



# New Testament (NT) Church Movement Study Guide

## *Book of Acts -* **NT Temple Patterns and Characteristics of NT Church** *Learning the Function and Characteristics of the NT Church*

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### **Abstract**

This documents guides NT Believers in a study of the historical patterns of the NT Church in the *Book of Acts*. The purpose is to instruct **NT Believers in how to become true disciples and followers of JESUS CHRIST**. The guide is meant to be a discipleship tool for self-study, small groups, or church organization. It may be freely used, copied, and distributed in accordance with the Copyright notice below.

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## 1 Why This Guide

The HOLY GHOST spoke in my spirit that I needed to create a study guide sheet for the *Book of Acts*.

The purpose of this study outline is to guide those studying the Scriptural history of the NT Church to answer certain questions critical to their growth as a disciple.

## 2 Objective

The objective and goal of this study is to guide NT Believers in a thought-provoking study of the NT Church as founded and established in the *Book of Acts*. The purpose of this study is to equip NT Believers to be true disciples of JESUS CHRIST. Its goal is to help them become knowledgeable of the Holy Scriptures and to learn how to be led and guided by the HOLY GHOST!

## 3 Background

It was in April 2012 that the LORD caused me to compare Paul and Moses. The LORD reveals to me 12 patterns that they jointly share that identifies Paul's role is to be the Moses like figure of the NT Church.

During the course of researching, studying, and writing that book which I project to release in the summer of 2020, the HOLY GHOST revealed to me these powerful and impactful way to teaching NT Believers how to become true disciples of JESUS CHRIST.

This knowledge is critical, important, and relevant especially in light of the fact that the Organized Church has long since stop focusing on teaching REPENTANCE, DISCIPLESHIP, HOLY SCRIPTURES and JESUS CHRIST!

If you listen closely, you will begin to notice that these and many other terms contained in the Holy Scriptures that are vital to discipleship have been removed from the discussion and lectionary of most churches today.

The significant revelation that the HOLY GHOST gave me is how to use the Pattern of the OT Temple to teach NT Believers the NT Temple Pattern which is based in the NT Church.

This works by examining how GOD first gave Moses the physical Pattern of the OT Temple in excruciating details for the design and dimensions of the builds and the design and characteristics of all the instruments of the Temple. GOD then complete the process by giving Moses the book of Leviticus which contained the Laws and Commandments required to govern the lives of the people, the office of the priest, and the means of giving and obtaining forgiveness of sins.

The HOLY GHOST revealed to me that a similar model was given to the NT Believers to enable us to learn how to live in fellowship with GOD, operate the functions of the NT Church, and minister the Gospel of JESUS CHRIST to the world.

### 3.1 Pattern of the NT Temple (the NT Church)

The first part of this revelation is that the ***Book of Acts* contains the Pattern of the NT Church.**

The *Book of Acts* reveals everything about the NT Church. This includes:

- The **Commandments** that ushered in its founding;

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- The **picture of its establishment** on the **Day of Pentecost**;
- The **characteristics** of the **NT Church** at its inception;
- The **organizational structure** that ensued;
- The **Pattern** for **teaching** and **preaching** the **Gospel**;
- The **suffering** and **victory** of **those who followed JESUS**; and
- The **powerful leading** and **guiding** of the **HOLY GHOST** in every aspects of the NT Believers and NT Church life.

The HOLY GHOST has pressed in my heart that it is critical that every NT Believers **study and understand how the form and function of the NT Church** is supposed to look and operate. Additionally, NT Believers must **grow to understand the power and guiding voice of the HOLY GHOST!**

Without a deep study of the historical pattern of the NT Church, one could easily wander aimlessly through life without ever knowing or following GOD's purpose for their life.

### **3.2 Pattern of Laws and Commandments for NT Believers**

Just as GOD gave Moses Laws and Commandments to guide the Nation of Israel, the NT Believers were given the same by JESUS through Paul, the Apostle. It is Paul who wrote extensively and provided the Laws and Commandments given to the NT Believers to govern the lives and the NT Church.

Remember, our **RESURRECTED and GLORIFIED SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST ONLY LEFT HEAVEN TO COME DOWN TO EARTH TO SAVE ONE SINGLE SOLITARY MAN, PAUL the Apostle. PAUL CERTIFIES in Galatians 1 (also other books) that everything that he preached and taught came directly from the LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

**This means that if we IGNORE the writings of Paul, we are IGNORING JESUS CHRIST because PAUL was the ONE who JESUS sent to the GENTILES, to KINGS, and to the JEWS! (*Acts 9:15*)**

Therefore, it is of the utmost urgency that **NT Believers began to read and study the writings of Paul** so **they will be prepared as wise virgins for the LORD's return**. Those who continue to ignore the writings of Paul **risk being unprepared as the five foolish virgins found themselves**.

