
Entrusting the Word

ETWE Handbook



Entrusting the Word
to the Faithful

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Introduction

Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord

We have been raised for such a time as this in order to glorify our God in our generation. The difficulties of the last few months have shown clearly to all discerning believers that the times of the end are within sight and that these days in which we live in are critical days for preparation to enter into all that God has purposed for His people.

Amos 7:1-9 has relevance to our times. It was a time when Israel was to be judged for her sins, and though the judgment will come about 40-50 years later, yet the beginnings of their judgment was set at this moment. In the first two judgments God showed Amos, the locust plague and the fire, Amos knew that God intended to totally destroy Israel, the Northern Kingdom. He prayed and begged God for pardon, and God granted him mercy. The third judgment of the plumb line was finally given. In this judgment, God offered mercy to Israel in that those who desire to escape will adjust their lives to His plumb line, the Word of God, and begin to turn from their wicked ways and obey the commandments of the LORD. Those who refuse to adjust their lives to the plumb line will be totally destroyed. The choice was given to them. Likewise, I believe that the plumb line judgment of Amos is placed before us and the choice is yours whether we will adjust our lives to God and be spared or choose to do what we think is right and be destroyed in the destruction of the wicked.

God desires us to live and His plans for His people are always for our welfare to give us a hope (Jeremiah 29:11) and I believe that He has raised ETW Ekklesia as a **rallying point** for others to rally to. As ETW Ekklesia rallies to **Yahweh Nissi** (Yahweh our Banner) and His Name, the LORD will strengthen us "to escape all these things that are about to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man" (Luke 21:36).

ETW Ekklesia

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This ETWE Handbook

belongs to

THE EKKLESIA

► HOW IT ORIGINATED

Father God draws people to His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ¹ even as He is the One who laid the choice, precious and living Stone in Zion². His Holy Spirit convicts us of sin, righteousness and judgment³, and as grace is given to us to believe in Christ⁴, we are all baptized into one body⁵, the Body of Christ⁶, wherein

¹ **John 6:44** – “No one can come to Me, unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.”

² **1 Peter 2:4, 6** - ⁴ And coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected by men, but choice and precious in the sight of God, ...⁶ For this is contained in Scripture: “Behold I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious corner stone, And he who believes in Him shall not be disappointed.”

³ **John 16:8-11** - ⁸ “And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment; ⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you no longer behold Me; ¹¹ and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.”

⁴ **Ephesians 2:8-10** – ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, that no one 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.

2 Timothy 2:24-26 - ²⁴ And the Lord’s bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, ²⁵ with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and they may come to their senses *and escape* from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

⁵ **1 Corinthians 12:13** - For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

⁶ **Ephesians 4:12** - for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;

Being part of the Body of Christ includes a commitment to love one another as well as to forgive one another from the heart:

Colossians 3:12-14 - ¹² And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. ¹⁴ And beyond all these things *put on* love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

Christ is the Head of the church⁷, and all true genuine born-again believers are the living stones, the members of the body⁸.

Matthew 6:14-15 - ¹⁴ "For if you forgive men for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions."

7 **Ephesians 5:23** - For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself *being* the Savior of the body.

8 **Ephesians 3:6** - *to be specific*, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel,

Ephesians 5:30 - because we are members of His body.

➤ WHAT IT RESULTED IN

Believers then are living stones which “are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood”⁹, “a dwelling of God in the Spirit” and “growing into a holy temple in the Lord”¹⁰ “to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ”¹¹, and to “proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light”¹².

We hold to the Seven Realities of our Faith as stated by Paul in **Ephesians 4:4-6**: there is one body, one Spirit, one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism and one God and Father.¹³

⁹ **1 Peter 2:5** - you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

¹⁰ **Ephesians 2:19-22** - ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, ²⁰ having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; ²² in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

¹¹ **1 Peter 2:5**

¹² **1 Peter 2:9** - But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

¹³ **Ephesians 4:1-6** - I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, entreat you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing forbearance to one another in love, ³ being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ *There is* one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

▶ ITS PURPOSE

The Ekklesia is “built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone”¹⁴ and is to be “*the church (ekkleisia) of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth*”¹⁵.

As the Ekklesia functions the way God intends it to, it becomes a witness to the “*manifold wisdom of God...to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places*”¹⁶. What a glorious purpose the Ekklesia on earth has: to declare to the spiritual realm the wisdom of God! This is one way we can fulfil the purpose of the ekklesia which is to live for “*the praise of His glory*” (Ephesians 1:6, 12, 14).

14 **Ephesians 2:20** - having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner *stone*,

15 **1 Timothy 3:14-16** - ¹⁴ I am writing these things to you, hoping to come to you before long; ¹⁵ but in case I am delayed, *I write* so that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth. ¹⁶ And by common confession great is the mystery of godliness:

He who was revealed in the flesh,
Was vindicated in the Spirit,
Beheld by angels,
Proclaimed among the nations,
Believed on in the world,
Taken up in glory.

16 **Ephesians 3:8-12** - ⁸ To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God, who created all things; ¹⁰ in order that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly *places*. ¹¹ *This was* in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him.

ETW EKKLESIA

> HOW IT CAME ABOUT

Around end 1999, God laid on Cecilia's heart to leave her church and through many incidents and clear guidance and with the blessing of her elders that she left in December 2006 to, like Abraham, go where she does not yet know.

