

SOME “RIGHT THINGS” ABOUT THE CHURCH

By Keith Greer

Many in the world are confused concerning the nature of the Lord's church. Yet, the church should have some "right things" that will help us identify it.

Started at right place. " ... For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem." (Isaiah 2:3) Where were the apostles when the Holy Spirit fell on them? Where did Jesus tell them to wait? Jerusalem! Acts 1:8; 2:1-4.

Started at the right time. "Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established ... " (Isaiah 2:1) When Peter preached that first sermon, what passage did he quote? Joel 2:28-32 He also described the time period as the "last days," Acts 2:16,17. Any church that has its start at any other time is not the Lord's church.

Started with the right power. " ... Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power." (Mark 9:1) This was a promise given to the Lord's disciples during a private conversation with them prior to His death, John 14:26; 15:26; 16:7-13. At the beginning of Acts 2 the text tells us that this power fell on them and they began to speak "with tongues."

Must have the right head. "And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all." {Ephesians 1 :22,23} Churches of men have human heads. The church of our Lord has only one head-that being Jesus Christ Himself!

Must have the right message. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek." (Romans 1:16) This is the only message that has the power to save men! Sadly, the world believes that "any message" is acceptable as long as it's spoken in His name. Wrong – it must be His message. ***