

# **Brief History God's Churches**



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## The Church in the Wilderness

A church in the Bible is never a building, it is a "called out" assembly of people. The Greek word translated "church" in the English Bible is ekklesia. This word is the Greek words kaleo (to call), with the prefix ek (out). Thus, the word means "the called out ones."

The first church began when Abram (later called Abraham) was called out from the Gentiles, and from his family, to be the beginning of a great nation.

### Genesis 12:1-3

Now the LORD had said unto Abram, **Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house**, unto a land that I will shew thee: **And I will make of thee a great nation**, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

This great, called-out people, Israel, was the "Church in the Wilderness." There is only one place in the Bible where it is named.

Acts 7:37-39

This is he, **that was in the church in the wilderness** with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: **who received the lively oracles to give unto us:**

The Church in the Wilderness was called out of Egypt to receive and follow God's Law (the lively oracles) and to be His people.

2 Samuel 7:23-24

And what one nation in the earth is like thy people, even like **Israel, whom God went to redeem for a people to himself**, and to make him a name, and to do for you great things and terrible, for thy land, before thy people, **which thou redeemedst to thee from Egypt**, from the nations and their gods? For **thou hast confirmed to thyself thy people Israel to be a people unto thee for ever: and thou, LORD, art become their God.**

This covenant—testament—was dedicated with blood.

Hebrews 9:18-20

**Whereupon neither the first testament was dedicated without blood.** For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according

to the law, **he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you.**

Just as He promised, God established the Kingdom of Israel in the land of Canaan, with King David on the throne. God told King David that his would be an eternal kingdom for Israel on the earth, where David's son would reign forever.

### 2 Samuel 7:26

And let thy name be magnified for ever, saying, The LORD of hosts is the God over Israel: **and let the house of thy servant David be established before thee.**

When David's son Solomon inherited the throne of Israel, God told Solomon, that if he would do as God commanded him, God would make Solomon's kingdom the eternal kingdom. We know that God is talking about an eternal kingdom on the earth, because God told him, "the throne of the kingdom upon Israel forever."

### 1 Kings 9:4-5

And if thou wilt walk before me, as David thy father walked, in integrity of heart, and in

uprightness, to do according to all that I have commanded thee, and wilt keep my statutes and my judgments: **Then I will establish the throne of thy kingdom upon Israel for ever**, as I promised to David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man upon the throne of Israel.

But Solomon did not obey God, and after Solomon died, Israel was split into 2 kingdoms. After continued disobedience by the kings in both kingdoms, God finally allowed each kingdom to be carried out of its land. First, the northern kingdom, Ephraim, was carried out by Assyria, and then, the southern kingdom, Judah, was carried out by Babylon. The “Church in the Wilderness” ended when there were no more people left in the land of Israel.

After both kingdoms were carried out of their lands, faithful people of Israel continued to wait for the promised kingdom and her king.

Even though there was no more church—called out group—to work with because all of Israel had been scattered, God would never go back on His promise to Israel of an eternal kingdom for Israel on earth, with David’s son as eternal king.

Moses had prophesied about a prophet who would lead His people, as Moses had done, into their kingdom, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 7:36-37

He brought them out, after that he had shewed wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red sea, and in the wilderness forty years. This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, **A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear.**

The Church of God

We get the name of this church from the writings of Paul. Even though he was a Jew, as Saul, he was the chief persecutor of the disciples of the Lord.

Acts 9:1-2

And Saul, yet **breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord**, went unto the high priest, And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, **whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.**

Paul wrote about persecuting the Church of God.

### Galatians 1:13

For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I **persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:**

From these verses we know that the Church of God consisted of the disciples of the Lord.

The person whose job it was to call out this group of people was John the Baptist. Isaiah prophesied about John the Baptist.

### Isaiah 40:1-3

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins. **The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**

When John the Baptist showed up, he plainly told Israel that the Kingdom of Heaven was coming soon, and they needed to prepare by repenting and being water baptized. He told them that he was the one prophesied about by Isaiah.



