



# Faith Bible Baptist Church



~ Preaching Notes ~

*"And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain." (1 Corinthians 15:14)*

Speaker: **Pastor Art Kohl**

Date: **2-8-04 PM**

Title: Church Polity and Organization – Part 1

Text: **Ephesians 3:20-21**

## **I. Towns in the Bible with local churches:**

Church at Jerusalem – Acts 8:1; 11:22  
 Church at Cencrea – Romans 16:1  
 Church at Laodicea – Colossians 4:16  
 Church at Ephesus – 2 Timothy 4:22; Revelation 2:1  
 Church at Babylon – 1 Peter 5:13  
 Church at Pergamos – Revelation 2:12  
 Church at Sardis – Revelation 3:1

Church at Antioch – Acts 11:26; 13:1  
 Church at Corinth – 1 Corinthians 1:2  
 Church at Thessalonica – 1&2 Thessalonians 1:1  
 Church at Crete – Titus 3:15  
 Church at Smyrna – Revelation 2:8  
 Church at Thyatira – Revelation 2:18  
 Church at Philadelphia – Revelation 3:7

## **II. Regions with local churches in the Bible:**

Churches of Galilee – Acts 9:31  
 Churches of Syria – Acts 15:41  
 Churches of Macedonia – 2 Corinthians 8:1  
 Churches of Galatia – 1 Corinthians 16:1; Galatians 1:2  
 Churches of Judaea – Acts 9:31; Galatians 1:22; 1 Thessalonians 2:14

Churches of Samaria – Acts 9:31  
 Churches of Cilicia – Acts 15:41  
 Churches of Asia – 1 Corinthians 16:19

**Statement #1 – “We do not believe in the Universal Church, but the local church.”**

**Statement #2 – “We do not believe in the invisible Church but the visible regionalized institutional church.”**

The word “churches” (plural) appears 36 times in the New Testament, reiterating that the true church is not universal but local. Not one but many.

The phrase “whole church” is found three times in the New Testament. This is always a reference to a local church. Therefore we conclude that a local church is a whole church, not part of a universal church. For example: 1 Corinthians 14:23, “If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, ...”

The phrase “in the church” is found twelve times in the New Testament. This would also indicate that the church is an assembly of believers. A place that people go into. Not an invisible body but a local fellowship. Example: 1 Corinthians 14:19, “Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue. Colossians 4:16, “And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.”

## **III. There are certain things that are unique to the local church that makes it unlike any place on earth. The church is:**

**1. A place with a special \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ .**

**2. A place of special \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ .**

**3. A place of special \_\_\_\_\_ .**

**4. A place of special \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ .**

**5. A place of special \_\_\_\_\_ given to \_\_\_\_\_ .**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*“But hath in due times manifested his word through **preaching** ...” (Titus 1:3)*