

WHAT DO I OWE THE CHURCH?

FIVE C'S

Do I owe the church anything?

- Debt to God. Psalm 29:1-2
- Debt to Jesus our Lord and Savior. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15
- But do I owe any debt to the church?
 - Consider the connection between the Head and His body
 - Jesus says: Persecute the church, then persecuting Me. Galatians 2:13. Acts 9:4-5
 - Jesus says: Unto My brethren, then unto Me. Matthew 25:40
 - Church = the called out
 - Universally. Matthew 16:18
 - 1 Peter 2:17
 - In a locality. Revelation 1:4

Yes, you and I owe something to the church

Brother or sister, you and I owe the church:

1. Commendation

- “to recommend as worthy of confidence or regard”
- “to mention with approbation (approval, sanction –lj); to praise”
- Inside. Romans 16:1-2. 1 Corinthians 1:4
- Before those who are without
 - Ready to answer. 1 Peter 3:15
 - Unashamed. 1 Peter 4:16
 - Never tear down. Philippians 2:14-16
- Speak of the church’s:
 - Value. Acts 20:28
 - Necessity. Acts 2:47. Ephesians 5:23
 - Singularity. Matthew 16:18. Ephesians 4:4
 - Distinctiveness. 1 Peter 2:9
 - No other creed but the Bible. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Brother or sister, you and I owe the church:

✓ Commendation

2. Consecration

- “to make or declare sacred or holy”
- “to set apart or devote to the service or worship of God”
- Christ died to sanctify and cleanse. Ephesians 5:25-27
- Commanded to live holy lives. 1 Thessalonians 4:1-7. Romans 8:12
- Effect on the saved. 1 Corinthians 5:6. 1 Thessalonians 1:6-8
- For the sake of the lost. Matthew 5:13-16
 - If live consecrated life: 1 Peter 2:11-12
 - If don't, then detrimental to local church. Romans 2:17-24. James 2:7

Brother or sister, you and I owe the church:

- ✓ Commendation
- ✓ Consecration

3. Cooperation

- “collective action, as in industry, for mutual profit or common benefit”
- To cooperate is “to act or operate jointly with another or others”
- Prayer and desire of Jesus. John 17:17-21
- Members of one another. 1 Corinthians 12:27
- Gifts for common good (note: miraculous done away with). 1 Corinthians 12:7
- Commanded. 1 Corinthians 1:10

Brother or sister, you and I owe the church:

- ✓ Commendation
- ✓ Consecration

3. Cooperation

- Requires right attitude
 - Reverence and respect for authority of the Word. 1 Corinthians 2:13; 4:6
 - Each stand in word of God that we might stand together
 - Toward one another. 1 Corinthians 3:1-9. Romans 14:13. 1 Corinthians 10:29
- Requires action
 - Purposeful presence, not careless negligence. 1 Corinthians 11:20. Hebrews 10:24-25
 - Preparation. 2 Timothy 2:15. Romans 12:8
 - Participation. Ephesians 5:19. 1 Corinthians 14:16, 29
 - Generous in our giving for the collective work. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7
 - Each doing his part. Romans 12:4-8. Ephesians 4:16

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- ✓ Commendation
- ✓ Consecration
- ✓ Cooperation

4. Care

- “a burdened state of mind, as that arising from heavy responsibilities; worry; attentive assistance or treatment to those in need”
- To care is “to be concerned or interested; to provide needed assistance or watchful supervision”
- Commanded. 1 Corinthians 12:23-27
- Spiritual needs. James 5:19-20. 1 Thessalonians 5:14
- Physical, emotional needs. Romans 12:9-13, 15. Matthew 25:34-40.
- If don't: 1 John 3:17

Brother or sister, you and I owe the church:

- ✓ Commendation
- ✓ Consecration
- ✓ Cooperation
- ✓ Care

5. Concern

- “a matter that relates to or affects one”
- “regard for or interest in someone or something”
- Paul had this. 2 Corinthians 11:29
 - We should too. Colossians 3:17
- Concern...
 - For worship that is acceptable. 1 Corinthians 11:17
 - For teaching that is from the book. 2 Timothy 4:2
 - For good works. Revelation 2:5
 - For proper use of the Lord’s money. Acts 4:35
 - About being led astray. 2 Corinthians 11:3-4
 - About tolerance of sin and error. Revelation 2:14, 20

Brethren, you and I owe the church:

- ✓ Commendation
- ✓ Consecration
- ✓ Cooperation
- ✓ Care
- ✓ Concern