ETW was formed in May 2007 and the Torah service was started in January 2008 and the Shabbat Prayer on Fridays was started in July 2008. And in line with the way God has been leading, the ETW Ekklesia was approved by the ETW Committee to be one of the ministries of ETW on January 18, 2009.

In the meantime, God had already brought together a group of people whom He called out of their churches, and He has brought us together to form the core of the ETW Ekklesia. Others who still have viable ministries in their own churches but whose hearts and minds are set on the same purposes as ETWE, God has given to us as an expression of the Universal, Undivided Body of Christ which is comprised of all true born-again believers, Jew and Gentile.

We believe that God has chosen to use the Ekklesia to express His glory¹⁷ and to be His Body¹⁸ to reach out to a lost world.¹⁹

¹⁷ **Ephesians 3:8-12** - ⁸To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God, who created all things; ¹⁰ in order that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ *This was* in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him.

Ephesians 1:3-14 - ³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, ⁴ just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love ⁵ He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, ⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

⁷ In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, ⁸ which He lavished upon us. In all wisdom and insight ⁹ He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him ¹⁰ with a view to an administration suitable to the fulness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things upon the earth. In Him ¹¹ also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, ¹² to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

¹³ In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation-- having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.

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Ephesians 1:22-23 - ²² And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fulness of Him who fills all in all.

Colossians 1:18-23 - ¹⁸ He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; so that He Himself might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For it was the *Father's* good pleasure for all the fulness to dwell in Him, ²⁰ and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, *I say*, whether things on earth or things in heaven. ²¹ And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, *engaged* in evil deeds, ²² yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach-- ²³ if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, was made a minister.

19

2 Peter 3:9 - The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

Acts 9:31 - So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria enjoyed peace, being built up; and, going on in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it continued to increase.

Acts 16:5 - So the churches were being strengthened in the faith, and were increasing in number daily.

Acts 13:1-5 - ¹ Now there were at Antioch, in the church that was *there*, prophets and teachers: Barnabas, and Simeon who was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. ² And while they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." ³ Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. ⁴ So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus. ⁵ And when they reached Salamis, they *began* to proclaim the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews; and they also had John as their helper.

Through much prayer and in discussion with other mature and godly believers, we have come up with this Handbook as an expression of what God has been saying to us with respect to the Ekklesia²⁰.

Ephesians 3:20-21 - ²⁰ Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, ²¹ to Him *be* the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

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We are continually looking to the LORD and as He reveals to us what His will is, we will be adding to this Handbook so that all members of ETW Ekklesia will know what God requires of each member.

▶ ETWE SEVEN PILLARS AND SUPPORT OF THE TRUTH

Through the enabling of God and His tremendous overwhelming grace and mercy given to us all, He has called us together “for such a time as this”²¹. These are the pillars and support of the truth that God has given to us.

P&S #1: God, His Nature²², His Names, Attributes and Character²³, His Purposes²⁴, and His ways²⁵

21 **Esther 4:14** - “For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father’s house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?”

22 **Isaiah 6:1-3** - In the year of King Uzziah’s death, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. ² Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings; with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one called out to another and said, “Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory.”

Revelation 4:8 - And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, “Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come.”

John 4:24 - “God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

1 John 1:5 - God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.

1 John 4:8 - God is love.

James 1:17 - Every good thing bestowed and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation, or shifting shadow.

23 **Exodus 34:5-7** - ⁵ And the LORD descended in the cloud and stood there with him as he called upon the name of the LORD. ⁶ Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; ⁷ who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave *the guilty* unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations.”

Psalms 103:19

The LORD has established His throne in the heavens;

And His sovereignty rules over all.

Daniel 4:34-35 - ³⁴ “But at the end of that period I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever;

For His dominion is an everlasting dominion,
And His kingdom *endures* from generation to generation.

- 35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing,
But He does according to His will in the host of heaven
And *among* the inhabitants of earth;
And no one can ward off His hand
Or say to Him, 'What hast Thou done?'

1 Timothy 6:13-16 - ¹³ I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who testified the good confession before Pontius Pilate, ¹⁴ that you keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which He will bring about at the proper time - He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords; ¹⁶ who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light; whom no man has seen or can see. To Him *be* honor and eternal dominion! Amen.

Psalm 139:1-16

- 1 O Lord, Thou hast searched me and known *me*.
2 Thou dost know when I sit down and when I rise up;
Thou dost understand my thought from afar.
3 Thou dost scrutinize my path and my lying down,
And art intimately acquainted with all my ways.
4 Even before there is a word on my tongue,
Behold, O LORD, Thou dost know it all.
5 Thou hast enclosed me behind and before,
And laid Thy hand upon me.
6 *Such* knowledge is too wonderful for me;
It is *too* high, I cannot attain to it.
7 Where can I go from Thy Spirit?
Or where can I flee from Thy presence?
8 If I ascend to heaven, Thou art there;
If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, Thou art there.
9 If I take the wings of the dawn,
If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea,
10 Even there Thy hand will lead me,
And Thy right hand will lay hold of me.
11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me,
And the light around me will be night,"
12 Even the darkness is not dark to Thee,
And the night is as bright as the day.
Darkness and light are alike *to Thee*.
13 For Thou didst form my inward parts;

Thou didst weave me in my mother's womb.

- 14 I will give thanks to Thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
 Wonderful are Thy works,
 And my soul knows it very well.
- 15 My frame was not hidden from Thee,
 When I was made in secret,
 And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth.
- 16 Thine eyes have seen my unformed substance;
 And in Thy book they were all written,
 The days that were ordained *for me*,
 When as yet there was not one of them.

