

# The Jerusalem Church

## Lesson 1

### Devoted To And Unified By The Apostles' Teaching

# The Jerusalem Church

1. Devoted to and unified by the apostles' teaching
2. Showed love for needy saints and received love when needy
3. Evangelized to all and joyfully obeyed while persecuted

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## Introduction

- The book of Acts details the spread of the gospel, God's only power to save both Jews and Gentiles
- Surprisingly, no one became a Christian, was initially saved, by the Sinner's prayer or any of the other false ways of salvation popularly proclaimed today

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## Introduction

- Instead, all became Christians when they believed in Jesus enough to repent of their sins, confess Him as the Son of God before men and be baptized (immersed in water) for forgiveness of their sins
- The book of Acts also gives the Divine record of the first local church in Jerusalem composed of these first Christians

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## Introduction

- From this church, we can learn much about unity love, evangelism and joyous obedience while persecuted
- Guided only by the apostles' teaching, we can be assured this local church followed the approved teaching and practices which all local churches should imitate today
- The Jerusalem church stands in stark contrast to congregations that follow the traditions of men not found in the Word

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## Devoted To And Unified By The Apostles' Teaching

- Instead of being guided by the creeds and traditions of men, they were guided, devoted to and unified by the apostles' teaching, the gospel of Christ
- This teaching revealed all they needed to know in how to become and live as a Christian, working and worshipping with other Christians as a local church
- To deviate from this teaching was and is sinful

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## The Gospel Revealed How To Be Saved

- It began with thousands who were saved by obeying the gospel
- When they believed in Jesus, they repented of their sins and were baptized for forgiveness of their sins
- Later, in the Eunuch's conversion, we learn he confessed Jesus as the Son of God before being baptized to be forgiven
- How different this is from the false gospels taught today like the Sinner's prayer 7

## The Gospel Revealed How To Be Saved

Act 2:1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

Act 2:2 And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

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## The Gospel Revealed How To Be Saved

Act 2:3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them.

Act 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

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## The Gospel Revealed How To Be Saved

Act 2:22 "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know--

Act 2:23 this *Man*, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put *Him* to death. 10

## The Gospel Revealed How To Be Saved

Act 2:24 "But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.

Act 2:29 "Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

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## The Gospel Revealed How To Be Saved

Act 2:30 "And so, because he was a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SEAT *one* OF HIS DESCENDANTS ON HIS THRONE,

Act 2:31 he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY.

Act 2:32 "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. 12

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## The Gospel Revealed How To Be Saved

Act 2:33 "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.

Act 2:34 "For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: 'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND,

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## The Gospel Revealed How To Be Saved

Act 2:35 UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET."

Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified."

Act 2:37 Now when they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

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## The Gospel Revealed How To Be Saved

Act 2:38 Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Act 2:39 "For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself."

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## The Gospel Revealed How To Be Saved

Act 2:40 And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!"

Act 2:41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.

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## The Gospel Revealed How To Be Saved

Act 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him.

Act 8:36 As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch *said*, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?"

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## The Gospel Revealed How To Be Saved

Act 8:37 [And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."]

Act 8:38 And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him.

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## The Gospel Revealed How To Be Saved

Act 8:39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but went on his way rejoicing.

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## Jesus Adds Each Individual Who He Saves To His One Church His Saved Body

- Upon their baptism, Jesus added each person who He had saved together in His one saved body, His universal church
- How different this is from the false teaching of Jesus' universal church being composed of contradictory denominations following the teachings of men

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## Jesus Adds Each Individual Who He Saves To His One Church His Saved Body

Act 2:41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.

Act 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

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## Jesus Adds Each Individual Who He Saves To His One Church His Saved Body

Eph 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself *being* the Savior of the body.

Eph 5:24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives *ought to be* to their husbands in everything.

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## Jesus Adds Each Individual Who He Saves To His One Church His Saved Body

1Co 12:13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Eph 1:22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church,

Eph 1:23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

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## Devoted To And Unified By The Apostles' Teaching

- If we would only follow the apostles' teaching about how to become a Christian, be saved, then we would be unified together and members of Jesus' one universal church
- Then, like in Jerusalem, if we would assemble together in our locations as a local church and devote ourselves to the apostles' teaching, we would be unified in the worship and work of the church

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## Devoted To The Apostles' Teaching

Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Act 2:43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.

