

Rediscovering & Restoring His Pattern

Bible Studies Prepared 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, Joel)

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

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)

B. Salt & Light

(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.

C. Gates Are for Defense

(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.)

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

E. Noble Mindedness: Albert Einstein's Famous Dictum

(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.

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 - (Ephesians 2:19-22)

(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) ¹³ You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴ If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For 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) ²¹ For 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 and Restore

(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. Fourteen Biblical Emphasis for Rediscovery and Restoration

1. Word of God: Comprehensive Integration vs. Reductionist Theologies (2 Tim 2:15, 3:16)(Ps. 119:160)
2. Kingdom Gospel: All Essential Biblical Elements vs. Popularized Disemboweled Versions (Matt 24:14) (Examples: Bad News, History of Israel – People, Etc.)
3. Biblically Complete Conversions: First Five Steps (Quality Building Materials: Living Stones (1 Peter 2:5, 9) (All 5 or God's Intent was Retarded: Receiving Jesus; Baptisms; Deliverance & Healings; NT Lifestyle)
4. Loving God: First Commandment, Passion, Zeal & Intimacy vs. Compromised Complacent Materialism
5. Prioritizing The Dynamic Ministry, Person & Activity of the Holy Spirit vs. Cessationist & Third Wave
6. The Kingdom of God: Restoring Perception, Proclamation, Demonstration, Embodiment, Now
7. The Church: Community of the King; Ecclesiology vs. Programmatic Marketing Models, Unity
8. Biblical Worship: Models, Content & Lifestyle: Biblical Themes w/ Biblical Expression
9. Effective Prayer (w/ Fasting) – Catalyst to Visitation – Embodied in Local Church Daily Lifestyle
10. Leadership: Roles, Functions, Models, Qualifications, Development - Formation vs. Information
11. The Great Commission – The Cultural Mandate: Evangelism & Discipleship (Moving Past a Decision Model to Restore a Discipleship Model)
12. Church Planting: Transforming Cultures from Downtown Out; Full Kingdom Culture vs. Pietism
13. Stewardship: Comprehensive Redemption & Restoration (Individual, Corporate, Global) (Gifts, Finances, Health, Environment, Etc.)
14. Vision for the Restoration of All Things vs. Lesser Goals (Psalm. 2; Psalm 110; Isaiah 2:2-4; Isaiah 40:5; Numbers 14:21; Habakkuk 2:14; Acts 3:19-21; Etc.) (As We Discover God's Vision – We Will Know We Have Found It – When It is as Big as He Is)

(Mark 10:27) ²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." (ESV) (Dare to Interpret Beyond Personal to Church Community & Global)