

He must increase,
but I must decrease.

- John 3:30



Committed
to His Church

a novel by **Flannery O'Connor**

WISE

BLOOD



Committed
to His Church

16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 "I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

Matthew 16:16-20

19 "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven." 20 Then He warned the disciples that they should tell no one that He was the Christ.

Matthew 16:16-20

“every spiritual blessing is in Christ”

“in Him we have redemption”

“gave Him as head over all things to the church”

“He made us alive together with Christ”

“We are His workmanship”

“He himself is our peace.”

“through Him we have access to the Father”

“In Christ we have boldness and confidence”

Christ is the
“head of
the church”

Ephesians

Christ “gave up
his life” for the
church.



Committed
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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 fullness of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-13

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 what 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.

Ephesians 4:14-16

***We are committed
to helping the
church mature.***

***We are committed
to loving the
church.***

***We are committed
to helping the
church grow.***



Am I
Committed?



*Every contact
leaves a trace.*