Malachi 3:6 - For I, the LORD, do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed.

24

Isaiah 14:24-27 - ²⁴ The LORD of hosts has sworn saying, "Surely, just as I have intended so it has happened, and just as I have planned so it will stand, ²⁵ to break Assyria in My land, and I will trample him on My mountains. Then his yoke will be removed from them, and his burden removed from their shoulder. ²⁶ This is the plan devised against the whole earth; and this is the hand that is stretched out against all the nations. ²⁷ For the LORD of hosts has planned, and who can frustrate *it*? And as for His stretched-out hand, who can turn it back?"

Jeremiah 23:20

"The anger of the LORD will not turn back
 Until He has performed and carried out the purposes of His heart;
 In the last days you will clearly understand it."

25

Isaiah 55:8-11

- 8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
 Neither are your ways My ways," declares the LORD.
- 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
 So are My ways higher than your ways,
 And My thoughts than your thoughts.
- 10 "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
 And do not return there without watering the earth,
 And making it bear and sprout,
 And furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater;
- 11 So shall My word be which goes forth from My mouth;
 It shall not return to Me empty,
 Without accomplishing what I desire,
 And without succeeding *in the matter* for which I sent it.

P&S #2: God's Infallible, Inerrant and Powerful Word of Truth²⁶, the Word of God²⁷; the Scriptures²⁸ which are "spirit and life"²⁹ and which produces reverence for Him³⁰

P&S #3: Christ, the only Way of Salvation³¹ which is by Grace through Faith³² in His Atoning Work on the Cross³³

26 **2 Timothy 2:15** - Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth.

James 1:18 - In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we might be, as it were, the first fruits among His creatures.

27 **1 Thessalonians 2:13** - And for this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received from us the word of God's message, you accepted *it* not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.

Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

28 **2 Timothy 3:16-17** - ¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; ¹⁷ that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

2 Peter 1:20-21 - But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is *a matter* of one's own interpretation, ²¹ for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

29 **John 6:63, 68-69** - "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life."⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life."⁶⁹ And we have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God."

30 **Psalms 119:38**

Establish Thy word to Thy servant,

As that which produces reverence for Thee.

31 **John 14:6** - Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.

John 1:12-13 - ¹² But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name, ¹³ who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 3:16-18 - ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him.

P&S #4: The Centrality of Christ³⁴ in the life of every believer and all believers: “Christ is all, and in all”³⁵. When all

¹⁸ He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

Acts 4:12 - “And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved.”

32

Ephesians 2:8-10 – ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, that no one 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.

Titus 3:4-7 - ⁴ But when the kindness of God our Savior and *His* love for mankind appeared, ⁵ He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ that being justified by His grace we might be made heirs according to *the* hope of eternal life.

33

Romans 5:6-10 - ⁶ For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Titus 2:11-14 - ¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, ¹² instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, ¹³ looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus; ¹⁴ who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

John 16:13-15 - ¹³ “But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. ¹⁴ He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose *it* to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said, that He takes of Mine, and will disclose *it* to you.”

34

2 Corinthians 11:3 - But I am afraid, lest as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds should be led astray from the simplicity and purity of *devotion* to Christ.

35

Colossians 3:9-11 - ⁹ Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its *evil* practices, ¹⁰ and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him ¹¹ - *a renewal* in which there is no *distinction between* Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.

John 15:1-11 - ¹ “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit, He prunes it, that it may bear more fruit. ³ You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless

things are subjected to the Son, “then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, that God may be all in all”.³⁶

P&S #5: The Lord’s House is to be “a house of prayer”³⁷.

it abides in the vine, so neither *can* you, unless you abide in Me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch, and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. ⁷ If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you. ⁸ By this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. ⁹ Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. ¹⁰ If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments, and abide in His love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may be in you, and *that* your joy may be made full.”

36 **1 Corinthians 15:25-28** - ²⁵ For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. ²⁶ The last enemy that will be abolished is death. ²⁷ For He has put all things in subjection under His feet. But when He says, “All things are put in subjection,” it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. ²⁸ And when all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, that God may be all in all.

37 **Isaiah 56:6-7**

⁶ “Also the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
To minister to Him, and to love the name of the LORD,
To be His servants, every one who keeps from profaning the sabbath,
And holds fast My covenant;

⁷ Even those I will bring to My holy mountain,
And make them joyful in My house of prayer.
Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable on My altar;
For My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.”

Matthew 21:13 - And He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer’; but you are making it a robbers’ den.”

Mark 11:17 - And He *began* to teach and say to them, “Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations? But you have made it a robbers’ den.’”

Luke 19:45-46 - ⁴⁵ And He entered the temple and began to cast out those who were selling, ⁴⁶ saying to them, “It is written, ‘And My house shall be a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a robbers’ den.”

P&S #6: All believers are to love the Lord our God with all our hearts, with all our soul and with all our mind³⁸ and with all our strength³⁹. This “first love”⁴⁰ for God and Christ is manifested in obedience to God’s commandments⁴¹ and in holiness of life⁴²

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Deuteronomy 6:5 - “And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.”

Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - ¹² “And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require from you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and love Him, and to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ and to keep the LORD’s commandments and His statutes which I am commanding you today for your good?”

