TEXT: Ephesians 2:7

TITLE: "The Purposes of the Church!" (part 2)

- → The Bible Describes Powerful Purposes of the Lord's Church.
- * Think: "Why is East End Baptist Church here in Brooklyn, NY?"
- 1. To Hold and Proclaim the Gospel—1 Corinthians 15:3-4
- 2. To Preach Repentance and Remission of Sins—Luke 24:46-48
- 3. To Make Disciples—Matthew 28:19a
- 4. To Baptize—Matthew 28:19b
- 5. To Teach Jesus' Instructions—Matthew 28:20
- 6. To Be Jesus' Witnesses—Luke 24:48-51, Acts 1:8
- 7. To Go as Sent by Jesus—John 20:21-23

→ <u>Today, we will consider 7 more purposes of the</u> <u>Lord's Church:</u>

1. To Be S

—John 17:17

* John 17:17

"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth."

2. To Continue the F -fold Elements of G Church—Acts 2:40-42

* Acts 2:40-42

- ⁴⁰ And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation."
- ⁴¹ Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added *to them.*
- ⁴² And they continued steadfastly <u>in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship</u>, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

3. To Be S and L Influence— Matthew 5:13-16

* Matthew 5:13-16

- 13 "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.
- 14 "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.
- ¹⁵ "Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all *who are* in the house.
- 16 "<u>Let your light so shine</u> before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

4. To Be F of Good Works and L Deeds—Acts 9:36-39

* Acts 9:36-39

- ³⁶ At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. <u>This woman was full of good works</u> <u>and charitable deeds</u> which she did.
- ³⁷ But it happened in those days that she became sick and died.

 When they had washed her, they laid *her* in an upper room.
- ³⁸ And since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, imploring him not to delay in coming to them.
- ³⁹ Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought *him* to the upper room.
 And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them.

5. To Be a Dwelling Place of G —Ephesians 2:22

* Ephesians 2:20-22

- ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*,
- ²¹ in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,
- ²² in whom you also are being built together **for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.**

6. To Be T of God's Rich Grace—Ephesians 2:7

* Ephesians 2:7-10

- ⁷ that in the ages to come <u>He might show the exceeding riches of</u>
 <u>His grace</u> in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.
- 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,
- ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast.
- ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

7. To Bring G to God—Ephesians 3:20-21

* Ephesians 3:20-21

- Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,
- ²¹ to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

APPLICATION: