

There is no movement that so swept the world and changed the course of history. The Roman empire which had existed for <sup>1000 yrs.</sup> hundreds of years + controlled all the so-called civilized world was brought down by a Superior Power - the Power of God - the Moving of the Holy Spirit in the lives of individuals throughout the ~~the~~ then known world - this was the N.T. church

Q: If we want today to experience spirituality as God intended we should, and if we want to experience community - the place to look is the N.T. in the book of Acts - chapter 2  
v. 42 - 47

Acts 2:42-47

I Contentful - "continually devoting themselves to the apostles teaching" - this is a community of TRUTH - the TRUTH. The Bible is the true word of God which tells us How to relate to God 2 what He is like 3 what we are like - 4 where we came from 5 why we are here 6 what comes after death

To 4:58  
No structure will set you free - the word

It answers all the questions we as humans have but it's very important that we be devoted continually to the study of this truth: this is not an option, it is mandatory. We can't say we respect and honor the truth in our lives if we don't bother to know it. Nobody can say that they revere the Word of God and that they recognize the authority of the Word of God in their lives and yet they haven't bothered to find out what it says. Because to live in deliberate ignorance is the same thing as knowing what the Bible says and yet refusing to obey it.

The N.T. Church was a contentful church

at the N.T. Council  
below



Power

individuals  
Gov  
also

spirituality

community

Content for  
Sims-Hill

THE TRUTH

Good  
will

②  
③

after

He  
comes

⑤

④  
②

study

devoted  
continually

keep nice  
relationships  
and  
good

deliberate ignorance

refraining to obey

⊙ This N.T. Church was not based on 'experiences', because, whether they were having them or not they believed + lived by the TRUTH of God's revelation  
(insert 2a + 2b)

## II Corporate aspect of the Church

"Fellowship" - koininia - Sharing

These people understood the truth that real spirituality - a walk with God is not something we go off & do by ourselves ① → we need to depend on one another as fellow believers

② → We have to have that inter-play of spiritual gifts

③ → we need to have the in-depth personal relationships

These are all part of the will of God for us

The Bible calls this "fellowship" & the N.T. Church devoted themselves to one another

They didn't say → "We have to get up on Sunday morning and go to church". These people weren't going to church - these people realized they were the church

→ This is the difference between going to fellowship and being IN fellowship - that's why we are called the BODY

When we are IN fellowship it's an on-going thing in which we have contact almost every day

We don't compartmentalize our lives but we have everything in common of other believers

We are transparent - sharing our lives with them. That's the way the church ought to be & these N.T. believers understood & practiced it.

The idea that Christianity is going & sitting down for an hour a week in a building & then leaving & having no real relationships all week & that's a bunch of nonsense & is the cause of the lukewarmness & even apostasy of the so-called church today

U.S. = ARCISISTIC

Autonomous

Jan  
TRUTH  
Lived  
Lovers  
II  
"Fellowship"

Cherish  
Corporate aspect

inter-plan  
in-dept  
with  
"Fellowship"

depen  
atip  
relativistic

devoted  
←

to  
were  
of

to  
are called the body  
on-going  
IN  
IN

com a rtment a fig.

hours  
The war  
U.S. Nationalistic  
SITTING

Here is where we need ~~to~~ to understand  
the **Balance of the Christian life**

Balance is necessary for **maturity**  
Let's say there are **100 essential teachings**  
of **Christianity** in the Bible  
of O.T. symbolism Jesus' <sup>life</sup> death resurrection <sup>resurrection</sup> ~~resurrection~~ <sup>resurrection</sup> H.S. Grace / 100

pendulum - is us - we swing from  
our extreme to another. Grace as license  
e.g. 1<sup>st</sup> Century 90-110 AD material body is evil -  
so everything & anything we do in our body is OK  
because your body is not the real you - **Gnostics**

By 150 AD. the church was under **LAW**  
they over-reacted + went under law

**NB - Heresy** is **leaving out** ~~and~~ an essential  
teaching of the Bible - **or adding to** the Bible  
in the church

Almost every problem we have resulted in  
from **not** teaching **all** God's truth and  
from **not** walking **by** faith depending on the H.S.

We need the **balance of the**

- ① the **form of the Scriptures - i.e. principles**
- ② the **reading of the H.S.**

① Scripture has **form**

→ (a) **guidelines**

→ (b) **foundation to build upon**

→ (c) **tools to discern the spirits - true H.S. of false**

Without the **Bible** we are subject to **current values** in our **culture** with **no answers**,  
nothing to **stand upon**. ~~The Bible~~ <sup>God</sup> has spoken  
on **every essential issue** in our **lives**

every essential issue stand upon  
 values  
 chapters  
 Bible  
 current  
 spirit's truths & Jesus  
 built upon  
 guidelines  
 form  
 leading  
 form  
 H.2.  
 1.9 principles

Balance  
 H.2.  
 all God's truth  
 or adding to  
 leaving out

MB  
 Herod  
 RECORD.

LAW  
 Genesis  
 6.9  
 PORTLAND  
 H.2.  
 100

Balance  
 Here is a  
 100  
 100