**DEVELOPING GOD’S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE CHURCH**

 **What God Thinks About the Church** **(1 Peter 2:4-12)**

***Introductory Remarks:***

***God Says the Church is:***

* A spiritual house made of living stones (Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Corinthians 3:5-17; Hebrews 3:1-6; Matthew 16:18):
* A holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices (Exodus 19:5-6; Isaiah 61:6; Romans 12:1-2; Philippians 4:18; Hebrews 13:15-16):
* Those who will not be put to shame (*shame*: Psalm 22:3-5; 25:23; Romans 9:33;10:11 1 Peter 3:16 1 John 2:28):
* A chosen race (Deuteronomy 7:6-11; Ephesians 5:25-33; Revelation 5:9-10; Genesis 12:1-3; Galatians 3:7-9):
* A royal priesthood/holy nation (Exodus 19:6; Revelation 5:9-10; 7:9)
* A people for God’s possession (Exodus 6:7; 19:5; Psalm 135:1-4; Isaiah 43:18-21; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Malachi 3:17; Titus 2:11-14):
* A people called to proclaim God’s excellencies (Psalm 71:14-16; 73:28; 79:13; 119:13; Isaiah 42:8, 12; 48:9-11; Revelation 4:11; 5:9-10):
* A people called out of darkness into his marvelous light (2 Corinthians 4:6; Ephesians 5:8-14; Colossians 1:12-13; 1 Thessalonians 5:4-5; 1 John 1:5-7; 2:9-11):
* Those who have received mercy (Hosea 1:6, 9; 2:1, 23: Isaiah 63:7-9; Luke 1:50; Romans 9:14-26; Ephesians 2:1-10; 1 Timothy 1:15-17; Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 1:3;
* Sojourners and exiles in this world (Genesis 23:4; Hebrews 11:8-10; Acts 7:1-6; Philippians 3:17-21; Colossians 3:1-4; 1 Peter 1:17-19; see also Mark 3:31-35; 10:28-30):
* People called to be a pure, God-honoring example to the world (1 Peter 2:11-12; Matthew 5:3-16; 1 Peter 3:13-17):

**GOD LOVES THE CHURCH AND WILL DO WHAT IS NECESSARY TO MAKE HER HOLY! (Ephesians 5:25-32)**

**OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD THE CHURCH IS OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD CHRIST!**

 **(Acts 9:1-5; 1 Corinthians 15:9; Galatians 1:14; Matthew 25:31-46)**