### Matthew 3:1-3

In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, **Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.** For **this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias,** saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Water baptism was for believing Jews in preparation for baptism by the Holy Ghost. Those who did not believe would be subject to judgement—fire.

### Matthew 3:11-12

I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: **he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.**

Here is the Gospel (good news) of the coming Kingdom of Heaven. In Mark (as well as Luke and John) it is called the Kingdom of God instead of the Kingdom of Heaven, although it is the same earthly kingdom.

### Mark 1:14-15

Now after that John was put in prison, **Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.**

When Christ did come to set up the Kingdom of Heaven on earth, on Palm Sunday, the Jewish leadership rejected Him, and crucified Him several days later.

His death paid for all of the sins that were committed under the first testament, the one given to the Church in the Wilderness.

This New Testament was not sealed with animal blood like the first testament, but with the blood of Jesus Christ.

### Hebrews 9:11-12, 15

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; **Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions**

**that were under the first testament**, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

40 days after His resurrection, when He ascended to the Father, He told His disciples that they were to wait in Jerusalem until they were baptized by the Holy Ghost. Jesus' disciples then expected Him to set up His kingdom—which was always the plan.

### Acts 1:3-8

To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to **the kingdom of God**: And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, **but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me**. For John truly baptized with water; but **ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence**. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, **Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?** And he said unto them, **It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto**

**me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

120 disciples (members of the Church of God) were with Jesus as He ascended--

Acts 1:14-15

**These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,)**

--and were together when the promised baptism by the Holy Ghost took place at Pentecost.

Acts 2:1-3

**And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.** And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

Peter wanted the faithful Jews, who witnessed the baptism of the Holy Ghost at Pentecost, to understand that they had killed their Lord.

Acts 2:36

Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, **whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.**

When they believed what Peter told them about Jesus, and asked Peter what they could do, Peter told them the Gospel of the Kingdom.

Acts 2:37-38

Now **when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart**, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then **Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins**, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

3,000 more Jews believed the Gospel of the Kingdom, as they were told by Peter, and were added to the church on Pentecost (membership now 3120.) As the Gospel of the Kingdom spread, more people were added to the church daily.

Acts 2:41, 47

Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: **and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.**

<sup>47</sup> Praising God, and having favour with all the people. **And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.**

Even though the Jews had crucified their Lord and Christ, Israel still had a chance that Jesus would set up His Kingdom—if all of them would repent and believe the gospel of the kingdom.

Hosea records that Jesus Christ, even after His crucifixion and ascension, would come back to set up His Kingdom if the nation Israel would repent and seek His face.

Hosea 5:15

I will go and return to my place, **till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face:** in their affliction they will seek me early.

More and more people in Israel continued to believe the Gospel, and be added to the church, but the Jewish leadership continued to fight the Gospel of the Kingdom, and put those preaching it in prison.

Acts 5:14-18

**And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.)** Inasmuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one. **Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the sect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation, And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison.**

The final act of the unbelieving Jewish leadership was stoning the prophet Stephen, who was speaking by the Holy Ghost, making it impossible for Israel to call upon Jesus to return.

Acts 7:59-60

**And they stoned Stephen,** calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

By stoning Stephen, who was speaking for the Holy Ghost, Israel, as a nation, had committed the unpardonable sin. Remember, blasphemy against the Holy Ghost was unpardonable.

### Mark 3:28-30

Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: **But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:** Because they said, He hath an unclean spirit.

There is no record of Peter, James, and John being told to stop spreading the Gospel of the Kingdom even though Israel, as a nation, had committed the unpardonable sin. There were thousands of faithful Jews who had been baptized by the Holy Ghost at Pentecost, and continued to be thousands more added to the Church of God daily. The disciples were still spreading the Gospel of the Kingdom as Jesus had commanded, even though Israel had lost the opportunity to have their Kingdom, because of the unbelief of their leadership.

The Church of God, with the Gospel of the Kingdom, started to diminish. When the Kingdom,



once again, became a future event, Jesus Christ took His message of salvation straight to the Gentiles. Now anyone, Jew or Gentile, who believed that the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ forgave all of their sins, became a part of His Body.

