

THE APOSTLES' TEACHING

We began our series entitled, Healthy Church, from Acts 2:42-47. In our first study we studied 10 signs of a healthy church found in Acts 2:42-47.

If you recall from our previous lesson, “They were (eimi/ impf.a.ind.3pl) continually devoting (proskartereo/ p.a.ptc.nplm).” This imperfect periphrastic began a series of imperfect tenses outline of 10 signs of a healthy church.

In this study, we will cover <u>three aspects</u> of the first one listed, Apostles Teaching

(Acts 2:42) “They were continually devoting themselves to **the Apostles’ teaching.**”

1. An Apostle of Jesus Christ was qualified to teach and train the disciples of Jesus in the basic doctrines of His New Covenant teachings.

One example of the Apostles’ Teachings would be on:

- Jesus introducing new teachings on the Old Covenant Passover Eucharist (Ex.12:1-20; 1 Cor.5:7)

For example, with reference to the New Covenant Eucharist (John 1:29) (1 Pet.1:18-19) we read:

(Lk.22:19-20) ¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁰ In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

NOTE: When taking our New Covenant Eucharist, we read from (1 Cor.11:23-32)

(1 Cor.11:24-25) ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

2. During the ministry of Jesus Christ, there were three different grouping of disciples following their master’s teachings (doctrines).

(Mark 2:18) “And John’s disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and they came and said to Him, ‘Why do John’s disciples and the disciples of Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?’”

- An example of doctrines of John the Baptist are given in (John 1:15-34). Paul will incorporate into the church some of John’s disciples in Ephesus in (Acts 19:1-7).
- An example of the Pharisees doctrines is given in (Mark 7:1-13) and (John 9:27-34).
- An example of Jesus doctrines is given in (John 4:25-38)
 - (John 4:42) “And they were saying to the woman, ‘It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this One is indeed the Savior of the world.’”

The disciples of Jesus became known as “the Twelve” (Luke 9:1, 12) and after death of Judas, “the Eleven” (Luke 24:9). At Antioch of Syria, disciples of Jesus were called “Christians” (Acts 11:26).

3. The disciples of Jesus became known as His Apostles.

The Greek word for Apostle (apostolos means one sent forth on a mission).

The Book of Luke shows the promotion of the disciples of Jesus to apostles (Luke 6:12-16; 9:1-6; 11:49; 17:1, 5; 22:13-14; 24:9-12).

(Lk.9:1-2) “And He called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all the demons and to heal diseases, and **He sent (apostello/ a.a.ind.3ps) them out** to proclaim the kingdom of God and to perform healings.”

You can see from Luke the apostles were missionaries capable of establishing new converts and late to plant churches (John 17:3) [sent/ apostello].

The writer of Hebrews refers to Jesus as The APOSTLE (Heb.3:1; John 3:17) [sent/ apostello]