Deuteronomy 11:13-15 - ¹³ “And it shall come about, if you listen obediently to my commandments which I am commanding you today, to love the LORD your God and to serve Him with all your heart and all your soul, ¹⁴ that He will give the rain for your land in its season, the early and late rain, that you may gather in your grain and your new wine and your oil. ¹⁵ And He will give grass in your fields for your cattle, and you shall eat and be satisfied.”

Deuteronomy 30:6 - Moreover the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, in order that you may live.

Joshua 22:5 - “Only be very careful to observe the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, to love the LORD your God and walk in all His ways and keep His commandments and hold fast to Him and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul.”

Matthew 22:37-39 - ³⁷ And He said to him, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” ³⁸ “This is the great and foremost commandment. ³⁹ “The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”

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Mark 12:29-31 - ²⁹ Jesus answered, “The foremost is, ‘Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is one Lord; ³⁰ and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ ³¹ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

Luke 10:25-28 - ²⁵ And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶ And He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?” ²⁷ And he answered and said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” ²⁸ And He said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.”

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Revelation 2:4 - ‘But I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love.

41

John 14:15, 21, 23 - ¹⁵ “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.” ²¹ “He who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me; and he who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him, and will disclose Myself to him.” ²³ Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him, and make Our abode with him.”

P&S #7: Every member will be instructed and equipped so that each one can grow to “the unity of faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fulness of Christ” and contribute to the body “according to the proper working of each individual part”, which in turn causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.⁴³ This will be in accordance with the gifts that the Holy Spirit has given to every believer.⁴⁴

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2 Corinthians 7:1 - Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Ephesians 4:22-24 - ²² that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, ²³ and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴ and put on the new self, which in *the likeness of God* has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13 - ¹² and may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all men, just as we also *do* for you; ¹³ so that He may establish your hearts unblamable in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

Hebrews 12:10 - For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He *disciplines us for our good*, that we may share His holiness.

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Ephesians 4:11-16 - ¹¹ And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fulness of Christ. ¹⁴ As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; ¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him, who is the head, *even Christ*, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

44

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 - ⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. ⁶ And there are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all *persons*. ⁷ But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another *various* kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues.

When every member is rightly related to the Head, Yeshua HaMashiach, and to the Body, this will result in Evangelism and Discipleship⁴⁵

¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

45 **Matthew 28:18-20** - ¹⁸ And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Daniel 12:3 – "And those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

Revelation 7:9-14 - ⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation and *all* tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches *were* in their hands; ¹⁰ and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." ¹¹ And all the angels were standing around the throne and *around* the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying, "Amen, blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, *be* to our God forever and ever. Amen." ¹³ And one of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴ And I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

ETW Ekklesia Seven Pillars and Support of the Truth

P&S #1: God, His Nature, His Name, Attributes and Character, His Purposes and His Ways

P&S #2: God's Infallible, Inerrant and Powerful Word of Truth, the Scriptures

P&S #3: Christ, the only Way of Salvation which is by Grace through Faith in His Atoning Work on the Cross

P&S #4: The Centrality of Christ

P&S #5: The Lord's House is to be "a house of prayer"

P&S #6: First love for God and Christ manifested in obedience to God's commandments and holiness of life

P&S #7: The proper working of each individual member in accordance with their gifts which results in Evangelism and Discipleship

▶ ETWE DOCTRINAL STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. **The Scriptures** - We believe (a) in the plenary verbal inspiration of the Scriptures and (b) that the Scriptures (both Old and New Testaments) are absolutely inerrant in their original languages (Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek), infallible and God-breathed, and are the supreme and final authority for faith and life.
2. **The Godhead** - We believe (a) there is but only one living and true God, the God of Israel and (b) He exists eternally in three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, being one in essence, having precisely the same character, nature, attributes and perfections.
3. **God the Father** - We believe (a) He, as the first Person of the Godhead, is the Creator of all things and is the absolute, omnipotent and Sovereign Ruler over all the universe, in providence and redemption and (b) He has decreed for His own glory all things that come to pass.
4. **The Lord Jesus Christ** - We believe (a) He, the second Person of the Godhead, pre-existed with the Father as God Eternal, (b) He is the Word of God, through whom the universe was created and through whom all things are sustained, (c) He was manifested in the flesh through virgin birth and He surrendered only His prerogatives as God but not His divine essence, (d) He died on the cross as the vicarious, substitutionary and propitiatory atonement for sin, (e) He was bodily resurrected from the dead on the third day, (f) He ascended to heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father mediating on behalf of believers as Advocate and High Priest and (g) He will return to earth personally to judge the living and the dead.

5. **The Holy Spirit** - We believe that (a) the Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Godhead, always pre-existed with the Father and the Son, (b) He was also the Agent through whom creation came into existence, (c) He came at Pentecost to bear witness of Christ and to convict men of sin, righteousness and judgment, (d) He regenerates, baptizes, indwells, seals, and sets apart believers unto a holy life, (e) He keeps and empowers believers day by day and (f) He is the Teacher of the Word of God and the believer's Guide for daily living.
6. **Man** - We believe that (a) man was created in the image of God, innocent and pure and (b) man's chief purpose is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever, (c) Adam (as representative man) fell through the sin of disobedience, therefore (d) all men are corrupted in spirit, soul and body and are in need of redemption
7. **Salvation** - We believe that (a) salvation is by grace, a free gift of God apart from works; (b) salvation involves repentance, a turning from one's own way to God's way, and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, (c) all who believe in Jesus as Christ (Messiah) are regenerated by the Holy Spirit and become the children of God, and (d) true salvation will be manifested by a changed life (i.e. that every believer will manifest the character of Christ).
8. **The Future** - We believe (a) in the personal, visible, bodily return of Jesus Christ to earth; (b) Jesus Christ will set up His millennial kingdom on earth, (c) in the bodily resurrection of the just to the eternal abode in the glory of God's presence and (d) in the bodily resurrection of the unjust to judgment and everlasting punishment in the lake of fire.

