

The Church is the Place of God's Expression

Even though the nation of Israel is God's people in an outward way, and God has some amount of expression through them, the church is where God is really expressed in a full way. The church can become God's full expression because He puts His life in us. Eventually the church will fully express God in His wonderful person. Then all the world will know what God is like. They will see Him in the church.

Even though God will have His full expression in the church in the future, this expression

of God exists and is growing in the church today. Because the Lord's blessing is upon the church, we are His expression today. When we live our lives in a proper way, we can express God. When we obey our parents and do the things that we ought to do, we also express God. This is why we need to learn the proper way to live and learn how to pray to God to help us to live that way. We learn these things in the church. The church is a wonderful place.



The earth is the Lord's.

God's Authority is Also in the Church

God's authority is also in the church. It is through the church, especially through the prayers of the saints, that God is able to manage the universe. The church is like a seed that has begun to grow. When the church is full grown, it will become the kingdom of God, the place where God's authority is. Even today we are the kingdom of God in a growing way. Eventually God will rule the earth as well as the entire universe through His kingdom on the earth. The church today is just this growing kingdom.

God's Creation

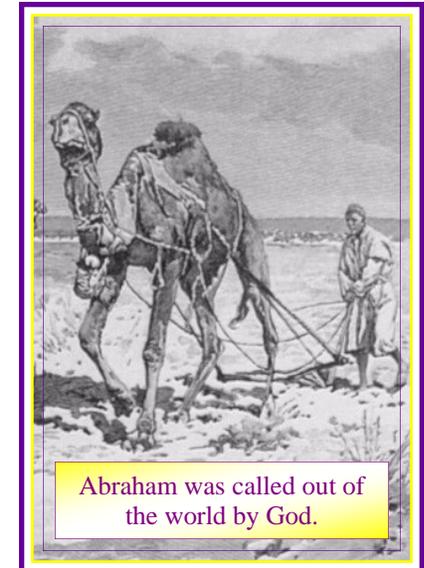
- Lesson Twenty -

The Heavens and the Earth Are for Man (9)

In the last lesson we saw that the earth is the place where God has His expression in His person and authority. In this lesson we will look at how God gains this expression and representation in the church. Because of the fall of man, all people are born into the world. The world is not for God, it is against God. The "world" means everything that man uses to make himself happy that is apart from God. God is man's real source of happiness, and the place where man can enjoy God and all of His blessings is in the church.

God Wants a People Separated from the World

The world came into being because of man's fall. The world keeps people away from God, and can never make us happy. Since God wants us to be with Him and to be happy, He decided to call some people back to Himself. God began to do this with a man named Abraham. God called Abraham out of the world. Abraham followed God and came to a piece of land the God gave to him. Eventually Abraham's children became a great nation in that land; the nation of Israel. Israel is a nation of people who were separated from the world unto God.



Abraham was called out of
the world by God.

Jesus Christ is Born in Israel

Memory Verse

*Upon this rock
I will build My church,
and the gates of Hades shall not
prevail against it.*

Matthew 16:18

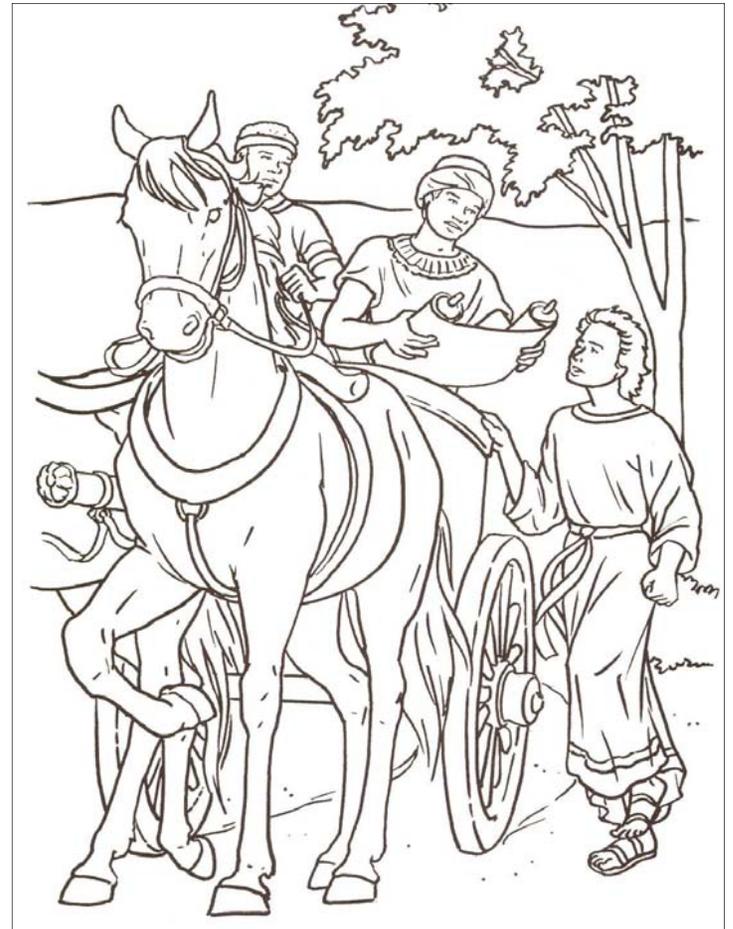
From the nation of Israel was born God's promised Savior, Jesus Christ. In Israel, men were separated from the world and unto God in an outward way, but they were never really changed, never really saved. But when Jesus Christ came, He established the church. In the church men can be saved and brought to God in the deepest way. In the church we can have God's life and nature and can express God in the fullest way.

The church makes God very happy. Being in the church also makes man very happy. The church is our real home, the place where we can be with the other saints and enjoy God together with them.



The church makes God and man happy.

Color this picture with your colored pencils.



Phillip was so excited about the church that he ran to the chariot of the Ethiopian to tell him about Jesus Christ and how God wants us to be in His church.

Parents Initials: