

Restoration of Biblical Christianity Series
Rediscovering & Restoring His Pattern

Bible Studies Prepared for Rock Campus Fellowship at Wright State University 2015 to 2017 by Greg Weis

(Acts 3: 19-21) "Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; ²⁰ and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you, ²¹ whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time.

(Isaiah 58:12) Those from among you will rebuild the ancient ruins; You will raise up the age-old foundations; And you will be called the repairer of the breach, The restorer of the streets in which to dwell. (Ezra, Nehemiah, Haggai)

I. Restoring Biblical Perspective: (Regathering Troops, Turning Army Around to Face the Battle. **Explain.**)

A. New Testament Church: Turned the World Upside Down

(Acts 17:1-7) ⁶ And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, "These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also, ⁷ and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus." (ESV) (Roman Empire vs. NT Christianity. **Explain.** Parallels w/ Modern Western Culture.)

B. Salt, Light & City: From the Sermon on the Mount.

(Matthew 5:13-15) ¹³ "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. (**Explain:** Sermon, Salt, Light, City. Safeties.)

C. Gates Are for Defense: Offense vs. Defense (Plan of Jesus has not been tried & found wanting ...)

(Matthew 16:18) ""I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. (Modern America: Massive Conversion to Paganism, Humanism, Witchcraft, Amoralism, Addiction, Human Trafficking, Culture of Divorce, Etc.) (**Explain:** University Statistics. 85%.)

(Hebrews 2:1-4) Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. ² For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, ³ how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, ⁴ while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will. (ESV)

Note: Influence of the Contemporary Church vs. Response to Radical Christ & His Early Church

Note: Famous Dictum Misattributed to Albert Einstein & / or Benjamin Franklin

D. Noble Mindedness:

(Acts 17:11-12) ¹¹ Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so. ¹² Therefore many of them believed, along with a number of prominent Greek women and men. (2 Timothy 3:16; Psalm 119:160)

II. Rediscovering the Pattern

A. The Prescribed Way (1 Chronicles 13:1-10 / "They carried the ark of God on a new cart...")

(1 Chronicles 15:13) ¹³ Because you did not carry it the first time, the LORD our God broke out against us, because we did not seek him according to the rule." (ESV) (KJV = Due Order / NKJV = Proper Order)

B. The Pattern of the Tabernacle –

(Exodus 25:8-9, 40) ⁸ ""Let them construct a sanctuary for Me, that I may dwell among them. ⁹ "" According to all that I am going to show you, as the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furniture, just so you shall construct it. ⁴⁰ "" See that you make them after the pattern for them, which was shown to you on the mountain. (Also Compare David, Solomon, Ezra & Nehemiah – Not Isolated Theme) (See Exodus 40:34-35)

(Hebrews 8:5) ...who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, just as Moses was warned by God when he was about to erect the tabernacle; for, "" SEE," He says, ""THAT YOU MAKE all things ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN WHICH WAS SHOWN YOU ON THE MOUNTAIN." (See Ezekiel 43:11 in Various Translations) (Acts 7:44) Our ancestors carried the Tabernacle with them through the wilderness. It was constructed in exact accordance with the plan shown to Moses by God. (NLT) (plan = pattern in NASB)

C. The Church is the Tabernacle / Temple - (Read all of Ephesians 2:11-22)

(Ephesians 2:19) So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

D. Christ Our Pattern / Model / Example (Synonyms) – In All Respects

(John 13: 13-15) ¹³You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you. (John 20:21; Matthew 28:18-20; John 14:12; Etc. Ad Infinitum)

(1 Peter 2:21) ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in His steps. (ESV)

E. We Must Reexamine, Rediscover & Restore (**Explain**: pride of Discovery vs. Humility of Modeling)

(John 16:13) ""But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. "We must re-evaluate everything, not in a haughty or critical spirit, but in a comprehensive and constructive spirit. The mandate of the current outpouring of the Holy Spirit is the Restoration of All Things." (John 14:26)

III. Fifteen (15) Biblical Emphasis for Rediscovery and Restoration

1. Loving God: 1st Commandment, Zeal & Intimacy vs. Compromised Complacent Materialism; Total Life
2. Grace Upon Grace vs. Performance Base: Grace Defined; Growing in Grace; Grace Plus...?
3. The Church: Community of the King; Ecclesiology vs. Programmatic Marketing Models; Unity
4. Leadership: Roles, Functions, Models, Qualifications, Development / Formation vs. Information / 5C's
5. Word of God: Comprehensive Integration vs. Reductionist Theologies (2 Tim 2:15, 3:16) (Ps. 119:160)
6. Kingdom Gospel: All Essential Biblical Elements vs. Popularized Reductionist Versions (Matt 24:14)
7. Biblically Complete Conversions: First Five Steps (Quality Building Materials: Living Stones (1 Peter 2:5, 9)
8. Prioritizing The Dynamic Ministry, Person & Activity of the Holy Spirit vs. Cessationist & Third Wave
9. The Kingdom of God: Restoring Perception, Proclamation, Demonstration, Embodiment, Now
10. Biblical Worship: Models, Content & Lifestyle: Biblical Themes w/ Biblical Expression
11. Effective Prayer (w/ Fasting) – Catalyst to Visitation – Embodied in Local Church Daily Lifestyle
12. The Great Commission – Cultural Mandate: Evangelism & Discipleship (Decision to Disciple-Making)
13. Church Planting: Transforming Cultures from Downtown Out; Full Kingdom Culture vs. Pietism
14. Stewardship: Comprehensive Redemption & Restoration (Individual, Corporate, Global) (Gifts, Finances, Health, Environment, Marriage, Church, Education, Business, Civil Government, Etc.)
15. Vision for the Restoration of All Things vs. Lesser Goals (Global, Comprehensive. Ex. 7 Institutions)

IV. As We Discover God's Vision – We Will Know We Have Found It – When It is as Big as He Is. (**Explain**)