► LEADERSHIP

We believe that TOP leadership in the Ekklesia is male⁴⁶ and since God has not yet brought us His man to head the ETW Ekklesia, we will look to our Head, our Lord Christ, who will then guide us as Henry Blackaby has well put in his 4th Reality: “God speaks by the Holy Spirit through the Bible, prayer, circumstances and the church to reveal Himself, His purposes and His ways.” Christ will be the “Male Leader” leading us until the man He has raised is given to guide us into greater love and obedience to our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus.

This does not bar women from fulfilling their gifts as there are no gender differences in the gifts passages⁴⁷, but in terms of *function*, there are distinctions made in the *order* of usefulness to

⁴⁶ The Old Testament is clear that Moses and all the elders of Israel are male. But we know that there are women prophets (Miriam, **Exodus 15:20**; Huldah the prophetess, **2 Kings 22:14**; **2 Chronicles 34:22**) and women judges (Deborah, **Judges 4-5**).

In the New Testament, there were women prophetess (Philip’s daughters, **Acts 21:8-9**) and **1 Corinthians 14** speaks in general of those who have the gift of prophecy and tongues, i.e., male and female. We know women were appointed as deacons (**1 Timothy 3:11** where the word “wives, *gune*” should have been better translated as “women, *gune*” and interpreted in its context to mean “women deacons”. There was no Greek word for “deaconess” when Paul wrote to Timothy; the word arose only in the 2nd century AD, *diakonissa*. So Paul used the same word “deacon, *diakonos*” to refer to both male and female deacons.)

In **Romans 16:1**, Phoebe is called a “*diakonos*” of the church at Cenchrea and one third of the names mentioned in **Romans 16:1-16** are women workers, while Junias is acknowledged to be a *woman* and she is called an *apostle* by the apostle Paul (**Romans 16:7**) who wrote tree of the major gifts passages. Also **Philippians 4:3** speaks of two women “who have shared (Paul’s) struggle in the cause of the gospel”.

But the testimony in *both Old and New Testaments* is that top leadership is male.

⁴⁷ See **1 Corinthians 12-14**; **Romans 12:1-8**; **Ephesians 4:11-16**; **1 Peter 4:7-11**

the Body of Christ,⁴⁸ and distinctions in the gender in terms of the *offices* to be held in the Ekklesia.⁴⁹

The leadership structure in the early church is clear: elders and pastors, deacons (male and female) and laity who express their gifts in service in the Body of Christ and in love.

⁴⁸ **1 Corinthians 12:28** - ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, *various* kinds of tongues.

⁴⁹ See **Footnote 46** and note the distinctions made in Male Deacons and Female Deacons.

► BODY LIFE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

We are all members of the body and when one hurts, all hurt and when one is honored, all rejoice.⁵⁰ All ETW Ekklesia members will actively relate to other members of the Ekklesia so that every member is connected to two or more other members through prayer, Bible Studies and other activities so that Body Life can be experienced and they can enjoy closeness, openness, Biblical fellowship⁵¹ can take place, where

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1 Corinthians 12:12-27 - ¹² For even as the body is one and *yet* has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. ¹³ For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴ For the body is not one member, but many. ¹⁵ If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not *a part* of the body," it is not for this reason any the less *a part* of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not *a part* of the body," it is not for this reason any the less *a part* of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired. ¹⁹ And if they were all one member, where would the body be? ²⁰ But now there are many members, but one body. ²¹ And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²² On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary; ²³ and those *members* of the body, which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our unseemly *members come to* have more abundant seemliness, ²⁴ whereas our seemly *members* have no need of *it*. But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that *member* which lacked, ²⁵ that there should be no division in the body, but *that* the members should have the same care for one another. ²⁶ And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if *one* member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. ²⁷ Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it.

We acknowledge that *all* members need one another, that *all* members are necessary and *all* members are important. Though seemingly weaker, these members are deemed by God to be more necessary to the health of the Body, e.g., the liver, the heart are seemingly weaker, yet the body cannot live with them.

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1 John 1:1-3 - ¹ What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we beheld and our hands handled, concerning the Word of Life - ² and the life was manifested, and we have seen and bear witness and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us - ³ what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, that you also may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.

1 John 1:6-7 - ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with Him and *yet* walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; ⁷ but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

accountability can be carried out and where encouragement, rebuke, reproof and instruction⁵² occurs.

The Ekklesia should be the place where one can go to to be comforted, cherished, loved when one is hurting, instructed when one is ignorant, lovingly reprovved, admonished, and corrected when one is sinning. It should be HOME to us especially for those whose own home backgrounds are dysfunctional, abusive and/or ungodly.

The Ekklesia should be a safe place where love can be experienced in the acceptance of one another with all our quirks and peculiarities. It should be a place where a person can grow safely, knowing that God is not finished with us yet, so patience with one another and love for one another is urged as each one of us are being conformed to the image of Christ⁵³ through the trials of daily living in today's society and in light of all the crises happening in our world.

