

Acts # 24 “Devoted to the Apostles’ Teaching and to Fellowship”

Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 138:2 NKJV

The Lord Himself actually invites every member of the human race to receive His Son Jesus Christ as Savior due to the fact that when Christ died on the cross, He died for every member of the human race.

But this is potential based upon the fact that at the point of God-consciousness some people have a negative reaction and when they do, God has no further responsibility although He often repeatedly gives them the Gospel anyway.

Not only did Peter present the Gospel but he told them what to do with the Gospel.

First of all we have the content of the Gospel itself when we testify for Jesus Christ and we also have to tell them what to do with it—believe in Jesus Christ and be saved.

Their baptism has to do with their understanding 3 factors:

1) Retro-active positional truth

2) *Current positional truth*

3) The filling of the Holy Spirit which produces divine good

The gift of tongues was the sign of the 5th cycle of divine disciple for Israel given to evangelize the people and it was discontinued in A.D. 70.

The power of Jesus Christ’s Church continues and tongues has absolutely nothing to do with the power of the Church.

The secret to power is always Bible doctrine in our souls.

Bible doctrine is what the Bible has to say when it’s taught; it’s the communication of Bible information on the basis of exegesis, classification, analysis and

interpretation by authorized personnel with the gift of pastor-teacher who are prepared through intensive study to communicate God’s truth.

Jesus Christ exhaled once before He died and in His last breath, He uttered the words of Psalm 31:5 (NKJV) “Into Your hand I commit My spirit; You have redeemed Me, O Lord God of truth/Bible doctrine.”

So, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself explained where He got the spiritual stamina, the strength, the motivation, the courage and the nobility to take the most awful course in history and follow it to the objective which was the cross.

According to Colossians 2:14-15 and Hebrews 2:14-15, the Lord Jesus Christ destroyed Satan on the cross, accomplishing strategic victory and providing everything necessary in that moment for our eternal salvation.

David knew that God had already set up His order; that God already made the issue clear and success is a matter of being oriented to the plan of God.

And when David said, “I (myself) will worship” he was saying “I am oriented to the plan of God.”

We will never praise or celebrate the Lord until we are motivated and we will never be motivated until it comes from inside us - not some herd-bound following the group thing, but inside us.

God is revealed to us generally in His Creation and specifically in His Word and He has clarified everything we need to know of Him and His plan for us in Bible doctrine.

Therefore, Bible doctrine is more important than the air that you breathe.

God the Father attaches the highest importance to His doctrine because it expresses who and what His Son, Christ is and because it expresses His plan and it provides the living-grace

support for His plan and because it provides everything that we will ever need at any time for anything.

If we have our fellowship with our Lord and if we are oriented to the apostles' doctrine, then we will have fellowship with people in a realistic and wonderful manner.

Otherwise, people will cause us to become confused and we'll have our eyes on people instead of Jesus and we will be miserable.

The purpose of the Eucharist is retrospective reflection or occupation with Jesus Christ, remembering Who made our salvation possible; remembering Who Jesus is and What He did for us and how He did what He did.

Behind the ritual of baptism is the concept of the filling of the Spirit producing divine good and behind the ritual of the Lord's Table is the concept of occupation with the Person of Jesus Christ.

Charity is a wonderful legitimate operation as long as it involves free-will.

But when we're forced, it then becomes an attack on freedom. *Christianity and communism are not only mutually exclusive but antagonistic.*

Christianity emphasizes the Triune God and relationship with Him and communism denies God and glorifies man.

The early Church actually reflected the grace of God in their lives and this is important because it is best way to avoid self-righteousness; so, these people were completely relaxed around unbelievers.

They made an issue out of the Gospel, not the poor behavior of unbelievers.

Grace means they were not hypocritical or

self-righteous which are two great enemies of the Gospel.