

## Theology IV: The Church and the Kingdom of God

### A. Ecclesiology

#### 1. The Nature of the Church—Its internal dynamics

- a. Definition: εκκλησια
- b. Dimensions
  - 1) Visible—Invisible
  - 2) Local—Universal
  - 3) Militant—Triumphant
- c. Design
  - 1) Analogies: Images of the Church
    - a) Major figures
    - b) Minor figures
  - 2) Creed: Attributes of the Church
    - a) One
    - b) Holy
    - c) Catholic
    - d) Apostolic
  - 3) Inception: Birth of the Church
    - a) Date
    - b) Features
- d. Development
  - 1) Europe  
(cf. chart: “The Protestant Reformation”)
  - 2) America  
(cf. chart: “American Protestant Denominations”)

#### 2. The Function of the Church—Its external structure

- a. The Community—The Church gathered
  - 1) Membership
    - a) Initiation: Baptism
      - i. Applicants
      - ii. Mode
      - iii. Significance
    - b) Obligation
      - i. Responsibilities
      - ii. Gifts
      - iii. Discipline
        - aa Offenses
        - bb Procedure

- c) Celebration
  - i. Worship
    - aa Substance
    - bb Style
  - ii. Eucharist: The Lord's Supper
    - aa Institution
    - bb Meaning
      - i) Transubstantiation
      - ii) Consubstantiation
      - iii) Presence
      - iv) Memorial
    - cc Custom
- 2) Leadership
  - a) Polity
    - i. Autonomous—From without
    - ii. Directive—From within
  - b) Offices
    - i. Elders
      - aa Duties
      - bb Qualifications
    - ii. Deacons
      - aa Duties
      - bb Qualifications
- b. The Commission—The Church scattered
  - 1) Mandate
  - 2) Challenge
    - a) Obstacles
    - b) Cost
  - 3) Assessment—Marks of the Church