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Hebrews 3:12-13 - ¹² Take care, brethren, lest there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart, in falling away from the living God. ¹³ But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is *still* called "Today," lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Colossians 1:28 - And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ.

2 Timothy 4:1-2 - I solemnly charge *you* in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: ² preach the word; be ready in season *and* out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

Titus 2:15 - These things speak and exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

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Romans 8:28-30 - ²⁸ And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren; ³⁰ and whom He predestined, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

We believe that the Word of God is totally adequate to deal with all the issues of modern day living and all the wisdom of God in His precious Word is given to us to tread a safe path in the midst of all the red herrings⁵⁴ that Satan has planted in the church and in the world.

Thus the Word of God and prayer and the fellowship of the saints will be used to deal with all problems and issues that may arise in the future.

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Some red herrings are Christian Psychology, Inner Healing, Deliverance Ministries, Christian Yoga, the Emergent Church, New Age, Christian Cults, Dead Churches, Apostate Churches, etc..

► KEEPING THE SABBATH

The ETW Ekklesia will have its official meetings on God's given Sabbath, Friday evening to Saturday evening and these meetings are the ETWE Friday Shabbat Prayer and the ETWE Torah Service. This is in obedience to God's Fourth Commandment, "Remember the sabbath to keep it holy"⁵⁵ and we want to have a VISIBLE testimony⁵⁶ to our obedience to ALL of God's commandments⁵⁷. Also, Isaiah 66:22-23⁵⁸ clearly tells us that in the Millennium, we will be worshipping God on the Sabbath, which is proof that God has NEVER changed His day of worship to Sunday. We, however, do not judge other believers who hold another day to be higher than God's ordained Sabbath because Paul says⁵⁹: "One man regards one

55 **Exodus 20:8-11** - ⁸ "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God; *in it* you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and made it holy."

56 **Exodus 31:12-13** - ¹² And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ¹³ "But as for you, speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'You shall surely observe My sabbaths; for *this* is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the LORD who sanctifies you.'" (*áni yhw h mûqaDDîškem*)

57 **John 14:15** - "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

58 **Isaiah 66:22-23**

²² "For just as the new heavens and the new earth
Which I make will endure before Me," declares the LORD,
"So your offspring and your name will endure.

²³ "And it shall be from new moon to new moon
And from sabbath to sabbath,
All mankind will come to bow down before Me," says the LORD.

59 **Romans 14:5-13** - ⁵ One man regards one day above another, another regards every day *alike*. Let each man be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶ He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord, and he who eats, does so for the Lord, for he gives thanks to

day above another, another regards every day *alike*. Let each man be fully convinced in his own mind. He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord, and he who eats, does so for the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat, and gives thanks to God" (Romans 14:5-6).

ETW also has many meetings through the week where Bible Studies are being taught and these classes are open to ALL who wish to learn about Jesus and His way of life. Likewise the Torah Service is also open to all.

The ETWE Friday Shabbat Prayer is only open to all who are truly born-again and who also undergo a 6-week course in prayer called "Pray in Faith" by T. W. Hunt. If you are interested, speak to any one of the ETW Ekklesia who will then inform you as to what you need to do. During this time, we worship the Lord, celebrate the Lord's Supper, pray and share⁶⁰ with one another the things that God has spoken to us throughout the week.

God; and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat, and gives thanks to God.⁷ For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself;⁸ for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived *again*, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.¹⁰ But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God.¹¹ For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, And every tongue shall give praise to God."¹² So then each one of us shall give account of himself to God.¹³ Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this - not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way.

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Acts 2:42 - And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

1 Corinthians 14:26 - What is *the outcome* then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.

Hebrews 10:23-25 - ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; ²⁴ and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.

What does Keeping the Sabbath have to do with Gentile Believers?

We believe that keeping God's commandments does not save anyone. *That* has never been its purpose from the very beginning as is illustrated in the life of Abraham⁶¹, the father of faith⁶², in Genesis 15:6: "Then he believed in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness."

Salvation has always been by faith in God and it is always by grace, because no man deserves to be saved. That is true from the very beginning and continues to be true today and throughout the Millennium into eternity.

Keeping God's commandments does not save anyone but *breaking* God's commandments is clearly sin! And sin *will* be judged. In keeping any one of God's commandments is a

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Note that there were times when Abraham's faith lapsed (eg. **Genesis 16** the incident with Hagar). This illustrates a way whereby God's great patience is seen as He puts up with our cultural practices, many of which offend Him, even while He continues to draw us to a intimate love relationship with Him. Put simply, God is patient with the culture as He draws us to Himself. What this means is that we are always to be patient with the cultural backgrounds into which believers in other churches are placed into *AND NEVER BE DIVISIVE ON THESE ISSUES*, believing that if we aim at first love for the Lord, then as each believer is restored to first love for God, our precious Lord will guide them into the things that please Him. ETWE members must *never* be divisive on this issue or any *practical issues that are not sinful in and of themselves*.

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Romans 4:9-12 - ⁹ Is this blessing then upon the circumcised, or upon the uncircumcised also? For we say, "Faith was reckoned to Abraham as righteousness."¹⁰ How then was it reckoned? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised;¹¹ and he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all who believe without being circumcised, that righteousness might be reckoned to them,¹² and the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also follow in the steps of the faith of our father Abraham which he had while uncircumcised.

blessing, sometimes stated, sometimes not.⁶³ But there is *always* a blessing in obeying God, just as there is always a judgment whenever one disobeys any one of God's commandments. Again, sometimes the judgments are defined, sometimes they are not.⁶⁴

Thus in keeping the Sabbath, which is one of God's Ten Commandments, there is a blessing, whether we see it now or not, there *is* a blessing. Why? Because God has already pronounced a blessing on those who obey Him⁶⁵.

63 **An Example: Ephesians 6:1-3** - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), ³ that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.

64 **An Example: 1 Samuel 3:11-14** - ¹¹ And the LORD said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. ¹² In that day I will carry out against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³ For I have told him that I am about to judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knew, because his sons brought a curse on themselves and he did not rebuke them. ¹⁴ And therefore I have sworn to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever."

65 **Deuteronomy 28:1-14** - ¹ "Now it shall be, if you will diligently obey the LORD your God, being careful to do all His commandments which I command you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. ² And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you will obey the LORD your God. ³ Blessed *shall you be* in the city, and blessed *shall you be* in the country. ⁴ Blessed *shall be* the offspring of your body and the produce of your ground and the offspring of your beasts, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock. ⁵ Blessed *shall be* your basket and your kneading bowl. ⁶ Blessed *shall you be* when you come in, and blessed *shall you be* when you go out. ⁷ The LORD will cause your enemies who rise up against you to be defeated before you; they shall come out against you one way and shall flee before you seven ways. ⁸ The LORD will command the blessing upon you in your barns and in all that you put your hand to, and He will bless you in the land which the LORD your God gives you. ⁹ The LORD will establish you as a holy people to Himself, as He swore to you, if you will keep the commandments of the LORD your God, and walk in His ways. ¹⁰ So all the peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the LORD; and they shall be afraid of you. ¹¹ And the LORD will make you abound in prosperity, in the offspring of your body and in the offspring of your beast and in the produce of your ground, in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers to give you. ¹² The LORD will open for you His good storehouse, the heavens, to give rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hand; and you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. ¹³ And the LORD shall make you the head and not the tail, and you only shall be above, and you shall not be underneath, if you will listen to the commandments of the LORD your God, which I charge you today, to observe *them* carefully, ¹⁴ and do not turn aside from any of

Why then do we keep God's commandments? We keep it because we love God. It is the proof⁶⁶ (to ourselves) that we truly love God enough to submit our desires to His desires, all because we truly love Him.

Thus the way we live is defined in 2 Corinthians 5:14a: "For the love of Christ controls us". His love for us and our love for Him, like high walls of a cliff, shuts us up to only one way of living: the highway of holiness⁶⁷ and righteousness⁶⁸, the way that is pleasing to the LORD.

the words which I command you today, to the right or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

66 **John 14:15, 21, 23** - ¹⁵ "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments." ²¹ "He who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me; and he who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him, and will disclose Myself to him." ²³ Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him, and make Our abode with him.

67 **Isaiah 35:8**
 And a highway will be there, a roadway,
 And it will be called the Highway of Holiness.
 The unclean will not travel on it,
 But it *will* be for him who walks *that* way,
 And fools will not wander *on it*.

68 **Psalm 85:13**
 Righteousness will go before Him,
 And will make His footsteps into a way.

Proverbs 8:20-22

²⁰ "I walk in the way of righteousness,
 In the midst of the paths of justice,
²¹ To endow those who love me with wealth,
 That I may fill their treasuries.
²² "The LORD possessed me at the beginning of His way,
 Before His works of old.

Proverbs 12:28

In the way of righteousness is life,
 And in *its* pathway there is no death.

► MEMBERSHIP

“Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her; so that he might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless” (Ephesians 5:25b-27).

The ETW Ekklesia seeks to be a local congregation of believers who have united together under the lordship of Christ, to build up all believers into maturity in Christ and to reveal the good news of Christ to the world.

God has set certain uncompromising standards on how He wants His Church to function: the most telling signs are reverence for His Holy Name and for His Holy Word. We believe that God has a blessing in store for us at ETW Ekklesia if we continue to uphold His Name and strive to walk in complete obedience to His Word, with first love for Him in our hearts and with the enabling of His Holy Spirit. He will then pour forth more grace, for our Father wants us to experience true Body Life consistently. Because of this great privilege given by God, we will, with His help and to the best of our ability, always exercise great care to ensure that all things are done in accordance with Scripture. EVERY ASPECT MUST PASS THE TEST OF SCRIPTURE or else it will be thrown out.

We believe that every member is part of the Universal Glorious Body of Christ and this is also reflected in the membership⁶⁹. There are some of us who have been called out of our own

⁶⁹

Members will be designated as ETW members who attend ETW classes or ETWE members when they join the ETW Ekklesia.

churches to join the ETW Ekklesia but there are many others who *have not been called out of their own churches by God*⁷⁰ because they still have viable roles in their own churches but want to be part of the ETW Ekklesia. We acknowledge this and regard other church memberships to be no barrier to fellowshiping with ETW Ekklesia because it is regarded as fellowshiping with the larger Body of Christ.

We allow such memberships⁷¹ to take place but we are clear that they should never violate God's commandments to them in their own churches in order to join the ETW Ekklesia, its Bible classes or its other activities. Neither should their giving to their own churches diminish in order to give toward the ETW Ekklesia. They should always give to promote the kingdom of God and in obedience to God's laws of giving⁷².

