

# The Spirit of Prophecy & Apostolic Doctrine

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A. Revelations 19:10— Then I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

1. The Spirit of Prophecy is an abiding Presence that perpetually unveils the revelation of Jesus Christ. It is the embodiment of the Living Word unfolding and giving understanding to the mysteries of God's Kingdom.

2. The gift of prophecy is seeing in part...the Spirit of Prophecy is the Spirit's ability to convey the whole picture. The spirit of Prophecy provides the life and expression of Jesus in the earth tasting the good word of God and the power of the age to come.

3. The Spirit of prophecy is of a higher nature than the gift of prophecy and fruitions more through relationship and by a spiritual gift.

**B. Matthew 24:3— as He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things happen, and what {will be} the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"**

1. Parousia— appearing, arrival and personal presence of Jesus. Used 24 times in the New Testament.

2. Ekklesia— We understand that in the New Testament the church is called ekklesia, from which the word ecclesiology is derived. Ekklesia means "an assembly which has come into existence through a call."<sup>3</sup> The church therefore is a community, called into being for a certain purpose or function.



It is called to exist not for its own sake, i.e., not for the benefit or salvation of its members only, but in order that "by the power of the Holy Spirit, all are brought into communion with God" (Ephesians 1).

3. Koinonia— The church is called to be a community, a koinonia, so that it becomes a sign, an active sign, to witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ, which is given to all God's creation, and to witness to the reign of God over all of God's creation. Hence the church is called to function as a koinonia, in order to become marturia.

There cannot be koinonia without marturia. Koinonia and marturia are inseparable functions of the church. Therefore, the task and function of the church is to become a witness in the larger community in the world.

2. Marturia— Testimony— 1) a testifying; the office committed to the prophets of testifying concerning future events 2) what one testifies, testimony, that is, before a judge. It is experiential in nature. To be a witness, to bear witness, that is, to affirm that one has seen or heard or experienced something, or that he knows it because taught by divine revelation or inspiration

# Characteristics of an Apostolic Church

1. Looks like family (Community)
2. Mentoring
3. All things in common...when they pray buildings shake.
4. Christ in us the hope of Glory
5. Spirit of Truth provided an atmosphere to flourish
6. Righteousness and Justice. Judges restored to the church. Isaiah 28.17.
7. Two pillars of the temple. Jachin—“Yah Establishes”;  
Boaz—Strength

# Functions of Apostolic Community

- A Church/Fellowship
- A Ministry/Cultural Transformation
- A Training (Mentoring) Center; Priest/King
- A School of Ministry
- A Regional Gathering
- Kingdom Resource Centers
- Storehouses/Freedom Outpost Centers.
- A House of Healing
- A School of the Prophets
- Base for Sending Others

# Definition of Apostolic Ministry

- **Apostolic ministry can be defined as Jesus Christ manifested and abiding (parousia) in His church doing the same works through His church that He did while living on the earth in human form. True apostolic ministry is a fulfillment of John 14:12, the Holy Spirit performing the same works through the church that He did through the life and ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

# Five Criticisms of Apostolic Reformation

1. Neglect of the Word.
2. Misuse of the Word.
3. Exaltation of man.
4. Lack of Accountability
5. Neglect of Christ. Placing the  
phenomena of God over the Person.



# Attributes of First Century Church

- 1. They were deeply spiritual and pure hearted.
- 2. They initially possessed great zeal and love for God.
- 3. They examined all messages by the absolute Plumb-line truth.
- 4. Hated the deeds of the Nicolaitans
- 5. Would not accept false apostles.
- 6. They were resilient and persevered during hardship.

- Devoted to Prayer and Fasting and Ministering to the Lord. Acts 13:1-3.
- Devoted to the Prophetic Gospel.
- Teaching Kingdom Truth by the Spirit of Revelation. There were prophets and teachers and the prophet named Agabus who accurately predicted famine.
- Devoted to Charitable Giving and sensitivity to the needs of others. They became a source of blessing. Acts 11:27.
- Devoted to Team Ministry
- Devoted to a racially and culturally diverse community. Acts 13:1-2. Crossing all barriers.