## The Church, the Body of Christ

When God set aside Israel and began working directly with the Gentiles, he formed another church. This one had been a mystery, not found in prophecy. Even though the nation Israel would not be pardoned, Individual Jews could still be saved under the mystery program, the Church, the Body of Christ. This was very important to Paul who was very concerned about saving his fellow Jews.

### Romans 11:11-14

I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather **through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy.** Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and **the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles;** how much more their fulness? For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office: **If by any means I may**

**provoke to emulation them which are my flesh, and might save some of them.**

The mystery was that God would take His message of salvation straight to the Gentiles, and that the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ would save Gentiles as well as Jews.

Ephesians 3:1-6

For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, Whereby, when ye read, **ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:**

The Church, the Body of Christ, had a different gospel than the church (waiting for the Kingdom of Heaven) to which the disciples belonged. Paul (Saul) was not to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom. He and Barnabas were to preach the forgiveness of sins (without repentance or

baptism.) Belief in Jesus Christ alone justified a person from all things. A person could not be justified by following the Law of Moses.

Acts 13:1-2, 38-39

**Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.**

Paul explained that Peter's Gospel had not changed since Jesus told him to take the Gospel of the Kingdom to the Jews (circumcision,) but Paul was to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection to the Gentiles (uncircumcision.)

### Galatians 2:7-9

But contrariwise, when they saw that the gospel of the uncircumcision was committed unto me, as the gospel of the circumcision was unto Peter; (For he that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles:) And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that **we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.**

The Church, the Body of Christ will end its time on earth when we hear the sound of the trumpet, be changed to incorruption and immortality, and meet the Lord in the clouds to forever be with Him.

### 1 Corinthians 15:51-53

Behold, I shew you a mystery; **We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.**

The Holy Ghost is currently working to complete the Church, the Body of Christ. Everyone who believes that Jesus Christ died for our sins, was buried and rose again, is added, by the Holy Ghost, to the Church, the Body of Christ. After the Church, the Body of Christ is taken to heaven, God will go back to working with the Church of God to spread the Gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven on the earth.

### The Church of God (continued)

The book of Revelation was written to churches which will already be set up—after the Rapture but before the Tribulation—that Jesus calls faithful. They are a continuation of the Church of God which started with John the Baptist, and was suspended after the stoning of Stephen. They are waiting for the Kingdom of Heaven on the earth.

#### Revelation 1:4-11

**John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And**

hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. **Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him.** Even so, Amen. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty. I John, **who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation,** and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, **Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.**

Jesus was being prophetic in Matthew 24 when He said that before the end of the world (which is still future) the Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world. This will be done by 144,000 Jewish men, 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel.

Revelation 12:1-3

And I looked, and, lo, a **Lamb stood on the mount Zion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.** And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: **And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.**

It is the same Gospel of the Kingdom preached by Jesus' disciples.

Matthew 24:13-14

**But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world** for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Modern Churches

Today, God is working with only one church, the Church, the Body of Christ, but that has not stopped man from constantly creating new churches.

In 380 A.D., Roman Catholicism became the official religion of the Roman Empire. During the following 1000 years, Catholics were the only people recognized as Christians.

In 1054 A.D., a formal split occurred between the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches. This division remains in effect today.

1517 A.D.: Martin Luther publishes the 95 Theses, formalizing arguments against Roman Catholic Church doctrines and practices, and effectively marking the beginning of the Protestant separation from the Catholic Church.

After the Protestant separation from the Catholic Church, the Protestants started separating from each other. Common **denominational churches**, were churches such as the Baptist, Catholic, Presbyterian, Lutheran, or Methodist. Church denominations are larger organizations that hold a particular identity, set of beliefs (not necessarily Biblical) and traditions.

**Non-denominational churches** first arose during the latter half of the 20th Century. A non-denominational church is a Christian church that holds no connection with the recognized denominations. In non-denominational churches,



each church makes decisions on various parts of church life for itself.

