



# ACCURATE BUILDING CONCEPTS

## Doctrine before Prayer – Part 1

### DOCTRINE BEFORE PRAYER PART 1

*Acts 2:42*

*And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.(NKJ)*

The disciples were engaged in 4 activities:

- Apostles' doctrine
- Fellowship
- Breaking of bread
- Prayers

Most churches today have left out Apostles' doctrine. They have a three-fold emphasis: fellowship, breaking of bread and prayers. These are 3 dimensional churches. "Apostles' doctrine is controversial. Let's leave that to the Bible Schools" – this is the belief of many leaders.

More and more Bible school is closing down. Biblical illiteracy is increasing. Bible study in many churches has now been replaced by prayer meetings. The pastors say "let's leave doctrine to the theologians and experts" – the experts are always somewhere far away. Pastors' gatherings also shun any doctrinal involvement – "don't ruin the friendship by bringing doctrine into the discussion".

Doctrine is not optional – it is quintessential. It constitutes your belief system. Doctrine develops character, counteracts error, reveals the mind of Christ and outlines fundamental truth.

Apostles' doctrine is mentioned first, not accidentally but deliberately – true sheep demand truth. Apostles' doctrine involves a Word-centred life.

*Acts 6:2*

*Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables.(NKJ)*

*Acts 6:7*

*Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.(NKJ)*

A person with a valid salvation pursues the Word – he wants to eat Jesus' flesh and drink Jesus' blood – symbol of Word internalization. The main business of leaders is to feed the sheep with the Word of God. If your Bible study has closed down – you have shut down the main enterprise of the kingdom of God – Your church will not last trans-generationally. Be suspicious of believers that do not want or love God's word. They may just be wood, stubble and hay.

Apostles' doctrine is more than Bible study. Bible study can kill your church – the letter kills. The apostles were talking new things. They were speaking out of revelation. Their teachings were relevant, Christocentric and practical. They were speaking proceeding truth.

*Matt 4:4*

*But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"(NKJ)*

Proceeding truth is life-giving word.

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P. O. Box 432, Mount Edgecombe; 4300; Tel/Fax: 031 502 3006

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**Your doctrine determines who you fellowship with. Without doctrine you will fellowship with anyone – you will never accelerate kingdom purpose.**

**Without doctrine you will break bread with anyone and pray with anyone – in violation of the one accord principle. This does not mean that you must not fellowship with people that are not in one accord – my emphasis is give priority to a doctrinal meeting in your life – let fellowship follow as a secondary event.**

**Prayer is important but it is mentioned last. The church places prayer first – the cart before the horse.**

**The apostolic reformation is demanding doctrinal accuracy and priority, with fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer. What you believe will determine what you practice. What you believe will determine your destiny.**

**When you look at the armour of God in Ephesians 6 prayer is mentioned last. The sword of the Spirit is mentioned before prayer. While we must pray always, we must not do this at the expense of Word of God. In fact if you know the Word, then you will know how to pray accurately.**

***1 Jn 5:14***

***Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. (NKJ)***