An examination of Paul's writings reveals that he has almost singlehandedly provided all the instructions for the NT Church in his fourteen (14) epistles. If one opens the eye of their understanding, one will see that almost everything that we do in the Organized Churches comes exclusively from the pen of Paul.

As a note of warning, it is important to note that when JESUS judges the Seven Churches an Asia (*a precursor to the coming judgement of all NT Believers and NT Churches down through the centuries*), JESUS did NOT JUDGE them **according to the OT Laws and Commandments given to Moses**. JESUS JUDGED them according to the NT Laws and Commandments given through the Apostles, a significant portion of which was given through Paul. **NOTE: See Appendix A to see a listing of just some of the many things we learn from JESUS through Paul.**

### **3.3 Steps for Discipleship**

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There has always been an age old question of how does one learn to become a disciple of JESUS CHRIST. Now, the HOLY GHOST has revealed to me the following simple but effective steps of discipleship.

- **FIRST:** Study and understand the NT Church Pattern in the *Book of Acts*; and
- **SECOND:** Study all the writings of Paul so one will be equipped to live, move, and operate in a similar pattern as outlined for the NT Church in the *Book of Acts*.

I believe that this Pattern will help many to know how to study and become true disciples of JESUS!

## 4 Introduction

The purpose of this study guide is to aid you in doing a comprehensive analysis of the Patterns woven into the text of the Holy Scriptures in the *Book of Acts*. Acts was given by GOD to NT Church so we might learn “**how**” to be NT Believers and how to operate the NT Church in accordance with the Scriptural pattern that JESUS has ordained.

Acts is key because it provides the only history of “**how**” the New Testament church was:

- **Birthed** and **born** by the **water** and **SPIRIT**;
- How it was **guided by the HOLY GHOST**;
- **Pattern** for **making choices** and **decisions**;
- **Manner** and **method** through which they **preached** and **carried the Gospel**; and
- Tens of other patterns woven into the page, into the text of the Scriptures, through which NT Believers might learn to walk in the truth, power, and effectiveness of the original NT Church!

So, we really need to take a super close examination of the patterns that are replicated across the text of this *Book of Acts*. It is through these patterns that we are going to begin to see how we can:

- **Apply the same patterns**;
- **Be led** by the **HOLY GHOST**;
- **Preach** and **teach** the **correct Gospel of JESUS CHRIST**; and
- **Operate our lives** and the **NT Church** in **accordance** with the **patterns** that were **given** in the **Holy Scriptures**.

We learn how to be disciples by studying first the OT Temple Pattern. There we find how Moses was given specific information regarding the building of the Tabernacle. Moses was allowed to see the tabernacle in heaven and was told to model and build the physical Tabernacle exactly like the Heavenly Tabernacle that he saw in the mountain, there with GOD!

So as NT Believers, the first thing we need to figure out is what is the NT Temple equivalent to the OT Temple. We begin to unlock that mystery as Paul reveals that the bodies of NT Believers are now the TEMPLE of GOD! Collectively, NT Believer’s bodies form the body of JESUS CHRIST which is the NT Church. When combined together, these truths we can now

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equate the OT Temple to the NT Church composed of the bodies of believers we need to figure out the So, in the New Testament, **our bodies are the Tabernacle**. And, the writers, Luke the Physician along with Paul, the Apostle, gave us an extensive written account of what Jesus Christ said and also how He commanded the NT Church to be built and how it was to operate.

So, the goal of our study is to discern and understand these patterns so that we might fulfill the purposes that God has purposed for us as NT Believers in his living body of the NT Church.

## 5 Questions for Study

So, the HOLY GHOST was imparted in many ways to Believers across the *Book of Acts*. But the next question is what patterns do you see concerning the methods and roles through which the HOLY GHOST led and guided the NT Believers.

For instance, the first example was when they needed to make decisions, they prayed and fasted. We see them pray that GOD would guide them in choosing a replacement for Judas as one of the Twelve. The Apostles did not just arbitrarily choose someone. They prayed and asked that GOD would guide and show them whose heart was the right one to take up the bishop that was vacated by JUDAS when he betrayed JESUS CHRIST.

These questions are to be answered for each chapter in the Book of Acts.

1. **What is the pattern that you see in how the HOLY GHOST was imparted to NT Believers in the NT Church?**
2. **What role did the HOLY GHOST fill in directing the lives of the NT Believers? Please include specific examples.**
3. **What are the organizational, functional characteristics of the NT Church as revealed in the Pattern of the NT Scriptures? Please give specific characteristics.**
  - a. One example is how they went from house to house.
4. **What is the pattern of worship that you see in the NT Church?**
5. **What was the focus in the emphasis of the preaching and teaching in the *Book of Acts*?**
6. **Describe the way in which the messages of the Gospel of JESUS CHRIST was carried to the world.**
  - a. Please cite specific examples.
7. **What is the pattern of the style of teaching and preaching and how was the Gospel communicated in the *Book of Acts*?**

Additionally, look for similar, recurring patterns from previous and following chapters as you complete your study.

The goal is to develop a complete

## 6 Analysis Questions

Perform an analysis on the differences between today's Organized Church and the NT Church seen in the *Book of Acts*. Consider the following:

1. **How does the Pattern of Worship today differ from the Pattern of Worship in the NT Church?**
2. **How does the Organization of the Organized Church differ from the NT Church?**
3. **What is the difference between the OT Temple Patterns of Worship and Giving and the NT Churches Pattern of Worship and Giving?**
4. **What is the difference between the reasons of assembly in the OT Temple Pattern and NT Church Pattern?**
5. **What is the difference between other aspects of the OT Temple Pattern and the NT Temple Pattern?**
6. **What is the difference is the focus of the OT Temple Pattern and the NT Temple (NT Church) Pattern?**

## 7 Why We Need To Be Transformed

The days and times of learning how to “go to church” are over. We are now living in the day and time, and it always was meant to be, that we have to learn how to “be the NT Church”.

So this course of study that we are going to go through focuses on teaching those who want to be followers of JESUS CHRIST, how to be true disciples and how to be the NT Church that GOD patterned and planned in the NT Scriptures; supported by the OT Scriptures; anchored to the cornerstone of JESUS CHRIST who is the center and the focus of everything that the NT Church was meant to be.

The OT Church looked forward to JESUS CHRIST. The NT Church must continually look back to JESUS CHRIST! Everything is focused on JESUS CHRIST because He came to bring in the time of the reformation and help everyone who wants to know GOD, to get to know GOD!

## 8 Homework Assignments

I have created these assignment to maximize your learning potential. They are not required as this is a self-study course but we offer this for those who want to receive feedback from their study efforts.

### 8.1 Create Document of Characteristics and Functions of NT Church

Develop a chart or tool that helps you visualize all the characteristics and functions of the NT Church and how it operated. For example, you will witness several ways in which the HOLY GHOST was given to individuals, You will witness how the organization of the NT Church, how and where they fellowshipped, how and where they met, the focus of their giving, the text of their sermons, how they dealt with persecution, how the HOLY GHOST guided them, and much, much more.



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The goal of this chart or document is to see and follow similar patterns as they grow and evolve across the *Book of Acts*.

## 8.2 Essay – 5 to 10 Pages on NT Church Pattern in *Book of Acts*

Prepare a 5 to 10 page essay on the NT Church. This paper should provide an analysis and summary of the NT Church in the *Book of Acts*. It should also include at least 1-2 pages that shares what the HOLY GHOST revealed and spoke to your heart during your study.

## 9 Paul, Moses of the New Testament Church (Book)

This information in this study outline was extracted from the book, “**Paul, the Moses of the New Testament Church**.” Schedule publication date of the book is summer 2020.

You may follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NTChurchMovement>

Or you can visit us at or visit the **NTChurchMovement.com** website to find out more about coming events, new books, and new lesson outlines.

## 10 Document Information

This guide is **Version 2**.

## 11 Annual Rediscovering the Holy Scriptures Conference (Nov 2020)

The NT Church Movement sponsors the **Annual Rediscovering the Holy Scriptures Believer’s Reformation Conference in Austin, TX**. The Annual Conference is hosted on **the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of November** in close proximity to Veterans Day Holiday.

The conference features interactive Scriptural teaching seminars designed to facilitate learning, understanding, and discussion amongst believers. Its goal and purpose are to aid NT Believers in gaining insights on how to read, study, and mediate to renew your mind through the Holy Scriptures.

