

(Matthew 22:1-14; Ephesians 5:22-33; 2 Corinthians 11:2; Revelation 19:2,9)

## **Revelation 19:7 (NKJV)**

<sup>7</sup> Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.”

*“Christ & His Bride”*

# EPHESIANS 5:22-33

<sup>22</sup> Wives, <sup>g</sup>submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup> For <sup>h</sup>the husband is head of the wife, as also <sup>i</sup>Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. <sup>24</sup> Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands <sup>j</sup>in everything.

<sup>25</sup> <sup>k</sup>Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and <sup>l</sup>gave Himself for her, <sup>26</sup> that He might <sup>7</sup>sanctify and cleanse her <sup>m</sup>with the washing of water <sup>n</sup>by the word, <sup>27</sup> <sup>o</sup>that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, <sup>p</sup>not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy



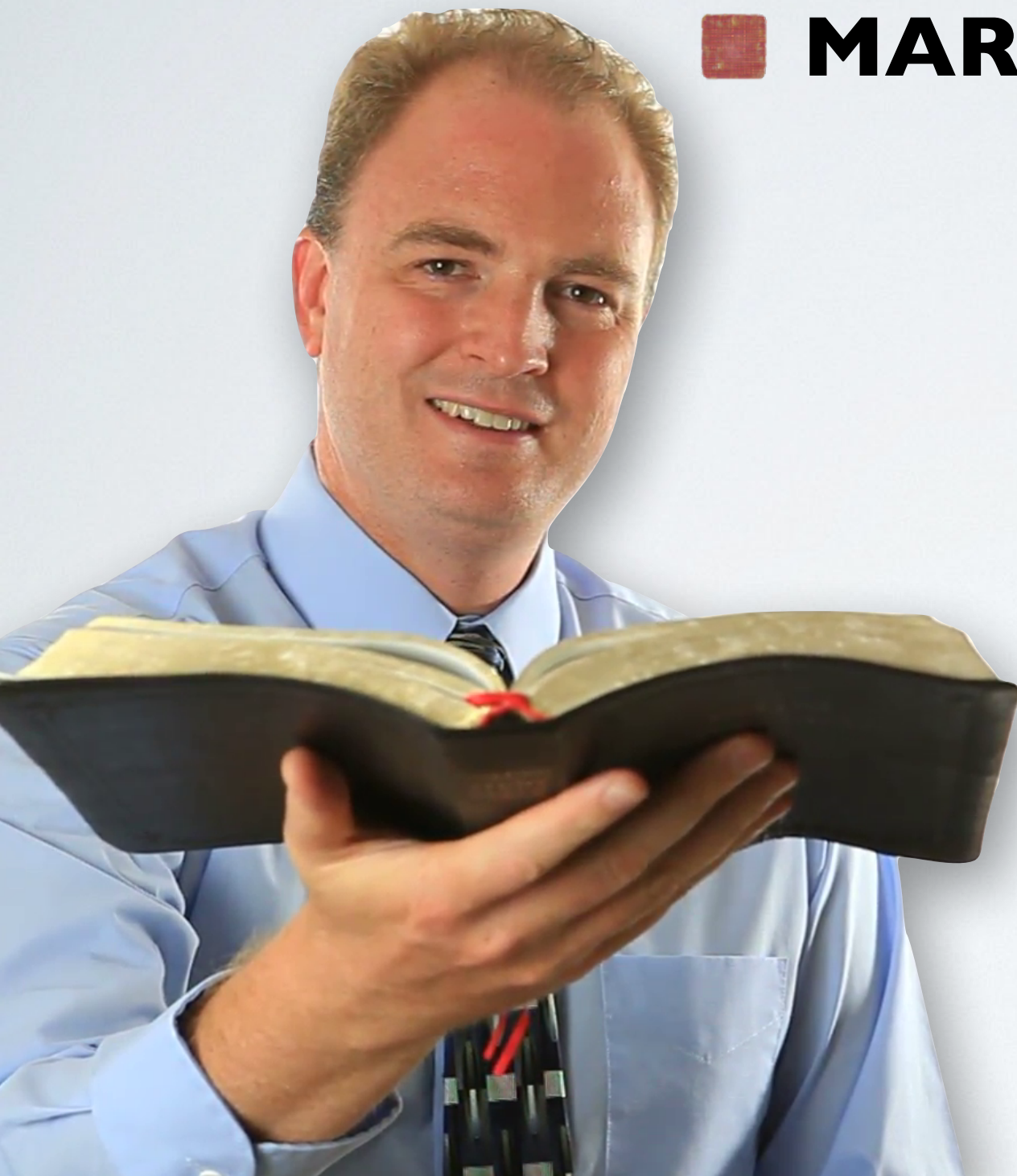
# EPHESIANS 5:22-33

and without blemish. <sup>28</sup> So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup> For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord *does* the church. <sup>30</sup> For <sup>q</sup>we are members of His body, <sup>8</sup> of His flesh and of His bones. <sup>31</sup> <sup>r</sup>“*For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the <sup>s</sup>two shall become one flesh.*” <sup>32</sup> This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup> Nevertheless <sup>t</sup>let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she <sup>u</sup>respects *her* husband.



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## ■ **MARRIAGE & the CHURCH**

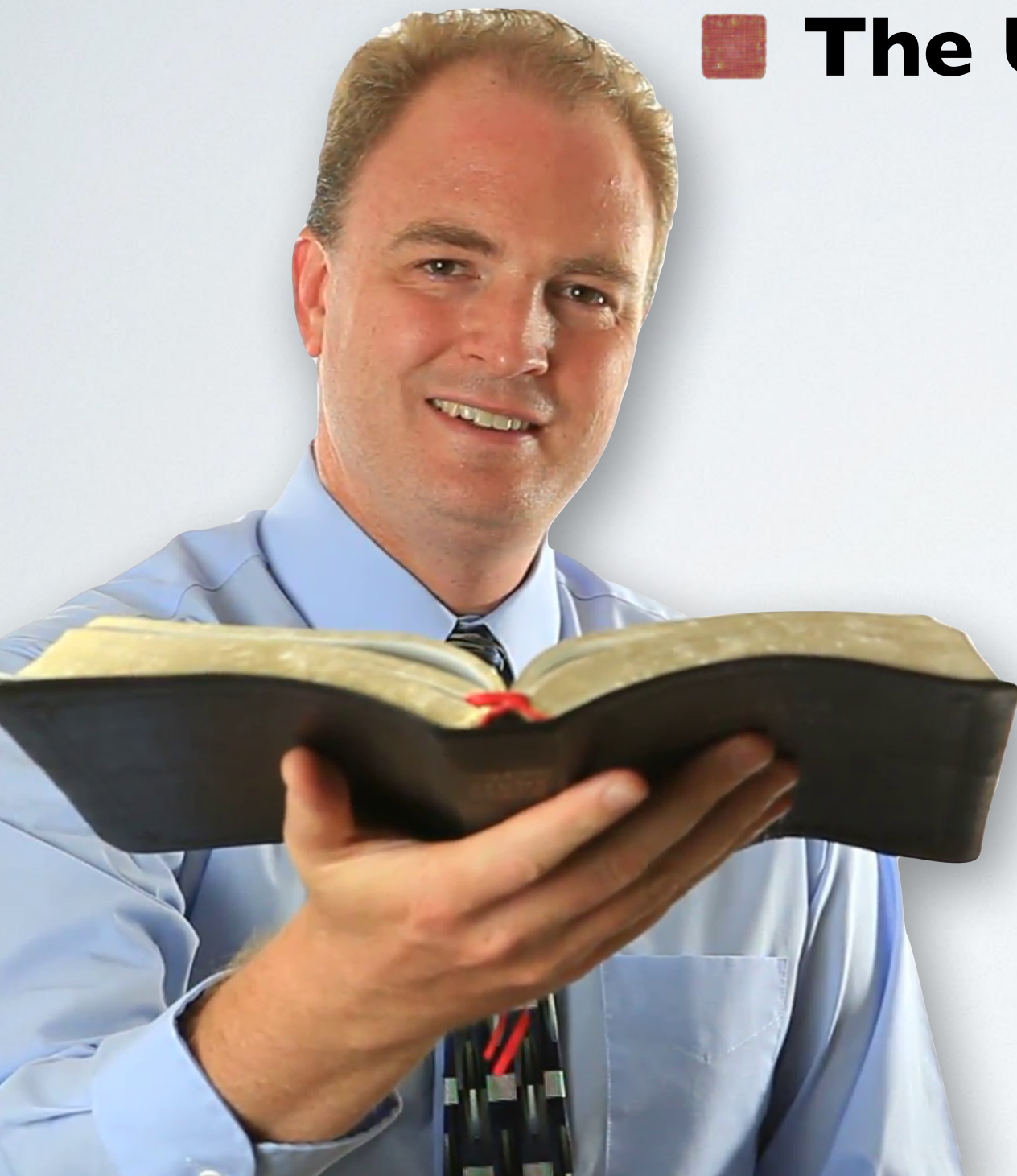


- ▶ Marriage, as presented in God's word, is meant to be a “picture” of the church of Christ.
- ▶ If we understand the teaching of scripture regarding marriage, this metaphor it will help better understand the Lord's church.
- ▶ The church submits / prepares / is cleansed / is set apart (holy) / beloved / and will be gloriously rewarded ...



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## ■ **The Use of Biblical Metaphors**



- ▶ WARNING: MUST NOT force every detail of a metaphor to have some important meaning or application.
- ▶ INSTRUCTION: SEEK for the main lesson and intended application of the metaphor.
- ▶ APPLICATION: PRINCIPLES applied from the metaphor are to be applied in harmony with other Biblical teaching.



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## Jewish Wedding Customs at the Time of Christ

Stage one: the “ketubbah”  
**(betrothal)**  
(2 Corinthians 11:2)

The bridegroom and the father of the bride agree to terms and sign the “ketubbah” - The couple is legally married. (betrothed)  
(Matthew 1:18–19)

### **Initial salvation**

We come into covenant with Christ (Rom. 6:3-6)

Stage two: “chuppah”  
**(consummation)**  
(Matthew 25:1-13)

After the groom fulfilled his dowry and the father of the bride consents the groom and his wife consummate the union.  
(Gen 29:21-30)

### **Second Coming**

Jesus returns for his bride  
(1 Thes. 4:16-18)

Stage three:  
the wedding feast:  
(John 2:1-11)

The wedding feast occurred in the home of the groom as seen in the parable of the wedding feast.  
(Matt 22:1-14;)

### **Heaven**

wedding feast in heaven  
(Revelation 19:7-9)



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## JESUS THE BRIDEGROOM



### ■ **HE LOVED US:**

- ▶ Left the glories of heaven and became human (John 1:1,2,14; 3:13, 31,32; 6:33; Phil. 2:5-9)
- ▶ He suffered temptations and trials (Mat. 4:1-11; Heb. 2:18; 4:15)
- ▶ He gave His life to redeem us from our sins (Mat. 20:28; Rev. 1:5)
- ▶ Our merciful High Priest & Advocate (Heb. 4:15; 1 Tim. 2:5; 1 Jn 2:1,2)

# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## JESUS THE BRIDEGROOM



- ▶ **God's Son:** He left the glories of heaven to redeem God's people (Isaa. 62; Jn 3:13-17, 29-31; Rom 9:5)
- ▶ **LORD of all:** He has been raised & seated on the right hand of the Father & has all authority in heaven & earth (Mt. 28:18; Jn 17:5; Co 1:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:21-28; Eph. 1:22,23; 5:23).
- ▶ **Provider:** Gives us all things (Eph. 3:8; Rom. 8:32; Jam. 2:5; Rev. 21:7)



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## THE CHURCH / BRIDE of CHRIST



- ▶ **The SAVED: (Eph. 5:23)** those having been betrothed to Christ (2 Cor. 11:2; Acts 2:38,47)
- ▶ **SUBMITS: (Eph. 5:24)** We only honor Christ if we obey Him (Luke 6:46-49; Jn 13:13-17; 1 Pt 3:6; 4:17-19).
- ▶ **SANCTIFIED & CLEANSED: (Eph. 5:26,27)** the church is holy - therefore to be the church we must be holy! (1 Pet. 1:13-23; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1)



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## THE CHURCH / BRIDE of CHRIST



- ▶ **VIRTUOUS: (2 Pet. 1:5ff)** Moral excellence, purity (Prov. 12:4; 31:10,29; Ruth 3:11; Gal. 5:22,23).
- ▶ **FAITHFUL: (Rev. 2:10)** Trusting, obedient and loyal (James 4:4; 1 Jn 2:15-17; 5:21; 1 Cor. 10:7,14; 11:2-4).
- ▶ **ADORNED: (Eph. 5:27)** having put off the sinful man, we must put on Christ, being clothed in righteousness (Rev. 21:2; Col. 3:12-17; Rev. 19:8)



# “Christ & His Bride”

## THE CHURCH / BRIDE of CHRIST



### Colossians 3:12–17 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; <sup>13</sup> bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must do*. <sup>14</sup> But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## THE CHURCH / BRIDE of CHRIST



### **Colossians 3:12–17 (NKJV)**

<sup>15</sup> And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## THE CHURCH / BRIDE of CHRIST



**Colossians 3:12–17 (NKJV)**  
**17** *And whatever you do*  
*in word or deed, do all in*  
*the name of the Lord*  
*Jesus, giving thanks to*  
*God the Father through*  
*Him.*



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## THE CHURCH / BRIDE of CHRIST



► **THE UNBLEMISHED  
CHURCH WILL BE  
PRESENTED TO CHRIST:**

**Ephesians 5:27 (NKJV)**

<sup>27</sup> that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## THE CHURCH / BRIDE of CHRIST



► **THE UNBLEMISHED  
CHURCH WILL BE  
PRESENTED TO CHRIST:**

**2 Corinthians 11:2 (NKJV)**

<sup>2</sup> For I am jealous for you with  
godly jealousy. For I have  
betrothed you to one husband,  
that I may present *you as a*  
chaste virgin to Christ.



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## THE CHURCH / BRIDE of CHRIST



► **THE UNBLEMISHED CHURCH WILL BE PRESENTED TO CHRIST:**

### **Revelation 19:7–8 (NKJV)**

<sup>7</sup> Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.” <sup>8</sup> And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## THE CHURCH / BRIDE of CHRIST



► **THE UNBLEMISHED CHURCH WILL BE PRESENTED TO CHRIST:**

**Revelation 21:2 (NKJV)**

**2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.**



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## THE CHURCH / BRIDE of CHRIST



► **THE UNBLEMISHED CHURCH WILL BE PRESENTED TO CHRIST:**

**Revelation 21:9 (NKJV)**

<sup>9</sup> Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, “Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb’s wife.” ...



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## THE GLORIFIED BRIDE / CHURCH



### ■ **Revelation 21:10-27:**

- ▶ Its glory is from God (10,11; Eph. 5:27)
- ▶ Founded upon the teaching of the apostles (12; 14; Ep 2:20; 1 Cor. 3:9-15)
- ▶ Entered into through the access God has provided (12,13; Rom. 10:1-17; Jon 14:6; Mat. 11:28-30)
- ▶ Complete, glorious, valuable and beautiful (16-21)
- ▶ Illuminated by God Himself - the “Lamb is its light” (22,23)



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## THE GLORIFIED BRIDE / CHURCH



### ■ **Revelation 21:10-27:**

27 But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## Jewish Wedding Customs at the Time of Christ

Dowry  
(Paid)  
Gifts

GIFTS  
LABOR

the “ketubbah”  
**(betrothal)**

(Mat 1:18–19)

Stage two: “chuppah”  
**(consummation)**

(Gen 29:21–30)

Stage three:  
the wedding feast:

**LIVE TOGETHER**

## The Church as the Bride of Christ

Dowry  
(Paid)  
Gifts

BLOOD  
of JESUS

our “conversion”  
**(betrothal)**

(2 Cor 11:2)  
(Rom. 6:3–19)

**Second Coming**

Jesus returns for bride

(John 14:1–6)  
(1 Thes. 4:16–18)

**Heaven**

wedding feast

**LIVE TOGETHER**  
(John 14:2,3)



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## **ARE YOU READY FOR JESUS TO RETURN FOR HIS BRIDE?**



- ▶ Jesus, the Bridegroom is worthy! (Jn 3:29; Mat. 22:1-14; 2 Cor. 5:14, 15))
- ▶ The church is betrothed to Christ and must remain faithful to Him (2 Cor. 11:2-4; Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 2:11-13)
- ▶ The church submits to Christ, following His direction (Eph. 5:22-33; Col. 3:17)
- ▶ ONLY the unblemished church will be presented to Christ (2 Cor. 11:2; Eph. 5:26-27; Rev. 19:7; 21:2,9)



# *“Christ & His Bride”*

## **ARE YOU READY FOR JESUS TO RETURN FOR HIS BRIDE?**



- ▶ Have you been betrothed to Him? (Believed, repented, confessed, baptized) (John 8:24; Romans 10:9,10; Acts 2:38; Gal. 3:26,27)
- ▶ Are you submitting to Him (Luke 6:46; Mat. 7:21-27; Eph. 5:23,24)
- ▶ Please do not be one of the many who will hear Him say, “depart from me” ... (Mat. 7:23; 25:12; Luke 13:25)



(Matthew 22:1-14; Ephesians 5:22-33; 2 Corinthians 11:2; Revelation 19:2,9)

## **Revelation 19:7 (NKJV)**

<sup>7</sup> Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.”

*“Christ & His Bride”*







(Matthew 22:1-14; Ephesians 5:22-33; 2 Corinthians 11:2; Revelation 19:2,9)

# *“Christ & His Bride”*

**Charts by Don McClain / Preached April 26, 2020 AM**

West 65th Street church of Christ – P.O. Box 190062 – Little Rock AR 72219 –

Phone — 501-568-1062 — Email — [donmcclain@sbcglobal.net](mailto:donmcclain@sbcglobal.net)

Prepared using Keynote / More Keynote, PPT & Audio Sermons:

[www.w65stchurchofchrist.com](http://www.w65stchurchofchrist.com)