

Fundamental Characteristics of the New Testament Church

INTRODUCTION

1. Many things in our world are similar to other things -- yet are fundamentally different: _____
2. Today we want to think about _____
3. There are literally thousands of _____
 - a) They all have basic _____
 - b) Yet, each has it's own fundamental concepts that makes it _____ from the others
4. Consider the very first Church _____
 - a) That early Church set the _____
 - b) It had certain definite concepts that all should _____
5. Our goal at West Olive -- to be just like that New Testament Church!



DISCUSSION

I. The Church in the New Testament Was _____ in It's Design!

- A. The idea of a _____ Christianity was _____
 1. John 17:20-24 _____
 2. 1 Corinthians 1:10-13 _____
- B. But -- upon what basis could this "oneness" exist?...

II. The Church in the New Testament Was Completely Reliant on _____ For It's Authority!

- A. Initially -- the _____ of the apostles (Acts 2:42 and 1 Thessalonians 2:13)
- B. Ultimately -- the _____ Word of the New Testament (1 Corinthians 14:37b and 2 Peter 3:15-16)
- C. The issue that divides Christianity today is _____
 1. Where do we find the authority for _____?
 - a) Some feel that the _____ is the authority
 - b) As such, it could _____
 2. Jesus challenged that concept (Matthew 28:18)
 3. The Church in the New Testament recognized only _____ as the Head! (Ephesians 1:22-23)
 - a) The Church obeyed _____ for entrance into the Church
 - b) The Church followed _____ for Church organization
 - c) The Church worshipped according to _____

III. The Church in the New Testament Was Very Energetic in It's _____

- A. The key word in the book of Acts is _____ (it is a book of _____)
- B. It was a way of life, not a _____
- C. Like Jesus, they "went about _____"
 1. We need to recapture the _____
 2. Titus 2:14 _____



IV. The Church of the New Testament Was Committed to the Purpose for Which It Existed: _____

- A. It was the underlying motive for all _____
- B. They brought glory to God through their _____
 1. It was simply _____
 2. The "pattern"? "Spirit" (_____); "Truth" (_____)
 3. The worship was _____
- C. They brought glory to God through _____
 1. There are numerous examples of _____
 2. 1 John 3:16-17 _____
- D. They brought glory to God through their determination to lead _____
 1. Matthew 28:18-20 _____
 2. Acts 1:8 _____
 3. Their phenomenal growth brought glory to God!



CONCLUSION

1. Our goal is not to be merely _____
2. Our goal is to _____