The **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual conference** will be held **November 6-7, 2020**. The theme is “**Returning to the Truth of the Holy Scriptures**.” (*1 Tim. 4:5*)

Follow our Facebook page or website for registration and other details.

## 12 Ministry Contact Information

Feel free to contact me, Ramona and our ministry, NT Church Movement. We pray that you are blessed by the information that we are providing to build and equip the Kingdom of GOD and our LORD JESUS CHRIST!

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### 13 Ministry Support

The purpose of NT Church Movement ministry is to encourage the discipleship and growth of NT Believer by promoting the reading, studying, and meditating of the Holy Scriptures.

NT Church Movement ministry provides **free tools and resources aimed at equipping NT Believers** with the knowledge and information needed to do self-study or group-study of the Holy Scriptures in their home or in churches throughout the world.

**Our goal is to make as much materials as possible freely available in keeping with the TRUTHS of the Holy Scriptures.** When JESUS sent His disciples forth, one instruction that He gave them was “Freely ye have received, freely give!” (St. Matt. 10:8) JESUS also teaches that if we go into the vineyard and work that He would pay us whatsoever is right. (St. Matt. 20:1-4)

We believe that if we work faithfully in the vineyard of the Kingdom of GOD, GOD will provide all that we need and cause others to also send support as He leads.

If you feel led to donate and support our efforts, you may donate on our website or send your check to us at our contact address above.

All donations go directly to support this ministry and enables us to continue to make the literature, materials, website, and evangelist outreach efforts going. Your contributions are tax deductible.

Most importantly, we pray that you grow in the knowledge of the LORD and are blessed by our work for the LORD!

## 14 APPENDIX A: Listing - Paul's Teachings

I will now list just some of the many Laws and Commandments and instructions that JESUS instructed Paul to give to the NT Church.

- **Fruit of the SPIRIT** (*Gal. 5:22-23*);
- **Works of the flesh** (*Gal. 5:19-21*)
- **Love's definition** (*1 Cor. 13*);
- **Church's organization and purpose** (*Eph. 4:11-16, 1 Cor. 12:28-31*);
- **Body of Christ** (*1 Cor. 12:12-27, Rom. 12:4-5*);
- **Guidance for Elders** (*1 Tim. 5*);
- **Gifts and callings** (*1 Cor. 12:1-11, Rom. 12:6-8*);
- **Understanding of death** (*1 Cor. 15*);
- **Being Caught up with Christ (Rapture)** (*1 Thess. 4:13-17*)
- **Whole armor of God** (*Eph. 6:11-18*);
- **Office of a Bishop** (*1 Tim. 3:1-7*);
- **Office of a Deacon** (*1 Tim. 3:8-13*);
- **Office of an Elder** (*1 Pet. 5:1-5*);
- **LORD's Supper** (*1 Cor. 11:23-32*);
- **Marriage** (*Eph. 5:21-31, 1 Cor. 7*)
- **Family responsibilities** (*Eph. 6:1-9*);
- **Definition of the Gospel** (*Rom. 1*);
- **Faith** (*Heb. 11*);
- **Justification through faith** (*Rom. 5*);
- **Purpose of the Law** (*Rom. 7, Gal. 3*);
- **Salvations** (*Rom. 12*);
- **Body is the temple of God** (*1 Cor. 6*); and
- **Mystery of God** (*1 Tim. 3:16*).

And this is a list of some of mysteries that were not known until they were revealed by Paul:

- **Mystery of Israel's election, how Gentiles are grafted in** (*Rom. 11:25*);
- **Mystery of the Gospel** (*Rom. 16:25*);
- **Mystery of GOD's wisdom regarding CHRIST crucifixion** (*1 Cor. 6-8*);
- **Paul's stewardship of the mysteries of GOD** (*1 Cor. 4:1*);
- **Speaking mysteries in the SPIRIT** (*1 Cor. 14:2*);
- **Mystery of death** (*1 Cor. 15:51-54*);
- **Paul knowledge in the mystery of Christ** (*Eph. 3:1-7*);
- **Mystery of fellowship** (*Eph. 3:8-12*);
- **Mystery of Marriage and the Church** (*Eph. 5:31-33*);
- **Mystery of the Gospel** (*Eph. 6:19-20*);
- **Mystery of the Gospel** (*Col 1.23-29*);

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- **Mystery of God, of the Father, and of Christ** (*Col 2.1-4*);
- **Mystery of Iniquity** (*2 Thess. 2:7-12*); and
- **Mystery of Godliness** (*1 Tim 3:16*).