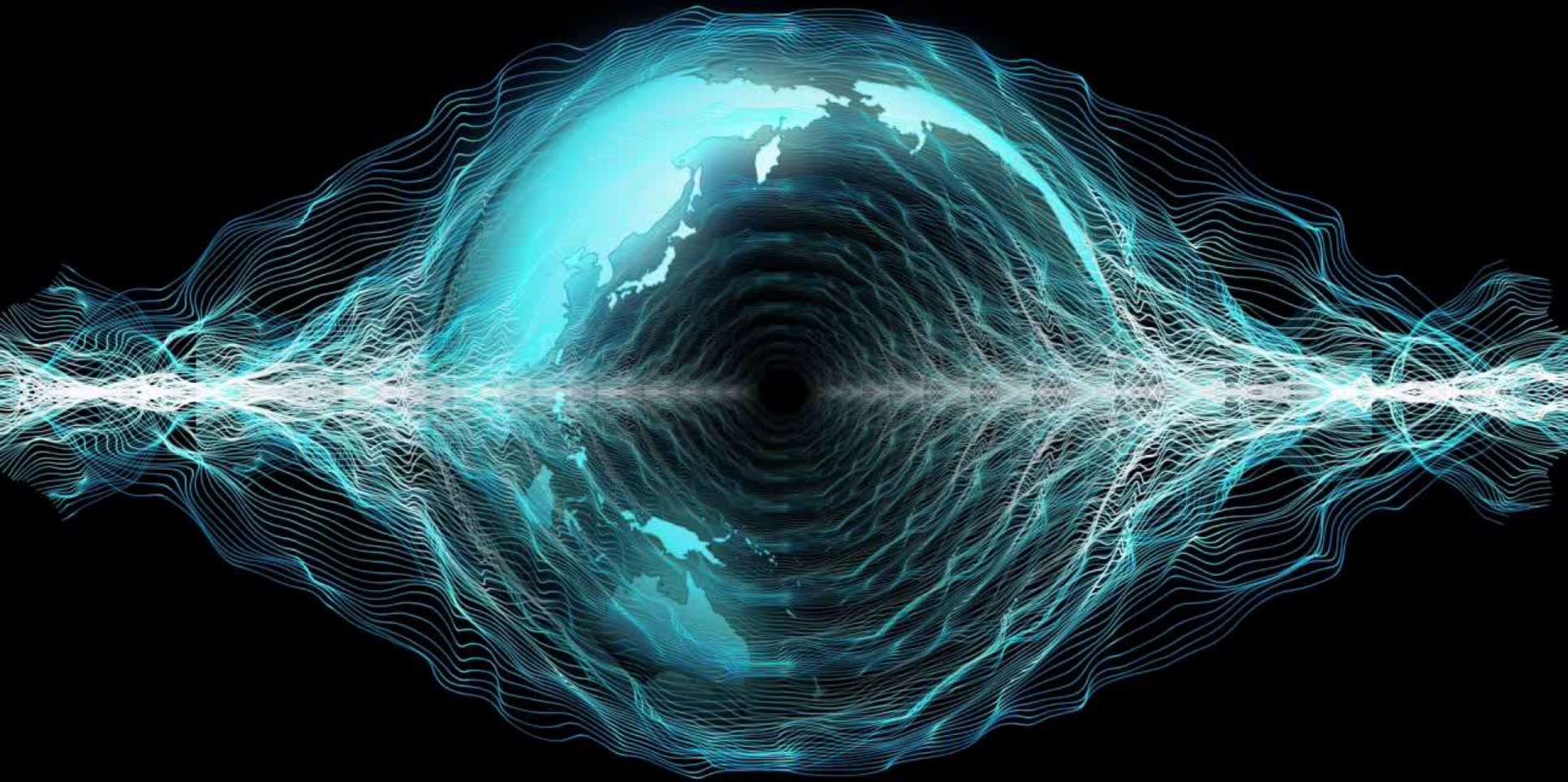


# Mission: Co-mission or O-mission?



“Then Jesus came up and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

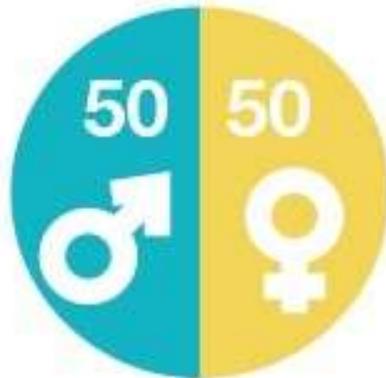
Matt 28:18-20



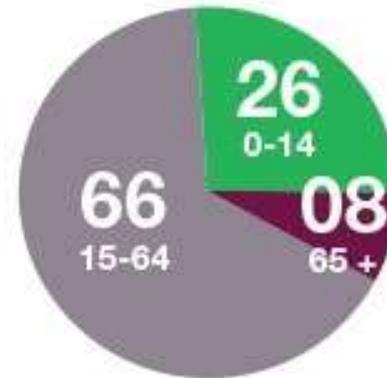
“The church is God’s appointed agency for the salvation of men. Its mission is to carry the gospel to the world. And the obligation rests upon all Christians. Everyone, to the extent of his talent and opportunity, is to fulfill the Saviour’s commission. The love of Christ, revealed to us, makes us debtors to all who know Him not. God has given us light, not for ourselves alone, but to shed upon them.” SC 81

