

The Attributes and Attitudes of Apostolic People



Acts 2:42-47-

And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

⁴³ And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

⁴⁴ And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

⁴⁵ And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.

⁴⁶ And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

⁴⁷ Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Also Ephesians 4:11-13

1Cor:12:28: And God hath set some in the church, first* apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

“First”- *Proton (gr.)

- 1) first in time or place
- 1a) in any succession of things or persons
- 2) first in rank
- 2a) influence, honour
- 2b) chief
- 2c) principal
- 3) first, at the first

1 Corinthians 4:9- For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men.

How can the apostles be first, and yet be last?

- First to serve, yet last to be honored.
- First to give, yet last to receive.
- First to build, yet last to enjoy the fruit of their labor.
- First to be needed, yet often the last to be received.

The church does not like apostles, because they are mind- changers; they are challengers of ingrained religious mindsets. They are carriers of the apostolic character of Christ, who infuriated the religious authorities when he uttered the very first words of His earthly ministry:

REPENT- (*metaneo*)- a new way of thinking); “change your mind” – “Ye have heard it said...”

- The “traditional” church is hostile to the apostolic because it is vested in maintaining the status quo. It has no interest in seeing the people of God rising up to fulfill their God-ordained destinies, nor seeing the Kingdom of God emerge in the earth. It profits from keeping things as they are.

- In ancient times, an *apostolos* (Gr.- “One who is sent away”) was a naval officer whose mission it was to go into a conquered territory and transform it into the image of the conquering society.

Luke 19:12-13-

“He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, **Occupy till I come.**”

Occupy- A military term

The mission, therefore, of an apostolic people is not to get saved and “have church” until Jesus comes, but to manifest the Kingdom of God in the earth. We are supposed to transform the world into the image of God, not seek to escape from it.

APOSTOLIC ATTRIBUTES

1. Pioneering
2. Building
3. Warring
4. Sending
5. Power
6. Authority
7. Order
8. Ordaining
9. Revelation
10. Releasing
11. Discipling
12. Teaching
13. Preaching
14. Reforming
15. Advancing
16. Establishing
17. Defending
18. Foundations
19. Boldness
20. Ambassadors

E.C.A.P.S.

- **IDENTIFY**
- **STRENGTHEN**
- **MOTIVATE**

- I. The church is not supposed to be a passive collection of people waiting to die and go to Heaven, or for Jesus to return. It is designed by God to be a CONQUERING FORCE.**
- II. Apostolic ministry is not a denomination. It is a LIFESTYLE. We are in church 24 hours a day.**
- III. The primary concern of apostolic ministry is to restore the church to the original pattern that Christ taught his disciples and that was set after the Day of Pentecost.**

SOMEONE PLEASE READ ACTS 2:42-47

5 ATTITUDES OF APOSTOLIC PEOPLE

Apostolic People Have Right Hearts Towards Ministry

2 Corinthians 4:2

1: Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;

2: But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

Apostolic People Don't Try To Do It Alone

Acts 11:21-26

21: And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.

22: Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.

23: Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.

24: For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.

25: Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul:

26: And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

Apostolic People Hate Idolatry

Acts 17:16-17

16: Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.

17: Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him.

Apostolic People Don't Play With The Devil

Acts 16:16-18

16: And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

17: The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

18: And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

Apostles Want God's Best For His People

Galatians 4:19

My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,

Philippians 1:6

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: