The People of God

TEXT: **1 Pet**. **2:9-10**

INTRODUCTION:

A. IDENTIFYING MARKS OF THE CHURCH: Name, Work, Worship, Doctrine.
    1. Useful study because of ignorance in and out of the church.
    2. Can always use a boost in these areas.
B. **MUST NOT STOP HERE**. IF WE DO, WE WILL HAVE OVERLOOKED THE VERY ELEMENTS WHICH MAKE THE CHURCH WHAT IT IS – THAT MAKE PEOPLE CONCERNED ABOUT WORK AND WORSHIP.
C. THE CHURCH MADE UP OF PEOPLE WHO POSSESS CERTAIN **CHARACTER TRAITS**. **THESE TRAITS JUST AS IMPORTANT IN IDENTIFYING THE RIGHT CHURCH AS DOCTRINE**.

I.   THE PEOPLE OF GOD ARE A PEOPLE OF FAITH.

A. CHRISTIANS ARE CALLED **BELIEVERS** (Acts 2:44; 4:32; 1 Tim. 4:12).
B. **FAITH IS NECESSARY** (Heb. 11:6; Gal. 3:26).
C. WHAT IS FAITH? (Heb. 11:6). *Confidence in his promise to reward*.
    1. Confidence in his **Ability** (Matt. 19:26).
    2. Confidence in his **Judgment** (1 Cor. 1:25).
    3. Confidence in his **Motive** (Rom. 5:8).
    4. Confidence in his **Integrity** (2 Tim. 2:11-13).
    5. Illustrate è Doctor, Parachute, Drive, etc.
D. HOW DEEP IS THIS FAITH? (2 Tim. 1;12).

II.   ARE A PEOPLE TOGETHER.

A. EMPHASIZED FROM THE BEGINNING (Acts 4:42, 44-46; 4:32).
C. MANIFESTED IN SEVERAL AREAS.
    1. **Association** (Rom. 12:30).
    2. **Mutual concern** (1 Cor. 12:25-26).
    3. **Doctrine** (1 Cor. 1:10).
    4. **Love** (1 Pet. 1:22).
C. WHAT BROUGHT US TOGETHER?
    1. **Called out of darkness** (1 Pet. 2:9).
    2. **Fellowship with God** (1 John 1:6-7).
    3. **With one another** (1 John 1:3-4).

III.   ARE SAINTS, CONSECRATED TO THE LORD.

A. **SAINT**, hagios, "separated, set apart from, distinguished."
B. HOW?
    1. **Cannot partake of sin** (1 Pet. 4:3-4).
    2. Careful of his **associations** (1 Cor. 15:33).
    3. **Careful of the pattern** he follows (Rom. 12:9).
    4. God demands this **distinction** (Matt. 5:13).
C. WILL MAKE US SEEM ODD TO OTHERS (1 Pet. 2:9 - KJV).

D.   **GOD'S BLESSINGS ARE PECULIAR, ALSO**.

CONCLUSION:

A.   SOUND CHURCHES ARE NOT JUST DOCTRINALLY SOUND.
B.   CHARACTER IS IMPORTANT.