



EQUIPPED


Sharing your faith in a complex world

Roof Replacement on the Sunday School wing begins this week.



(724) 941-8219

PittsburghAreaRoofers.com



P 40 *days of* Prayer

September 24 – November 4
Weekly Sermons and Small Groups
Hosts/Leaders for small groups

A background image of a stained glass window with various colored panes (red, yellow, orange, blue) and a bright light source in the upper left corner, creating a warm, glowing atmosphere.

***To Know God
and Make
Him Known***



DENOMINATIONS

Where they come from and how we are different

“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.”

(Matthew 16:18, CSB)

“Therefore I, the prisoner in the Lord, urge you to live worthy of the calling you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope at your calling—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.”

(Ephesians 4:1–6, CSB)

“For I passed on to you as most important what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,”

(1 Corinthians 15:3–4, CSB)

“But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, a curse be on him! As we have said before, I now say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, a curse be on him!”

(Galatians 1:8–9, CSB)

The Church
(called out/gathered)
is “officially” established in
Acts 2 with the coming of the
Holy Spirit

**ONE CHURCH with
ONE MESSAGE**

ROMAN CATHOLICISM



- Three sources of doctrinal authority: The Bible, Tradition, and the Church
- Headed by the Pope (Bishop of Rome), who is viewed to be Christ's representative on the earth
- Mary is believed to be sinless, perpetually a virgin, physically taken up into heaven upon her death (Queen of Heaven or all things), and now serves as a co-mediator of God's Grace and a collaborator with the salvation of Jesus her Son.

ROMAN CATHOLICISM



- Participation in the 7 sacraments are necessary for salvation: “The seven sacraments are the signs and instruments by which the Holy Spirit spreads the grace of Christ the head throughout the Church which is His body” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 774)
- Baptism, confirmation, Eucharist, penance, anointing of the sick, holy orders, and marriage are the 7 sacraments.

ROMAN CATHOLICISM



- Baptism is necessary for salvation: “By Baptism all sins are forgiven, original sin and personal sin as well as all punishment for sin.” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1263)
- In Eucharist (communion), the elements literally become the body and blood of Jesus and thus participants are actually receiving Christ.

ROMAN CATHOLICISM



- Confession and Penance are necessary to maintain salvation.
- Priests and bishops have the power to forgive sin and dispense grace
- Other distinctives: Celibate priesthood, monasticism, Purgatory, Saints

EASTERN ORTHODOX



- Separated in A.D. 1054 from what become Roman Catholicism
- The fall of Adam and Eve did not bring a sin nature, but instead it brought mortality which makes mankind prone to sin.
- Mortality is the barrier between man and God, not sin, and Jesus was made incarnate to remove this barrier.

EASTERN ORTHODOX



- Salvation is viewed as being united with God (deification)
- Deification involves prayer, meditation, asceticism (self-denial), good deeds, and receiving the sacraments.
- One may not achieve deification solely by grace through faith.
- Icons, married clergy

PROTESTANT CHURCHES



- Protestant Reformation began in 1517 with Martin Luther and his 95 theses against the practices of the Roman Catholic Church.

PROTESTANT CHURCHES



5 distinct stands of Protestantism

- Sola Scriptura - by Scripture alone
- Sola Fide - by faith alone
- Sola Gratia - by grace alone
- Solo Christo - Christ alone
- Soli Deo gloria - glory to God alone

ANABAPTISTS (1521)



- Name means “to baptize again.”
- Believers Baptism instead of Infant Baptism
- Separation of Church and State
- While modern baptists have differences regarding other areas, most trace their lineage to the anabaptist movement and agree on believers baptism and communion being the only two ordinances/sacraments.

ANABAPTISTS (1521)



Modern Denominations rooted in Anabaptism

- Baptists of all persuasions, Mennonites, Amish, 7th Day Adventists

LUTHERAN CHURCH (1526)



- Began as an effort to reform Roman Catholicism, but became a movement of its own.
- Many still retain altars and clothing similar to R.C.
- Preaching and the absolute authority of scripture alone are the most important parts of the worship

LUTHERAN CHURCH (1526)



- Baptism is necessary for spiritual regeneration
- Congregations can vary widely from very Biblically conservative to fairly liberal

ANGLICAN CHURCH (1531)



- Began under Henry the 8th following the Pope's refusal to annul his first marriage.
- Retained many of the practices of R.C.
- Focus on the Book of Common Prayer and the Eucharist in worship.
- Episcopal Church is the American branch of the Anglican Church.
- Churches can vary widely from liberal to conservative in doctrine and practice

ANGLICAN CHURCH



Modern Denominations rooted in Anglicanism:

- Episcopal Church
- Congregational (Puritans)
- Methodism
 - United Methodist
 - Free Methodist
 - Salvation Army
- Holiness
 - Assemblies of God
 - Nazarene
 - CMA

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (1560)

- Derives its name from a form of church government based on hierarchy of elders.
- Very little liturgy, with a focus instead on preaching.
- Modern congregations can range from conservative to liberal in doctrine and practice.

PENTECOSTAL MOVEMENT(1901)

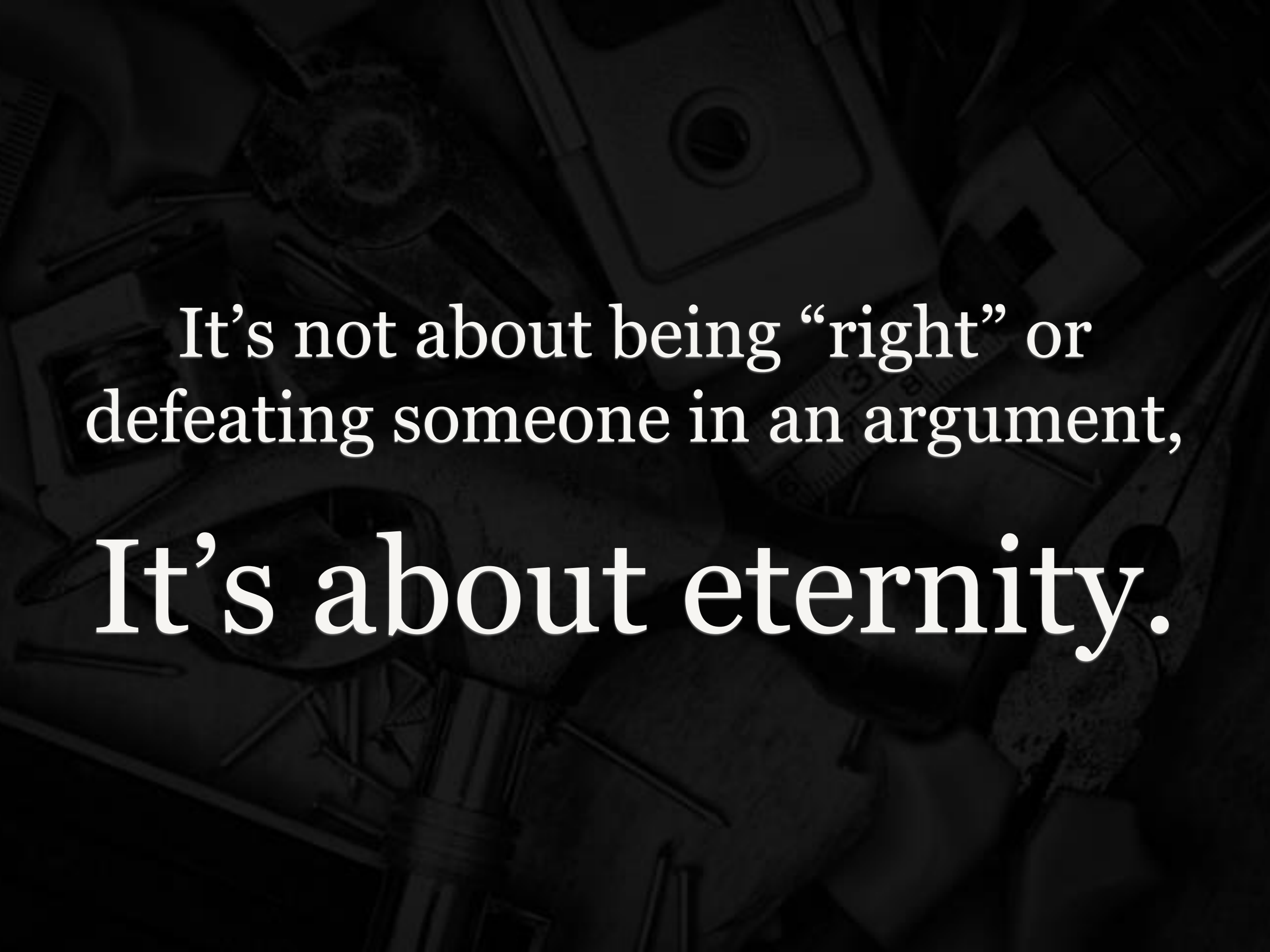
- Birthed from the Azusa Street Revival (Los Angeles) of 1906
- “Full Gospel” or Foursquare Gospel
 - Salvation by faith in Jesus
 - Baptism with the Holy Spirit is a second work/experience and is evidenced by speaking in tongues
 - Physical healing is a part of redemption
 - Jesus will return soon

PENTECOSTAL MOVEMENT(1901)

- Later developments led to Oneness (Jesus only) doctrine becoming a splitting force in the movement.
- Some Pentecostals in the Oneness branch believe speaking in tongues is a necessary sign of salvation.
- Pentecostal Denominations:
 - Assemblies of God, Church of God, Foursquare Church, Potter's House (CFMW)
 - Oneness - United Pentecostal Church Int., Pentecostal Assemblies of the World

PENTECOSTAL MOVEMENT(1901)

- Worship services may include, tongues, interpretations of tongues, prophecy, or other physical signs.



It's not about being “right” or
defeating someone in an argument,

It's about eternity.



Pursue Unity When
Possible

“Therefore I, the prisoner in the Lord, urge you to live worthy of the calling you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope at your calling—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.”

(Ephesians 4:1–6, CSB)



Make

the Main Thing

the Main Thing

“For I passed on to you as most important what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,”

(1 Corinthians 15:3–4, CSB)



Stand Firm on the Gospel

“But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, a curse be on him! As we have said before, I now say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, a curse be on him!”

(Galatians 1:8–9, CSB)

Pray for wisdom and clarity when dealing with someone from another denomination

Focus on a clear understanding of the Gospel, and then allow room beyond the Gospel for differences

Watch for additions to the Gospel that water it down or distort it

Live out your faith in a way that consistently teaches, celebrates, and declares the true Gospel of Jesus.

Memorize 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

“For I passed on to you as most important what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,”

(1 Corinthians 15:3–4, CSB)