

COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234

Focus on God's Word Find the Truth Follow the Lord



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 11:00 AM
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



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The Correspondent

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God's Divine Institution

Ron Thomas

In the first 4 chapters of Ephesians, the Lord's apostle (Paul) gave some brief attention to a divine institution called the church, the church that belongs to Jesus. There are some today who speak of the importance of the church, but not in the same way the New Testament does. They speak of the importance of attendance but only in respect to "Attend the church of your choice."

The importance of the church in the New Testament is great. In Ephesians 4:11-16, we receive guidance from the Holy Spirit concerning a significant function of the local church. The Lord gave gifts unto those He chose for the purpose, in Ephesians 4:11-16, to build up the body of Christ, the church (1:22-23). Those who received gifts of the Holy Spirit are men in positions of leadership and service. They had significant roles in the church to teach (4:11), with the immediate goal of edification (4:12), teaching the brethren to pattern themselves after the Lord Jesus (4:13-15). The corresponding result of that teaching would be (and is) glory to God (4:16).

The elders (also known as bishops / pastors / presbyters) of the Lord's local church of Christ needs to give attention to those within, not to those outside. This is an important point to emphasize. There are many "policemen" in the brotherhood who seek to point out the failings of others (individuals and churches). Their benefit to the Lord and the brethren is minimal if any exist at all. Probably, it is more accurate to say they cause more harm than good. Those part of this "policemen posse" refuse to see themselves as the problem, but instead see themselves as "sound brethren," faithful to the Lord in all respects seeking to thin out the chaff (as they determine it).

Some in the community responds: "There they go! Fighting again. I'm glad I am not a member of that church!"

An important lesson to learn: Within the local church, let us give attention to the Lord, His Word, and how each of us within that body can better serve the Lord and our neighbors. Let us be mindful of the two great commandments of the Lord (Matthew 22:34-40), and remember there are some in the world and, sadly, the brotherhood, who seek the local church's impairment. Give them no attention, but serve the Lord faithfully in action, worship, and understanding His will. "Wherefore be ye not foolish but understand what the will of the Lord is" (Eph. 5:17, ASV).

-Ron Thomas is the editor of Bulletin Gold

- <https://bulletingoldextra.blogspot.com/2026/08/gods-divine-institution.html>

For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth. 1 Thessalonians 1:8

THE SPIRIT OF CALEB

Numbers 14:20-24

- I. A Spirit of Trust- Numbers 14:8, Proverbs 3:5-6, Numbers 23:19, Daniel 6:23
- II. A Spirit of Courage- Numbers 14:19, 13:25-33, 2 Timothy 1:7, Matthew 10:28, Galatians 4:16
- III. A Spirit of Obedience- Numbers 14:24, Joshua 14:15, Judges 1:20, 1 John 5:3, Matthew 7:24-25
- IV. A Spirit of Patience- Joshua 14:7,10, Romans 2:6-7, Galatians 6:9

Numbers 14:20-24

T T E J I I E R E E G I F R R
 S E R V A N T S V V R S P S L
 N M L D I A P G R O A E I V T
 R D E L L I F N R S I L R R R
 E S C N R A E D A D I C D M R
 N R R I N I O O P F T G E H V
 L R T T E A C C O R D I N G T
 D E D E E H E R L G R E O S L
 L L Y A S E F I R E O R D T E
 A D R I V A G C A E W S R N R
 T T O I L L A C R O C L A E D
 H E L L W F S A M D D E P R E
 E I G D D J D L S E D I Y E W
 C E E W I L D E R N E S S F O
 D V R R A S T B C G T T T F L
 I I A E S I S O Y O C A D I L
 R T R U L Y E P O R E A E D O
 O P A D E L T F R S J P P D F
 W T P E S S L O R D E T N G E
 G E I E N O T R O S R R A N C

LORD
 SAID
 PARDONED
 ACCORDING
 WORD
 TRULY
 LIVE
 EARTH
 FILLED
 GLORY
 MEN
 SEEN
 SIGNS
 EGYPT
 WILDERNESS
 TEST
 HEADED
 VOICE
 REJECTED
 SERVANT
 CALEB
 DIFFERENT
 SPIRIT
 FOLLOWED

Worship Service**Announcements**

Song: 888 Thank You, Lord

Song: 975 Thank You, Lord!

Prayer

Song: 384 Lead Me to Calvary (Vs. 1, 2, 4)

Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 798 Yield Not to Temptation (Vs. 1, 3)

Song: 716 Walking Alone at Eve (Vs. 1, 3)

Scripture Reading: Numbers 14:20-24**Sermon**

Song: 744 What Will Your Answer Be?

Song: 761 Where He Leads, I'll Follow (Vs. 3)

Prayer**Numbers 14:20-24 (NKJV)**

- ²⁰ Then the LORD said: "I have pardoned, according to your word;
- ²¹ but truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD ---
- ²² because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded My voice,
- ²³ they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it.
- ²⁴ But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it.

Why Worship?

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. John 4:23