Devoting or steadfastly means to be earnest toward, to persevere, be constantly diligent<sup>25</sup>

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## Devoted To The Apostles' Teaching

Act 6:3 "Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task.

Act 6:4 "But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

## Devoted To The Apostles' Teaching

Heb 2:3 how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard,

Heb 2:4 God also testifying with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.

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## Devoted To The Apostles' Teaching

2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

2Ti 3:17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

2Ti 4:1 I solemnly charge *you* in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:

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## Devoted To The Apostles' Teaching

2Ti 4:2 preach the word; be ready in season *and* out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

2Ti 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,

2Ti 4:4 and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

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## Devoted To The Apostles' Teaching

2Th 2:15 So then, brethren, stand firm and hold to the traditions which you were taught, whether by word *of mouth* or by letter from us.

Gal 1:8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!

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## The Jerusalem Church

1. Devoted to and unified by the apostles' teaching
2. Showed love for needy saints and received love when needy
3. Evangelized to all and joyfully obeyed while persecuted

31

## Devoted To And Unified By The Apostles' Teaching

- If we would only follow the apostles' teaching about how to become a Christian, be saved, then we would be unified together and members of Jesus' one universal church
- Then, like in Jerusalem, if we would assemble together in our locations as a local church and devote ourselves to the apostles' teaching, we would be unified in the worship and work of the church

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## Devoted To Worship

Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Fellowship, the breaking of bread and prayer indicate collective worship, bowing the heart before God

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## Devoted To Worship

- If we would in our local congregations study and follow the apostles' teaching in how we should worship, we would be unified with God and one another
- Following the teachings of men is what divides us from God and one another

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## Devoted To Worship

Act 20:7 On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul *began* talking to them, intending to leave the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.

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## Devoted To Worship

Act 2:46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,

Act 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

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## Devoted To Worship

Heb 10:24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds,

Heb 10:25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

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## Devoted To Fellowship

Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Fellowship means communion or sharing in common spiritual things, being partners with God and one another, involves approval and endorsement of others

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## Devoted To Fellowship

- Fellowship has nothing to do with social matters including eating meals
- Rather, fellowship refers to those spiritual activities in which they were partners with God and one another
- Some examples include supporting preachers, taking the Lord's supper and helping needy saints

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## Devoted To Fellowship

Php 1:5 in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now.

1Co 10:16 Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ?

Rom 15:26 For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem.

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## Devoted To The Breaking of Bread

- Again, they were not devoted to social meals but in remembering the Lord's death, His sacrifice for our sins, until He comes again
- Are our minds upon Him when we partake of the supper?

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## Devoted To The Breaking of Bread

Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Act 20:7 On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul *began* talking to them, intending to leave the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.

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## Devoted To The Breaking of Bread

1Co 11:22 What! Do you not have houses in which to eat and drink? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise you.

1Co 11:23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread;

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## Devoted To The Breaking of Bread

1Co 11:24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

1Co 11:25 In the same way *He took* the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me."

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## Devoted To The Breaking of Bread

1Co 11:26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

1Co 11:33 So then, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.

1Co 11:34 If anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, so that you will not come together for judgment. The remaining matters I will arrange when I come.

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## Devoted To Prayer

- Prayer was not some empty public ritual but was a constant, diligent practice of communicating with God, lifting up to Him their heartfelt requests
- Prayer was not limited to just their assemblies but was a vital part of their daily lives
- Prayer is powerful because the God who hears and answers prayer is powerful

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## Devoted To Prayer

Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Act 12:5 So Peter was kept in the prison, but prayer for him was being made fervently by the church to God.

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## Devoted To Prayer

Act 12:6 On the very night when Herod was about to bring him forward, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and guards in front of the door were watching over the prison.

Act 12:7 And behold, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter's side and woke him up, saying, "Get up quickly." And his chains fell off his hands.

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## Devoted To Prayer

Rom 12:12 rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,

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## Feared God

Act 2:43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.