# If the World were 100 PEOPLE

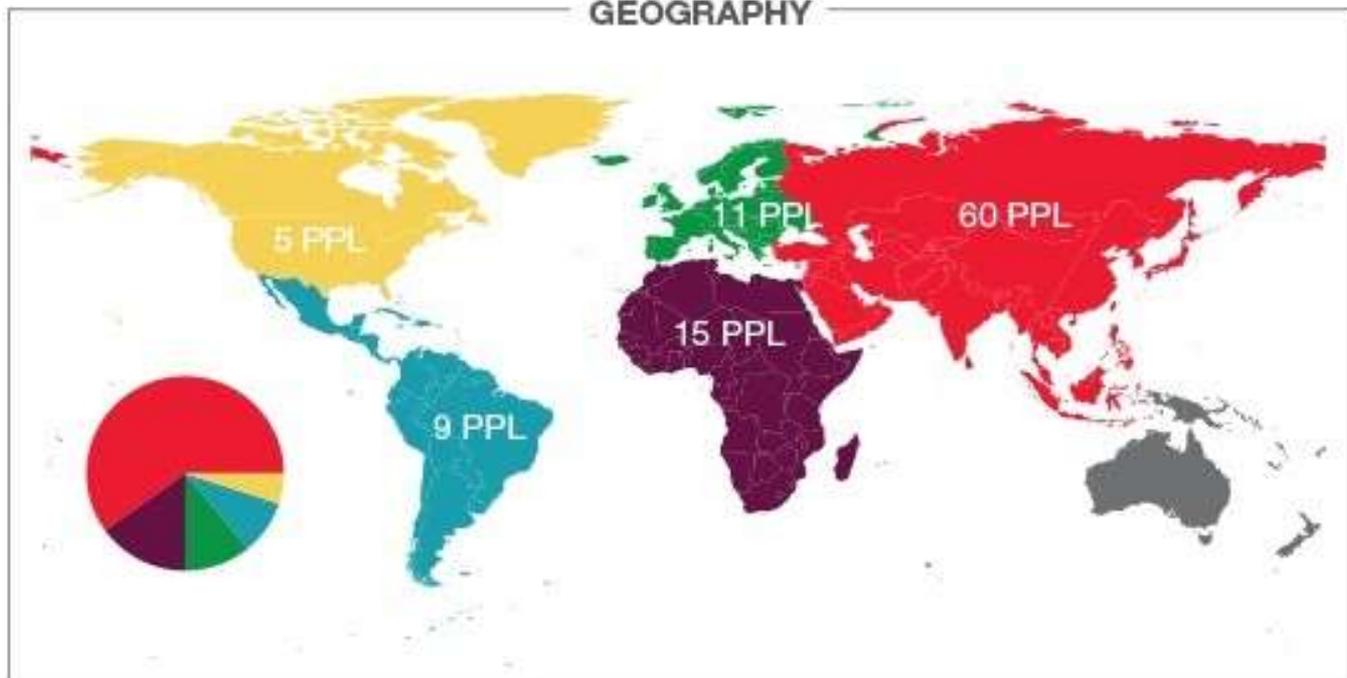
GENDER



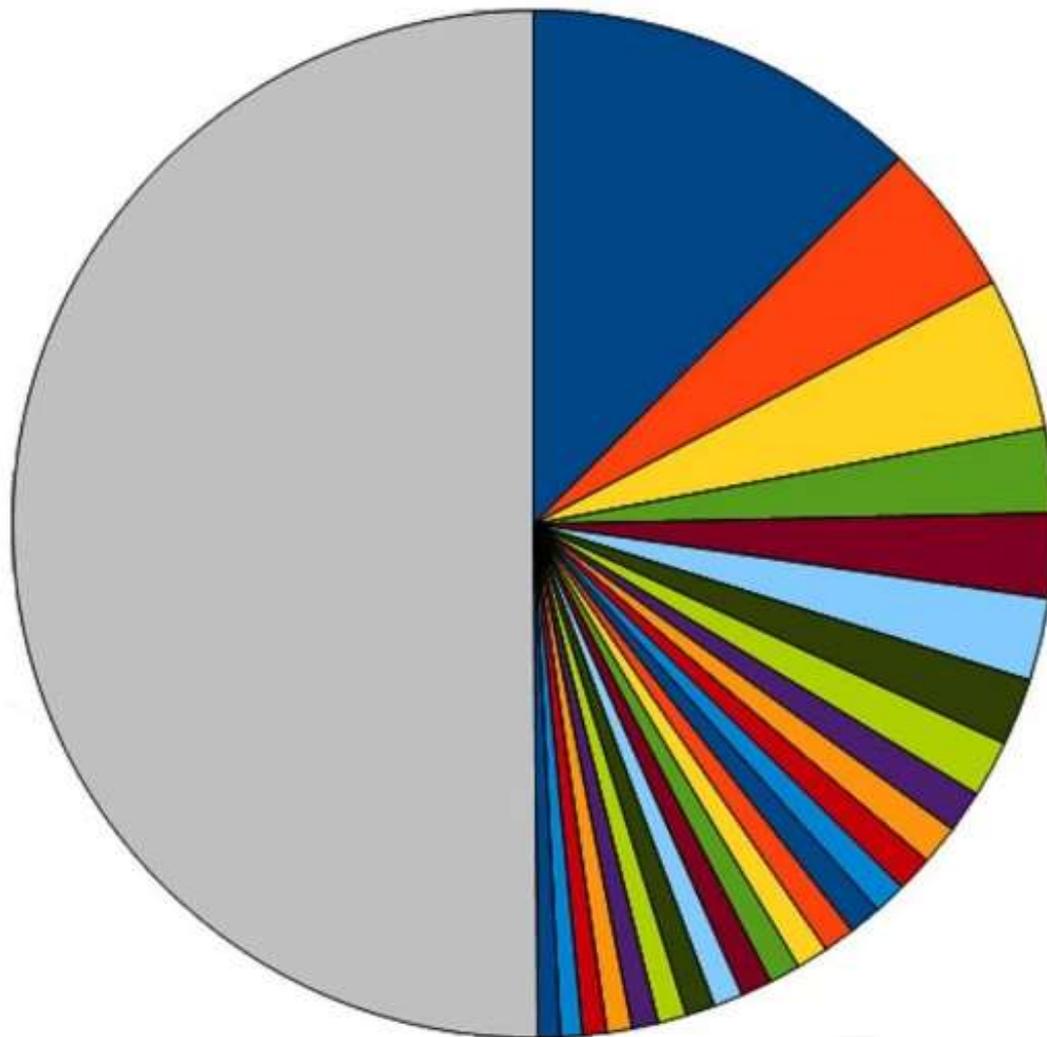
AGE



GEOGRAPHY

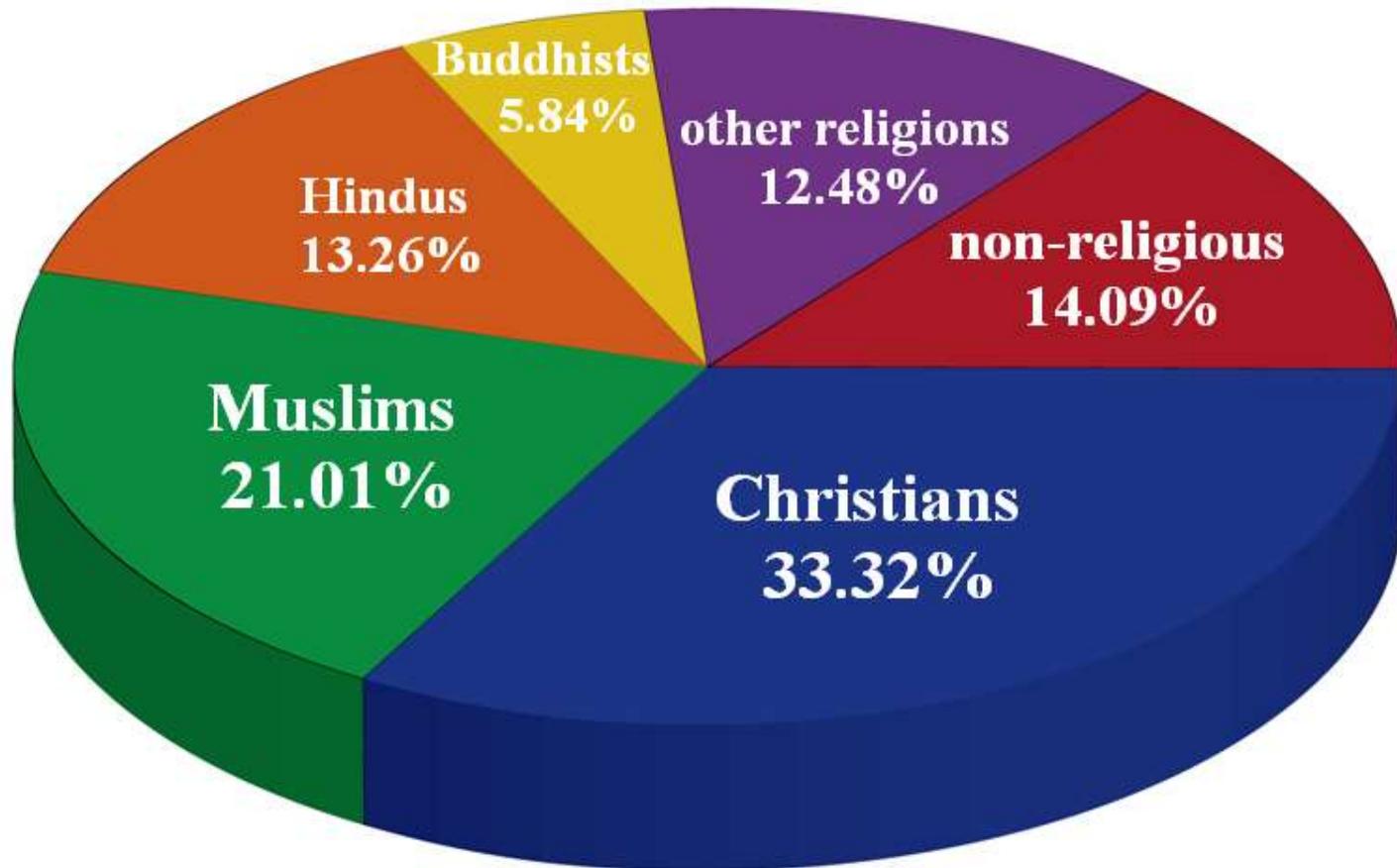


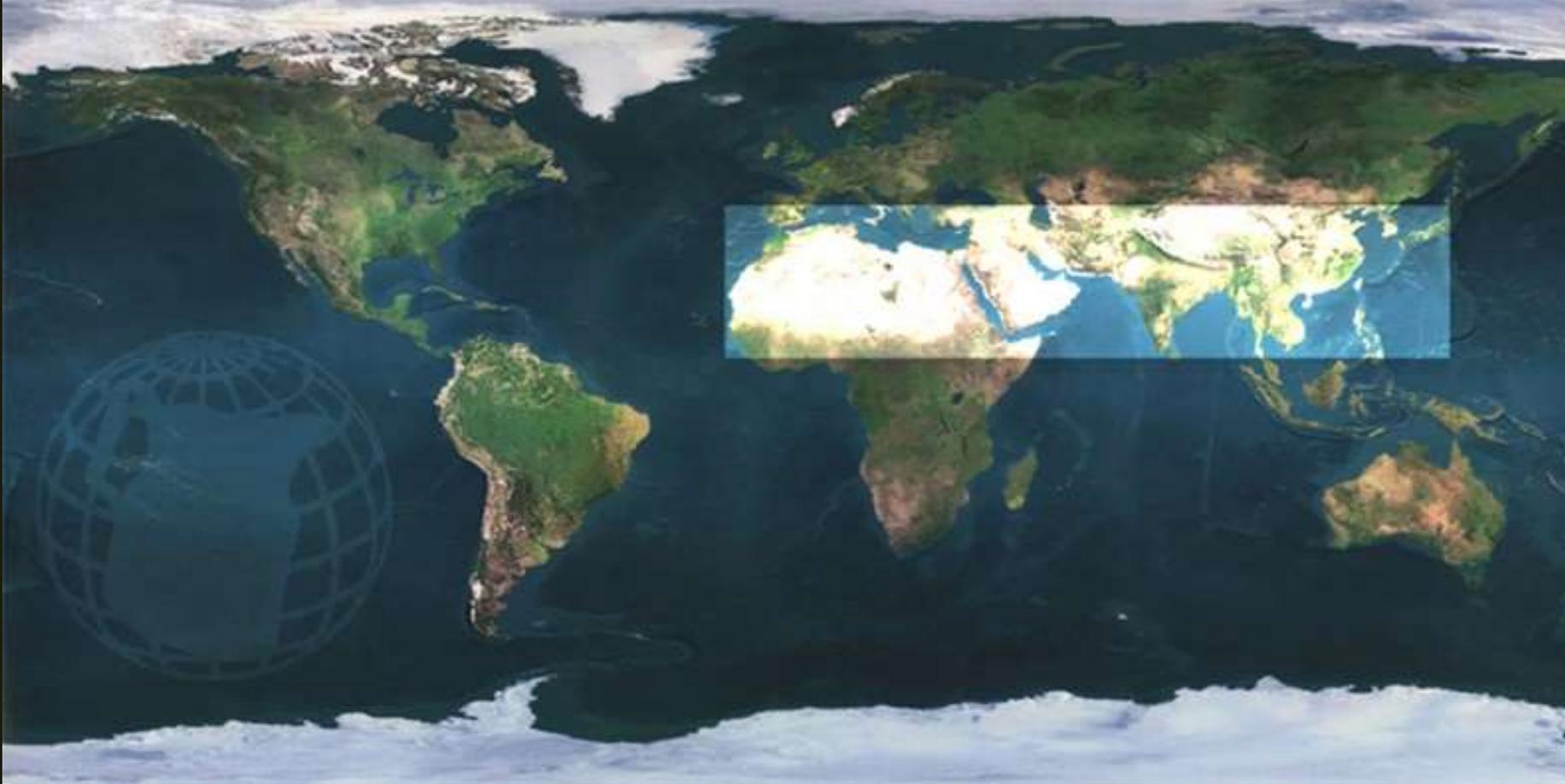
# Top 25 World Languages



- Chinese, Mandarin
- Spanish
- English
- Hindi
- Bengali
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Japanese
- German, Standard
- Javanese
- Chinese, Wu
- Telugu
- Vietnamese
- Marathi
- French
- Korean
- Tamil
- Western Panjabi
- Italian
- Urdu
- Chinese, Yue
- Egyptian Spoken Arabic
- Turkish
- Chinese, Min Nan
- Gujarati
- Rest of World

## World Religions by percentage





Secular Islam Hinduism Buddhism

# Example Japan

- Population: 127 million
- SDA: 14,974
- Ratio: 1:8,515 (US: 1:300)