**Dispensational churches** are non-denominational. The teaching focuses on the two distinct peoples of God: Israel and the Church. Dispensationalists believe that salvation has always been by grace through faith alone—in God in the Old Testament and specifically in God the Son in the New Testament. Dispensationalists hold that the Church has not replaced Israel in God’s program and that the Old Testament promises to Israel have not been transferred to the Church.

Many churches, denominational and non-denominational, teach that the Church, the Body of Christ was begun at Pentecost with the disciples. They do not understand that Pentecost was the final part of Jesus Christ’s earthly ministry *to the Jews*. Remember, the believing Jews were to repent and be baptized with water, waiting for Jesus Christ to come and baptize them with the Holy Ghost (at Pentecost.)

The 3000 believing Jews who received the Holy Ghost at Pentecost were added to an existing Jewish church, the Church of God, which consisted of believing Jews waiting for their earthly kingdom, with Christ as their King. The Church of

God began diminishing as soon as the Jewish leadership stoned Stephen, and Jesus Christ had to postpone setting up His Kingdom for a later time. It was still gathering members after that, but God set them aside and turned His attention to the Gentiles. The Church that was “added to” is not the Church that He is working with today.

The Catholic Church is one that says it traces its history to Jesus’ earthly ministry. But that cannot be. Peter could not have been their first Pope. The first leader of the Church, the Body of Christ, the only active Church God is working with today, was Paul! The Catholics chose Peter based on the following scripture.

### Matthew 16:16-19

And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That **thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 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.

The mistake here is that Peter is not the rock Jesus is talking about, Peter is a stone. Following is why many misunderstand what Jesus told Peter.

### John 1:40-42

One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, **Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.**

Christ could never build His church upon a man! The Rock is Christ. Paul is talking about the Church in the Wilderness in the following passage.

### 1 Corinthians 10:1-4

Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that **all our fathers** were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; **And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;** And did all eat the same spiritual meat; **And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they**

**drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them:  
and that Rock was Christ.**

Peter will receive the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven (on the earth.) He will be the gatekeeper. Jesus tells us that there will be a screening process to get into the Kingdom. Since Peter has the keys, when Christ comes to set up His Kingdom, Peter will monitor who gets in and who does not, using the Book of Life.

Matthew 25:34

Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, **Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:**

The “blessed of my Father” people are the ones found in the Lamb’s book of life. Jesus tells John about the new city of Jerusalem.

Revelation 21:23-27

And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. **And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it:** and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. **And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day:** for there shall be

no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. **And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.**

<b>Called Out Assembly</b>	Church in the Wilderness	Church of God	The Church, the Body of Christ	Church of God
<b>Beginning</b>	Abraham	John the Baptist	Paul	John plus 144,000
<b>Leader</b>	Moses	Jesus	Holy Ghost	Jesus
<b>Gospel</b>	The Law	Repent and be Baptized in the name of Christ for the forgiveness of your sin	Believe in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus for forgiveness of your sin	Repent and be Baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness your sin.
<b>Goal</b>	Kingdom of Heaven on the earth	Kingdom of Heaven on the earth	Kingdom of Heaven in Heaven	Kingdom of Heaven on the earth
<b>End</b>	Both kingdoms carried out of their lands	Suspended for Stoning Steven Temple destroyed in 70 A.D.	Rapture	Walk into Kingdom of Heaven on the earth. Eternal

Our apostle Paul told us how to set up our local church. The Church, the Body of Christ consists of thousands of groups of different sizes and peoples, with different focuses. The only guidance is that bishops, deacons, elders, and steward are listed, with the qualifications for each position.

1 Timothy 3:2, 12

**A bishop** then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

<sup>12</sup>Let **the deacons** be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

Titus 1:5-6

For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and **ordain elders in every city**, as I had appointed thee: If any be **blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.**

1 Corinthians 4:1-2

Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and **stewards of the mysteries of God.** **Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.**

2 Timothy 2:1-2

Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, **the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.**

Anything else has been added by man.