Heb 12:28 Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe;

Heb 12:29 for our God is a consuming fire.

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## Unified In Loving One Another

Act 2:44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common;

Act 2:45 and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.

Act 4:32 And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul; and not one *of them* claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them.

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## Unified In Loving One Another

Joh 13:34 "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

Joh 13:35 "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

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## Unified And Edified By The Apostles' Teaching

Act 2:46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,

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## Unified And Edified By The Apostles' Teaching

Joh 17:20 "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word;

Joh 17:21 that they may all be one; even as You, Father, *are* in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.

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## Unified And Edified By The Apostles' Teaching

1Co 1:10 Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.

Act 20:32 "And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build *you* up and to give *you* the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

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## Preferred One Another

Act 2:46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,

Rom 12:9 *Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.*

Rom 12:10 *Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor;*

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## Praised God

Act 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Heb 13:15 Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

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## Praised God

Eph 5:19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;  
Act 16:25 But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them;

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## Had Favor With All The People

Act 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Luk 2:52 And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

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## Evangelized Daily

Act 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Act 8:4 Therefore, those who had been scattered went about preaching the word.

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## Devoted To And Unified By The Apostles' Teaching

1. Devoted to the apostles' teaching
2. Devoted to Worship
3. Devoted to fellowship
4. Devoted to the breaking of bread
5. Devoted to prayer
6. Feared God
7. Unified in loving one another
8. Unified and edified by the apostles' teaching
9. Preferred one another
10. Praised God
11. Had favor with all the people
12. Evangelized daily

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## The Jerusalem Church

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## Threats To Unity Faced And Overcome

- If we would only follow the apostles' teaching, rejecting the false teachings of men, then we would be unified together like the church in Jerusalem
- But, the unity in the church meeting at Jerusalem was threatened in different ways at various times

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## Threats To Unity Faced And Overcome

- With God's help and being faithful to the apostles' teaching, they overcame these threats
- We too must learn how to face and overcome threats to unity in the local church that we may follow their example
- Too often, true unity on the apostles' teaching is set aside for the false unity of compromising the Word of God

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## Lying And Hypocrisy of Ananias and Sapphira

Act 5:1 But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property,  
Act 5:2 and kept back *some* of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge, and bringing a portion of it, he laid it at the apostles' feet.

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## Lying And Hypocrisy of Ananias and Sapphira

Act 5:3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back *some* of the price of the land?

Act 5:4 "While it remained *unsold*, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."

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## Ananias And Sapphira Die Instantly

Act 5:5 And as he heard these words, Ananias fell down and breathed his last; and great fear came over all who heard of it.

Act 5:6 The young men got up and covered him up, and after carrying him out, they buried him.

Act 5:7 Now there elapsed an interval of about three hours, and his wife came in, not knowing what had happened.

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## Ananias And Sapphira Die Instantly

Act 5:8 And Peter responded to her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for such and such a price?" And she said, "Yes, that was the price."

Act 5:9 Then Peter *said* to her, "Why is it that you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out *as well*."

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## Ananias And Sapphira Die Instantly

Act 5:10 And immediately she fell at his feet and breathed her last, and the young men came in and found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her beside her husband.

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## Fear Unity And Daily Evangelism After The Deaths of Ananias and Sapphira

Act 5:11 And great fear came over the whole church, and over all who heard of these things.

Act 5:12 At the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were taking place among the people; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's portico.

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## Fear Unity And Daily Evangelism After The Deaths of Ananias and Sapphira

Act 5:13 But none of the rest dared to associate with them; however, the people held them in high esteem.

Act 5:14 And all the more believers in the Lord, multitudes of men and women, were constantly added to *their number*,

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### Loving Discipline Needed Toward Members In Open Sin Who Have Not Repented

- Many local churches today refuse to discipline erring members in open sin
- If we love God and our erring brethren, we will follow His will and exercise loving discipline so that faithful members may be warned and erring members may be brought to repentance

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### Loving Discipline Needed Toward Members In Open Sin Who Have Not Repented

1Co 5:1 It is actually reported that there is immorality among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife.

