



Cherreguine Bible Doctrine Ministries

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THE CHURCH AGE

The Church Age is a brilliant advance in biblical history with marvelous perspective in the progress of divine dispensations. The Age of Israel ended with the Advent of Christ in his perfect humanity, greater things had come (Hebrews 1:1-2).

The Church arrived on the scene as an amazing expression of God's power and grace. The Church is a breath -taking spiritual phenomenon. Never before in the history of mankind the believer in Christ help such position in relation to the Godhead (John 14:12)¹.

The Church is the unique body of believers, united with Christ by His spiritual death on the cross and by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Church is a body of extraordinary people who have received spectacular privileges from God through the merits of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Church Age began in A.D. 30 on the day of the Jewish Pentecost and will terminate with the Rapture of all Church Age believers (physically alive) or resurrection (physically death). The Church Age era alone offers the greatest challenge to the individual believer in all human history. This is the era of the royal family of God. Every Church Age believer belongs to Christ's royal family, founded as a consequence of His strategic victory at the cross and His rejection by Israel (1 Peter 2:9).

During the course of the Church Age God is forming this body of believers for the maximum glorification of the Lord Jesus Christ. Every believer of the Church Age received the new royal status of the resurrected Christ and extends the great power of the hypostatic union into great power of the Church Age. The position, assets and opportunity given to the Church Age believers are marvelous. The dispensation of the Church is the era of the royal family of God, founded as a result of Christ's strategic victory at the cross and His rejection by Israel.

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the Excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. For you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy" (1 Peter 2:9-10).

The adoption and acceptance of the Church Age believers into the kingdom of God is through the complete work of Christ, who received God's mercy. The believers are the genuine recipients of God's mercy. Divine mercy is related to the free gift of salvation, believed and received by sinners through their non-meritorious faith in Christ's death on the cross on their behalf.

¹ See page 131

The Church is the body of believers spread out around the world designed for maximum glorification of the Lord Jesus Christ. God gives each Church Age believer the new spiritual status of the resurrected Jesus Christ, and also extends the power of the Hypostatic Union into the great power of the Church Age. Christ holds three titles of royalty, each with a royal family:

As God –He is called the SON OF GOD; His royal family is God the Father and God the Holy Spirit (Romans 1:4).

As a Man – He is called the Son of David; His royal family is the Davidic dynasty.

As Conqueror – He is called; the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords, and the Bright Morning Star, his royal family is the Church. The spiritual position, asset, opportunity & spiritual resources given to believers place the Church age believers in contrast to the family and nation of other era.