

Acts 13-21 week 9

Summary of the Jerusalem, Antioch and especially the Ephesus models of Church

The Jerusalem Church Model

- Carried along by tradition (Acts 21:20-24)
- They did not obey the Great Commission readily (Acts 8:1)
- Led by Apostles and elders (Acts 15:6)
- Grew large and was effective (Acts 12:24)
- Like a “traditional denominational” Church today

The Antioch Church Model

- Started spontaneously by Christians witnessing - no clear leader or strategy (Acts 11:20-21)
- Led by the most gifted people - Prophets and Teachers (Acts 13:1)
- Led by consensus and common agreement rather than by one strong leader (Acts 13:2)
- Multiracial and not traditional (Acts 13:1)
- Smaller Church - only 5 leaders and no Apostles, Evangelists or Pastors (Acts 13:1)
- Obeyed the Great Commission and the voice of the Spirit (Acts 13:3)
- Like a “Charismatic” or “house” Church movement today

The Ephesus Church Model

- An Apostolic leader starts the Church based on a God given strategy and with a small team of helpers (one Apostolic leader continued to lead the Church even after Paul left)
- A large public meeting in a hall and teaching there regularly by the main leader (Acts 19:9)
- Miracles and demonic deliverance happen (Acts 19:11)
- Leader had a secular job (Acts 19:12; 20:34)
- Outreach - whole province reached (Acts 19:10)
- Very large Church - Many Home Churches (Acts 19:19)
- People are encouraged and released to do ministry
- An Apostolic leader continues to lead the Church even after the initial leader is gone -
 - Paul (Acts 19)
 - Timothy (1 Tim 1:3)
 - John (Rev 1:4)
 - another “messenger” leader after John (Revelation 2:1)
- Elders help lead the Church and act as shepherds (Pastors) and overseers (Acts 20:17, 28)
- The 7 aspects of the message Paul preached in Ephesus
 - The gifts and infilling of the Holy Spirit (Acts 19:2)
 - the Kingdom of God (Acts 19:8; 20:25)
 - Repentance and faith (Acts 20:21)
 - The “Mission” and encouragement to every hearer to go out and spread the message and start Churches (Acts 19:10; 20:20-25)
 - The “purpose” or “counsel” of God - the things God has decided He will achieve no matter what (Acts 20:27) - (see also Eph 1:11; Isaiah 46:10)
 - Grace (Acts 20:24, 32)
 - Generosity with money and giving to the needy and the mission of extending the kingdom (Acts 20:35)