- Pastors: 60
- Churches: 115
- Buddhists: 84% (others: 16%)
- Christians: .7%



# Does “Mission” work? (Christian History, xx)

	% Christians 1900	% Christians 2000
Congo-Zaire	1.4	95.4
Angola	0.6	94.1
Swaziland	1.0	86.9
Zambia	0.3	83.4
Kenya	0.2	79.3
Malawi	1.8	76.8

# The Parable of the Growing Seed

“He also said, “The kingdom of God is like someone who spreads seed on the ground. 27 He goes to sleep and gets up, night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. 28 By itself the soil produces a crop, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. 29 And when the grain is ripe, he sends in the sickle because the harvest has come.” Mk 4:26-29

← ■ I must plant to produce!

← ■ What I sow will grow!

← ■ What I put in will win!



“There are places which are now a moral wilderness, and these are to become as the garden of the Lord. The waste places of the earth are to be cultivated, that they may bud and blossom as the rose.” 6T24



# Things I wish were on Baptismal Certificates

- The church is people, not a property
- I will not be totally stunned and dejected when church members let me down; they're humans. When I see flaws in my church, I will look to Jesus, and work for the good of the church
- I will learn from people who are different, think different, believe different.

- Filled with His grace, I will be gracious
- In a world of decay, fear, lies, rigidity, and hopelessness, I will continue to prize beauty, courage, truth, creativity, and hope
- I will be a friend to people who are “difficult”
- I will resist all efforts to make me believe that I can earn my salvation, or that God cannot enable me to overcome sinful ways.

- I will risk the embarrassing moment of witnessing
- My body, God's temple
- Baptism is not the end; it's the beginning
- I will never let go of my Savior. Never, never, never.

-- adapted from Chris Blake

“Enfeebled and defective as it may appear, the church is the one object upon which God bestows in a special sense his supreme regard. It is the theater of His grace, in which He delights to reveal His power to transform hearts.” AA 12





“Now to him who by the power that is working within us is able to do far beyond all that we ask or think, 21 to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen” (Ephesians 3:20-21).