

The Church... "A Mystery, in the Old Testament"

Submitted By: Bob Duncan | For The 01.22.24 Meeting

Read Chapters: Acts 2 & 3

The Historical Background of the Book Of Acts:

The book of Acts is a transitional book and a record of some of the things that happened during the years of 30 A. D. to 60 A.O. (Approx.) It records God's change in dealing with man, from Judaism, under the Mosaic Law, to The Church, under the Principle of Grace.

I. The Historical Background Of Acts Chapters: (2 & 3)

a. The emphasis in the ministries of John the Baptist, Christ and the Disciples. The presentation of the coming of the Messiah and His kingdom.

— **Mat. 3:1-3** John the Baptist: "*Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*"

— **Mat. 4:17** Christ: "*Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*"

— **Mat. 10:7** The Disciples: "*The kingdom of heaven is at hand.*"

b. The rejection of Christ by the Jewish leaders.

— **Mat. 12:22-32** The beginning of the Rejection.

— **Mat. 13:10-11** Christ announces "*the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven.*"

— **Mat. 23:37-39** Christ announces the consequences of His rejection by Israel.

c. The disciples' question for Christ after His death and resurrection, before His ascension.

— **Acts 1:6** "*Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?*"

Note:

- *All of the above passages in Matthew have reference to the Messiah and His kingdom.*
- *All of those mentioned in the above passages were Jews.*
- *There is no mention of the Church.*
- *Christ only used the word church, "ekklesia" 2 times in His ministry, (Mat. 16:18; 18:17.)*

The word "ekklesia" means "assembly" or "group" in its normal meaning, and was not used exclusively with the concept of the Church. The disciples would probably have understood that He was talking about a group within Judaism and not a new unknown group, ie. the Church.

II. Acts Chapters 2 & 3:

- All of the events are within the context of Judaism.
- All those mentioned were Jews or proselytes*.
- There is no mention of the Church.
- **Acts 2:1-13** The background of Peter's discourse. The Day of Pentecost/The coming of the Holy Spirit.
- **Acts 2:14-40** Peter's discourse. Another presentation of the Messiah and His kingdom. Peter mentions that what was happening at that time was related to Joel's prophecy concerning the Messiah's coming. **Joel 2:28-32**
- **Acts 3:1-11** The background of Peter's discourse. The healing of the lame beggar at the Temple gate.
- **Acts 3: 12-26** Peter's discourse. Another presentation of the Messiah and His kingdom. Peter mentions that all of the O.T. prophets had announced the Messiah's coming. (*verses 17-24*)



Lesson Instructor: *Bob Duncan is a Bible country in the military and has been a Church Ministry of Helps most of his adult life.*

College Graduate who has served his Believer, Pastor, Elder and involved In The Bob has lent his biblical study experience to countless Bible Studies, Churches and Men's Groups in both the U.S. and Panama.

You May Contact Bob Duncan Through This Ministry Below:

SkipsBibleStudy@gmail.com

About This Week's LESSON:

This Concludes Part 3 of a 3 part series of an excerpt out of Elder, Bob Duncan's Comprehensive Study Outline entitled:

The Church... "A Mystery, in the Old Testament"

originally taught at Skip's [1.22.24](#) Bible Study Meeting.

The Purpose of this study is to reveal many of the distinct differences between scriptures that are exclusively about Israel from those speaking only of the Church.

Both pointing to and being fulfilled as prophesied by God in the end times, while being completely different in their purpose and timing.

It is our prayer that you will find this study outline, either in their separated 3 weekly lesson formats posted by the following dates, taught in Skip's website, weekly lesson archives"

[12.18.23](#) | [01.08.24](#) | [1.22.24](#)

or in it's complete PDF composite file offering:

[The Church... "A Mystery, in the Old Testament"](#)

...to be edifying and noteworthy of your time spent in studying it and/or reviewing it often enough to be able to help others rightfully divide the word of truth (the Bible).

For more information on Skip's weekly Bible Study Lessons or how you can attend one of his live meetings please visit the website or email your questions to:

SkipsBibleStudy.com

SkipsBibleStudy@gmail.com