ETW Ekklesia is to be a place where the church is what the church should be as described in the Bible. In fact, those of us in the Friday Shabbat prayer experience the Body Life, the openness, the fellowship of being ONE IN CHRIST. ETW Ekklesia will be a microcosm of what the larger Body should be. I believe it is God's grace given to us so that we know what

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1 Corinthians 12:18 - But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired.

1 Corinthians 12:24b-25 - ^{24b} But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that *member* which lacked, ²⁵ that there should be no division in the body, but *that* the members should have the same care for one another.

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Memberships classes will be held in which the following books are required studies (not in the actual order): (1) ETWE Handbook, (2) Romans (101, 102, 103), (3) Pray in Faith. These are optional: Experiencing God, and other books which will be used in order to ensure that all ETWE members function properly as God intended.

1 Corinthians 12:27-28 - ²⁷ Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, *various* kinds of tongues.

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Study **2 Corinthians 8 and 9** for God's Principles of Giving.

we are to aim towards in terms of Body Life, Accountability and Fellowship in the larger Body.

ETW Ekklesia then becomes a place where members are strengthened, encouraged and taught, and where accountability for one's walk in Christ is encouraged. Thus having been strengthened in the Lord, these members can then go back to their own churches to do likewise.

We welcome every true believer in Christ who has the same heart for our Lord and the same mind (as stated in the **ETWE Statement of Faith** and the **ETWE Seven Pillars and Support of the Truth**) and are committed to growing and equipping all believers so that they can be used by God to strengthen, bless and equip their own church members.

▶ YOUR DECISION

Having read through this Handbook and the Scriptures given, we ask you to pray to God concerning what He would have you do. Please go through the following questions and if after you've sought the Lord and are willing to commit yourself to ETW Ekklesia, please email Cecilia@etword.org to ask for the ETW Ekklesia Membership Form and having filled it up, pass it to one of the ETW Ekklesia members. *(This form is given here so that you can have your own record of your commitment to our Lord and how and in what way you, with God's help, will carry it out. You will sign your copy, and once approved, two ETWE leaders will sign your Handbook to receive your membership.)*

Application to Membership in ETW Ekklesia

1. Is God calling you to join ETW Ekklesia as a member of this local Body of Christ? _____

If yes, answer the following questions:

- a. Will you commit yourself to the Lord and His Word?

 - b. Will you commit yourself to coming to the Torah class and/or a study during the week as a practical way your love for God and His Word can be manifested?

2. We believe that only true believers are members of the Body of Christ (**1 Corinthians 12**) and that happens when you receive Christ Jesus as your Lord and the Holy Spirit baptizes you into the Body of Christ (**1 Corinthians 12:13**).

3. We believe that all true believers must be baptized (**Acts 2:38; 8:12; 9:18; 18:8**, etc). We can only baptize people with water and only Adonai Yeshua HaMashiach (the Lord Jesus Christ) can baptize you with the Holy Spirit (**Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33; Acts 1:5; 11:16**; see also **Acts 2:38**) and with fire (**Matthew 3:11; Luke 3:16**).

Note also that not all water-baptized people are true born again believers (see **Acts 8:13, 20-24**, the example of Simon Magus).

- a. Have you been water-baptized in obedience to our Lord's command in **Matthew 28:19-20**? _____
Church & Year: _____
- b. Would you want to be baptized or re-baptized by ETW Ekklesia? _____
- c. If yes, would you commit to coming to a study of Romans⁷⁴ conducted by ETW Ekklesia? This is to ensure that your faith is genuine and that you understand our Lord's demands on you for the privilege of becoming His child.

- d. What times would be suitable for you? Check as many as possible.
- Saturday – 3pm-4.30pm Sunday – 3pm-4.30pm
- Saturday – 7.30-9pm Sunday – 4.30pm-6pm

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A study of the Book of Romans is **a required essential** in the fulfillment of the **ETWE Seven Pillars and Support of the Truth**. All ETWE members *must* go through this study. This will enable you to be able to fulfill **P & S #7** of Evangelism and Discipleship. You will be taught to use the same study with others and use it as a beginning tool for evangelism and discipleship.

Others (*give as many days as possible*): _____
 _____ (day)

Preferred Time: _____
 (morning, afternoon, evening)

4. We believe that all true born-again believers should partake in the Lord's Supper as often as possible. This is because the Lord's Supper is our opportunity to remember our Lord and to proclaim His death until He comes (**1 Corinthians 11:25-26**). It also becomes a time of repentance, spiritual refreshment and of renewing first love for Him.

We are already partaking of the Lord's Supper during our Friday Shabbat Prayer (7pm-9pm). There are no plans as yet to conduct the Lord's Supper during the Torah Service (we are waiting upon the Lord to tell us when) and so, if you want to join us in our Friday Shabbat Prayer, would you commit yourself to the initial 6-week course, "Pray in Faith" by T. W. Hunt? _____

Time and Preferred Day (*give as many as possible*):

**Your Acceptance of the ETWE Statement of Faith
and of the ETWE Seven Pillars and Support of the Truth**

I, _____, (1/C: _____) accept ETWE to be the local Body of Christ that God has brought me to and I am committed to ETWE in accordance with the ETWE Handbook.

(Signature & Name)

(Date)

ETWE Acceptance of Your Membership

We acknowledge that God has brought you to ETWE as a viable member of the Body of Christ and we are committed to you in accordance with the ETWE Handbook.

(Signature & Name)

(Signature & Name)

Date: _____

Date: _____