

Continuing Stedfastly in

The Apostles' Doctrine

TEXT: Acts 2:41-47

INTRODUCTION:

- A. THOSE WHO RECEIVED THE TEACHING OF PETER WERE BAPTIZED.
- B. NOT AN EVENT, THE BEGINNING OF A NEW LIFE.
- C. THEY CONTINUED STEDFASTLY. IN WHAT?
 1. The apostles' doctrine.
 2. Fellowship.
 3. Breaking of bread.
 4. Prayers.

D. LET'S LOOK AT THE APOSTLES' DOCTRINE.

I. WHAT IS THE APOSTLES' DOCTRINE?

- A. REFERENCES BY PAUL (**Rom. 2:16; 2 Tim. 2:2; 2 Thess. 2:15; 1 John 4:6**).
- B. ORIGIN OF THE APOSTLES' DOCTRINE (**Gal. 1:11; 2 Pet. 3:1-2**).
- C. THE ROLE OF INSPIRATION:
 1. God spoke this way in the past (**Heb. 1:1**).
 2. But in these last days thru Jesus (**Heb. 1:1-2; John 12:49**).
 3. Jesus speaks thru the Holy Spirit (**John 14:26; 16:13**).
 4. The Holy Spirit thru the Apostles (**Eph. 3:5**).
 5. **1 Pet. 1:12**. They spoke (**1 Cor. 2:13**) and wrote (**Eph. 3:3-4**).
 6. Their teaching constitutes law (**John 12:48; Luke 10:16; 1 Cor. 14:37**).
- D. THE REVELATION PROCESS IS COMPLETE!
 1. We have all things in the Scriptures (**2 Pet. 1:3; 2 Tim. 3:16-17**).
 2. "Once for all..." (**Jude 3**).
 3. Latter day revelations are false (**Gal. 1:8-9**).

II. WHAT IS MEANT "THEY CONTINUED STEDFASTLY?"

- A. THE LORD'S DESIRE FOR US IS THAT WE GROW (**2 Pet. 3:18**).
 1. How is that growth accomplished? (**1 Pet. 2:1-2; Acts 20:32**). Feed on His Word!
 2. Exercise is important (**1 Tim. 4:7-8; Heb. 5:12-14**).
- B. THE PURPOSE OF THAT GROWTH IS A NEW LIFE (**Rom. 6:4**).
 1. A new lifestyle (**Rom. 6:1; 1 Pet. 4:1-4; Eph. 4:17**).
 2. A new perspective (**Col. 3:1-2**).
 3. A new commitment of service (**Rom. 6:17-18; 1 Pet. 3:15; 4:19**).
- C. BUT WE MUST CONTINUE IF WE ARE TO BE TRUE CHRISTIANS (**John 8:31**).

III. NOW LET'S PUT THE TWO TOGETHER.

- A. WE MUST CONTINUE IN WHAT THE APOSTLES ACTUALLY TAUGHT (**2 Tim. 1:13; Gal. 1:6-9**).
 1. There is a "sound" teaching (**Titus 2:1-2; 1:9, 13; 1 Tim. 4:6**).
 2. There is a tendency to not consent (**1 Tim. 6:3; 2 Tim. 4:3-4**).
- B. DEPARTING FROM THE APOSTLES' DOCTRINE HAS CONSEQUENCES (**2 John 9; Col. 2:8; Matt. 15:13-14; Gal. 1:8-9**).
- C. WE MUST CONTINUE IN WHAT? (**John 8:31-32**).
- D. WE MUST TAKE HEED (**Matt. 24:4; Acts 17:11**).

Book, Chapter, Verse!

CONCLUSION:

- A. THE APOSTLES' DOCTRINE IS FOUND IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.
- B. IT IS THE INSTRUCTION MANUAL FOR THOSE CREATED IN GOD'S IMAGE.
- C. ARE YOU FOLLOWING IT?
- D. ARE YOU CONTINUING IN IT?