

The Foundation Stones of a New Testament Church

Acts 13:1-3

Introduction

Ephesians 2:18-22

“you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church” (Matthew 16:18).

These are the Foundation Stones of a New Testament Church:

v1

“the church” Gk *ekklesia*; ‘a calling out; an assembly’

“prophets and teachers”

“prophets”

“teachers”

Godly men in church leadership realize the critical importance of sound doctrinal preaching and teaching (Acts 6:4).

Barnabas and Saul were the primary teachers at Antioch.

“For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people” (11:26).

The outcome of that transformation was the manifestation of *Christian love* (11:27-30).

Christ lives on in this body of new believers!

1. The NT church must be committed to preaching and teaching sound doctrine.

Acts 2:42

2 Timothy 4:1-4

No schemes dreamed up by man. No clever marketing programs. No bending toward cultural trends.

2. The NT church is strengthened and protected by a plurality of godly, devout, biblically orthodox, and spiritually mature men in leadership.

“Barnabas”

“Simeon who was called Niger”

“Lucious of Cyrene”

“Manaen a member of the court of Herod the Tetrarch”

“Saul”

3. The NT church leadership itself, as in the entire body of Christ, reflects a wide diversity of people.

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

v2

“worshipping”

Romans 12:1

2 Timothy 2:15

Galatians 1:10

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Colossians 3:23-24

“the Holy Spirit”

4. The NT church must be under the control of the Holy Spirit.

“the Holy Spirit said.... they...sent” (vv2, 3).

The way to remain under the control of the Holy Spirit is to obey Him.

Galatians 5:16-17

2 Peter 1:20-21

Spirit fed and Spirit filled is Spirit led.

Barnabas was “full of the Holy Spirit and of faith” (11:24);

“Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit” (13:9).

One Spirit, One Body with Many Members

1 Corinthians 12:7-9; 11-13

The life and functionality of the NT church depends entirely on the presence and activity of the Holy Spirit; and the willingness of the people to receive the Word of God and remain Spirit filled.

Galatians 3:1-3

v3

5. The NT church will be a *fasting and praying* church.