

The Church as the Future

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The Church of the Future

Jesus, God the Son, looking forward to the condemnation all would deserve went backward into the past and there dealt with sin through the cross. The future begins with the resurrection of people and the transformation of the creation so, by rising from the dead Jesus brought the future into the present. Then he sent the Spirit – a foretaste of the future – to live in the church.

God sees our lives in light of the Future (Eph. 2.1-7, 19-22)

Two characteristics of the church of the future that must characterize the church of the present. Two things that make it the church of the future:

1. Unity
(Jn. 13.34-35; Eph. 4.3-6; 1 Cor. 3.16-17)
2. Unity is not conformity
3. Unity is not agreeing with whatever the leader says
4. Unity is not accepting things that are you “hill to die on.”
5. Unity is committing to each other in relationship
6. Unity is refusing to gossip, hold unforgiveness, etc.
7. Unity is understanding the difference between small identity and big identity
8. Diversity
9. Diversity is not abandoning one’s culture and heritage.
10. Diversity is making room for the culture and heritage of others.
11. Diversity is not forsaking one’s strengths and abilities.
12. Diversity is making room for the weakness of others.
13. Diversity is forming “collaborative alliances.”