

Answer 15: 27 proofs of “The First Church”

15. They had divine authority (Matt. 18:18; 28:18-20).

Of a surety, so did Israel:

Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it. Keep therefore and do *them*; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people. For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon him for? And what nation *is there so great*, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day? (*Deuteronomy 4:5-8*)

Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion. For he hath strengthened the bars of thy gates; he hath blessed thy children within thee. He maketh peace *in thy borders*, and filleth thee with the finest of the wheat. He sendeth forth his commandment *upon earth*: his word runneth very swiftly. He giveth snow like wool: he scattereth the hoarfrost like ashes. He casteth forth his ice like morsels: who can stand before his cold? He sendeth out his word, and melteth them: he causeth his wind to blow, *and the waters flow.* He sheweth his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgments unto Israel. He hath not dealt so with any nation: and as for his judgments, they have not known them. Praise ye the LORD. (*Psalms 147:12-20*)

What then does this “proof,” prove?