

# *The Return of the Parallel Polis*



# The Parallel Polis

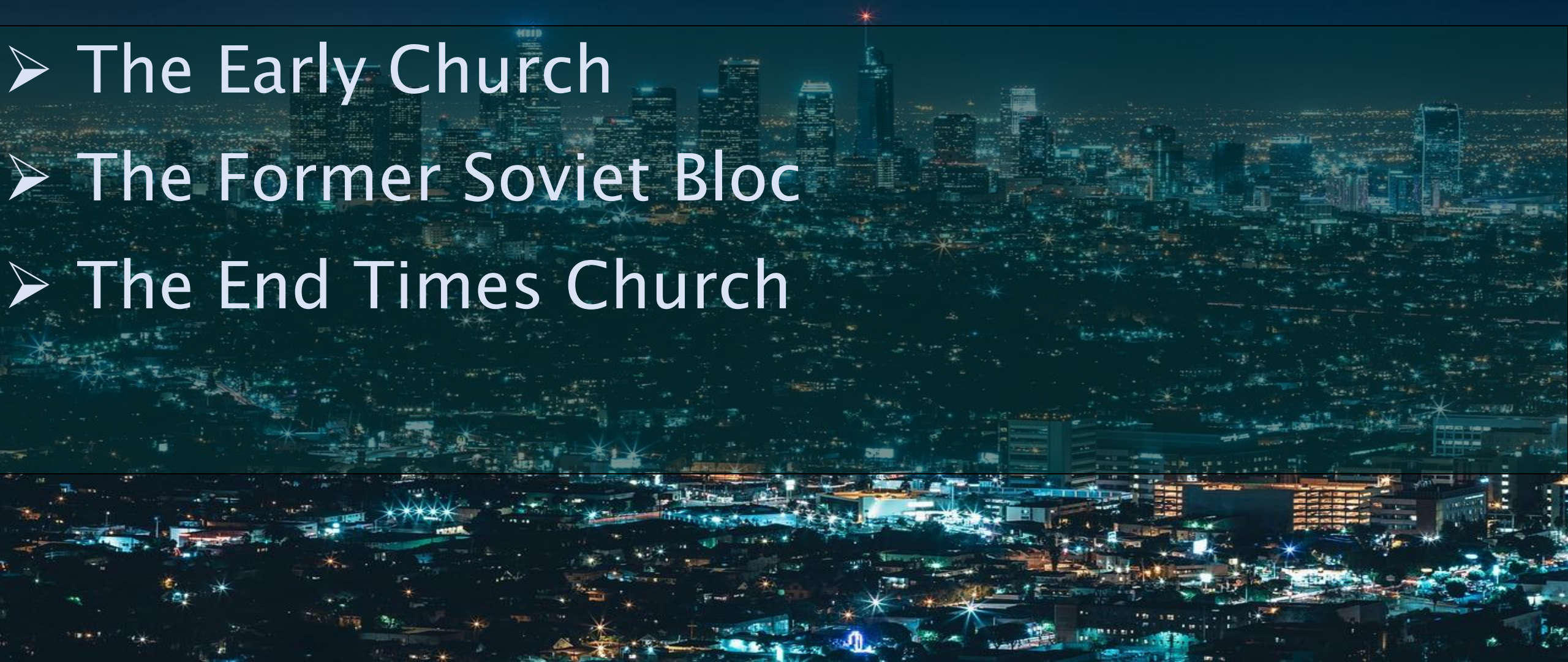
- What is a Parallel Polis?
- Instances of a Parallel Polis
- Why might we want one today.
- Challenges
- The Biblical Description

# What is a Parallel Polis?

- A Parallel Polis is literally a city within a city
- Distinct Community within a larger community.
- Neither accommodates nor opposes the larger city, but operates distinctly

# Instances of a Parallel Polis

- The Early Church
- The Former Soviet Bloc
- The End Times Church



# Why might we want one today

- Destruction of Economic Liberty
- Marginalization of Christians
- Persecution
- Optimizes Spiritual functionalities

# The Challenges

- Individualism
- Indoctrination to mainstream culture
- Dominionism of mainstream culture
- Lack of socialization/training in the Kingdom
- Compartmentalization
- Lack of Institutional Integrity in the Church

# The Biblical Description

1Co 12:12–18 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. (13) For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. (14) For in fact the body is not one member but many...

# The Biblical Description

1 Co 12:12-18 ... (15) If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? (16) And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? (17) If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? (18) But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.



# A City on a Hill

Mat 5:14-16 **"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. (15)**

Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. (16) Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

# A City on a Hill

Act 4:32–35 Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common. (33) And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all...

# A City on a Hill

Act 4:32–35 ... (34) Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, (35) and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.

# *The Return of the Parallel Polis*