A. Pioneered new moves of God

B. Able to move under intense pressure

C. Move without compromise

D. Move in progressive revelation

E. Move under authority

F. Move to impact society

**C. Acts 2:42-43—And they  
continued steadfastly in the  
apostles'**

**doctrine and fellowship, in the  
breaking of bread, and in prayers.**

# 1. They Continued.

They didn't just wait for something to happen, or wait passively, they continued what they had started, obedience to Christ.

A. New Christians were to “continue with the Lord,” (Acts 11:23).

B. The Leaders admonished the people to “continue in the grace of God,” (Acts 13:43)

C. Disciples at Lystra, Iconium and Antioch were exhorted “to continue in the faith,” (Acts 14:22).

D. Why begin the greatest endeavor of man’s purpose, then quit! They continued.

## 2. They Continued Steadfastly.

A. To do something “steadfastly” is to do it with fixed purpose that becomes your lifestyle. (Apostolic lifestyle)



B. These early Christians determined to “follow through” with purpose of heart.

C. This became their daily way of life; their passion; a cause they would die for.

D. Just as they had received Christ Jesus the Lord, it was their intention to “walk in Him,” (Col. 2:6).

**3. They Continued Steadfastly  
In The Apostles' Doctrine.**

A. There was no confusion about their proper direction. There is no evidence they were confused about what to do or who to turn to.

B. No indication they assembled to appoint a chairman to hold a creed-writing session.

C. They knew what their standard was, the teachings of the apostles of Christ!

D. The apostles gave instruction from heaven (John. 16:13) as Jesus told them (Matt. 28:20).

E. We are able to “speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine,” (Titus 2:1)

F. and “abide in the doctrine of Christ,” (2 John 1: 9)

# 4. The Results of Devotion to Apostolic Doctrine?

A. Then fear came upon every soul and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

B. Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

C. So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved,” (Acts 2:43-47).



## D. The Testimony of Jesus

1. Revelations 12:17— So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

3. John 21:24–25— This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and wrote these things, and we know that his testimony is true. And there are also many other things which Jesus did, which if they were written in detail, I suppose that even the world itself would not contain the books that would be written.

# E. A True Knowledge— A Holy Standard

1. Truth is multi-dimensional and it is ever expanding.

**2. Colossians 2:2–3— that their hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love, and attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery, that is Christ Himself in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.**

3. True Knowledge— epignosis—  
precise and correct knowledge;  
used in the New Testament of the  
knowledge of things ethical and  
divine.

4. 2 Peter 1:19— So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.

**F. The Testimony of Jesus  
Produces the Image of Jesus**

1. Colossians 3:10— and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him.



2. The Conversion of Saul. He was persecuting the very God that he claimed to serve. The Revelation (unveiling) of Jesus gave him the true knowledge.

### 3. The Model for Understanding the testimony of Jesus— Acts 22:12-15

1. To Know His Will
2. To See the Righteous One
3. To Hear Utterances from His Mouth
4. To Testify (give testimony of Jesus) of what was seen and heard.

# **G. The Mysteries of the Kingdom Revealed**

**1. Isaiah 48:6-7— You have heard [these things foretold], now you see this fulfillment. And will you not bear witness to it? I show you specified new things from this time forth, even hidden things [kept in reserve] which you have not known. they are created now [called into being by the prophetic word], and not long ago; and before today you have never heard of them, lest you should say, Behold, I knew them!**

2. There are things in the Kingdom realm that have not existed in the natural realm yet.

3. They are called into being by the spirit of prophecy through a Presence driven community..

4. Truth that will perfect the  
bride without spot or wrinkle.

5. Revelations 10:8-11

We have seen isolated forerunners like William Branham, Kathryn Kuhlman, John G. Lake and others who embodied a divine presence that produced the spirit of prophecy.

# Characteristics of a Perfect Church

1. Look like family

2. Mentoring

3. All things in common...when they pray buildings shake.

4. Christ in us the hope of Glory

5 Spirit of Truth provided an atmosphere to flourish

6. Righteousness and Justice. Judges restored to the church. Isaiah 28.17.

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