1Co 5:2 You have become arrogant and have not mourned instead, so that the one who had done this deed would be removed from your midst.

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### Loving Discipline Needed Toward Members In Open Sin Who Have Not Repented

1Co 5:4 In the name of our Lord Jesus, when you are assembled, and I with you in spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus,

1Co 5:5 *I have decided* to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

1Co 5:6 Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump *of dough*?

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### Loving Discipline Needed Toward Members In Open Sin Who Have Not Repented

1Co 5:11 But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler--not even to eat with such a one.

2Co 2:6 Sufficient for such a one is this punishment which *was inflicted* by the majority,

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### Loving Discipline Needed Toward Members In Open Sin Who Have Not Repented

2Co 2:7 so that on the contrary you should rather forgive and comfort *him*, otherwise such a one might be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.

2Co 2:8 Wherefore I urge you to reaffirm *your* love for him.

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## Murmuring Threatens Unity

Act 6:1 Now at this time while the disciples were increasing *in number*, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic *Jews* against the *native* Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving *of food*.

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## Murmuring Overcome By Appointing Deacons

Act 6:2 So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables.

Act 6:3 "Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task.

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## Murmuring Overcome By Appointing Deacons

Act 6:4 "But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

Act 6:5 The statement found approval with the whole congregation; and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch.

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## Murmuring Overcome By Appointing Deacons

Act 6:6 And these they brought before the apostles; and after praying, they laid their hands on them.

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## Unity And Evangelism Continue

Act 6:7 The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

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## Overcoming Murmuring Today By Acting Without Partiality

Jas 2:8 If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you are doing well.

Jas 2:9 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin *and* are convicted by the law as transgressors.

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## Overcoming Murmuring Today By Acting Without Partiality

Jas 2:10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one *point*, he has become guilty of all.

Jas 2:11 For He who said, "DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY," also said, "DO NOT COMMIT MURDER." Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

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## God Revealed And Confirmed All Are Saved By The Same Gospel

Act 11:15 "And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as *He did* upon us at the beginning.

Act 11:16 "And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'

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## God Revealed And Confirmed All Are Saved By The Same Gospel

Act 11:17 "Therefore if God gave to them the same gift as *He gave* to us also after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?"

Act 11:18 When they heard this, they quieted down and glorified God, saying, "Well then, God has granted to the Gentiles also the repentance *that leads* to life."

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## Unified In Truth, False Teachers And Their Error Condemned

Act 15:5 But some of the sect of the Pharisees who had believed stood up, saying, "It is necessary to circumcise them and to direct them to observe the Law of Moses."

Act 15:6 The apostles and the elders came together to look into this matter.

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## Unified In Truth, False Teachers And Their Error Condemned

Act 15:24 "Since we have heard that some of our number to whom we gave no instruction have disturbed you with *their* words, unsettling your souls,

Act 15:25 it seemed good to us, having become of one mind, to select men to send to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,

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## Unified In Truth, False Teachers And Their Error Condemned

Act 15:28 "For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay upon you no greater burden than these essentials:

Act 15:29 that you abstain from things sacrificed to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from fornication; if you keep yourselves free from such things, you will do well. Farewell."

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## Paul Lovingly And Publicly Rebukes Peter To Maintain Unity

Gal 2:11 But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned.

Gal 2:12 For prior to the coming of certain men from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he *began* to withdraw and hold himself aloof, fearing the party of the circumcision.

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## Paul Lovingly And Publicly Rebukes Peter To Maintain Unity

Gal 2:13 The rest of the Jews joined him in hypocrisy, with the result that even Barnabas was carried away by their hypocrisy.

Gal 2:14 But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in the presence of all, "If you, being a Jew, live like the Gentiles and not like the Jews, how *is it that* you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews?"

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## We Must Openly Unify In Truth And Expose False Teachers And Their Errors

Jud 1:3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.

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## We Must Openly Unify In Truth And Expose False Teachers And Their Errors

Jud 1:4 For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

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## Threats To Unity Faced And Overcome

1. Loving discipline needed toward members in open sin who have not repented
2. Overcoming murmuring today by acting without partiality
3. We must openly unify in truth and expose false teachers and their errors

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