

The Eternal Kingdom

Lesson #8

5/1/19

We are currently in chapter three, and we were discussing the “Early Spread” of the gospel by the church. We read the first three paragraphs.

One of the things I want to point out is that there was a...

PATTERN

- PREACH THE MAN (Acts 1:8; 2:22-36)
- PREACH THE PLAN (Acts 2:38-41)
- PREACH THE PLACE (Acts 1:3; 2:47)

Review bullets.

After this we see the church doing just these things (Acts 8:1-4).

Let's look at three characters that summarize what we see in "The Eternal Kingdom" on paragraph 3. Examples of conversion...

Examples of Conversions

- Philip baptizing souls in Samaria (Acts 12:12)
- Philip converting the Ethiopian Treasurer (Acts 8:26-40)
- Saul of Tarsus' conversion (Acts 9:1-19)

(Read bullets and discuss passages).

(Read paragraphs 4 and 5).

What conclusion do you come to regarding the Christians willingness to spread the gospel after reading these sections in the "ET"?

Lets move on to "Organization and Government".

Organization and Government

- After reading the first three paragraphs of “Organization and Government”, we learn the following:
 - The Apostles appointed elders and deacons in each congregation
 - The elders exercised oversight of the congregation
 - The elders and Apostle worked together to resolve issues (Acts 15:2-6)
 - We first see them in (Acts 11:29)
 - We see a plurality of them (Tit.1:5: 20:7)
- In paragraph four, we learn that of various titles regarding elders. What are they?
 - It is worth noting that elder, bishop, overseer, and pastors are used synonymously (Acts 20:17, 28,29; Eph.4:11; Tit.1:5,7)

(Read book then bullets).

Read paragraph #5 and discuss John Temples commentary on Rev. Pictures from Patmos regarding angels.

Organization and Government

- On pages 38-39 of “The Eternal Kingdom”, the Jerusalem conference was elaborated upon. What are some things we learn?
 - Autonomy
 - The Apostles were still alive and their vote definitely counted, but yet they worked in harmony with the elders
 - Their decisions fell in the realm of obedience to God’s plan to convert all souls. Various sets of rules for various sets of people would have created division rather than unity
 - We see charity when the need had arisen among the churches. This would not have been possible if souls felt segregated by different laws for different people

(Read ET) then bullets.