## THE WAY OF THE MASTER YAHSHUA.COM

## THE ACTS BLUEPRINT In contrast to our day ...

**Preface:** The body of Messiah Yahshua/Jesus, as depicted in the book of the <u>Acts of the Holy Spirit</u>, serves as an essential "<u>Blueprint</u>" for understanding "<u>Ecclesiology</u>"—the dynamic life and function of His church, which is empowered by the Holy Spirit and <u>guided by His divine instructions</u>. Adhering to this "<u>Blueprint</u>" positions us as <u>Co-Laborers with the Holy Spirit</u>, enabling us to adopt <u>His mindset</u> while being filled with His presence and following <u>His work</u> in His church! This short excerpt of a teaching outline seeks to open your eyes to the practices of the early church, urging us to reclaim and refresh the <u>church's functionality</u> as presented in Scripture.

**Oversight - What Happened To The Early Church Movement?** Beginning in the fourth century CE, the church of Messiah Yahshua/Jesus was confined to <u>a caste system</u> consisting of *orators* and *an audience*, put in place by the Roman Catholic Church.

This shift caused a considerable <u>decline in evangelism</u>, starkly contrasting <u>the vigor of the early church illustrated in the "Acts of</u> <u>the Holy Spirit.</u>" During the Reformation in the 1500s, <u>Martin</u> <u>Luther</u> adopted this <u>flawed system</u>, which many Protestant churches still follow today. Luther famously declared, <u>"I am the</u> <u>mouthpiece and you are the ears; this defines the function of God's</u> <u>church!</u>" From this time forward this ministry would go against the early church system. But in Luther's day, there were still believers which did not switch for the Scripture guidelines. The group was known as the Anabaptist. These still met from house to house in there way of ministering. Luther was furious and sought to destroy them as rebels of the faith! In the 1500's the Laity which was used by the Catholic Church and the Lutherans.

This two-party system established damaging division between Priests or Pastors and the Laity, which we don't find in Acts do we? The only mention of "laity" in Scripture appears in Revelation, where Yashua/Jesus condemns the Nicolaitians—a group of ministers promoting a two-class system within the church.

This structure relegated ministers <u>to a higher status</u>, leading to the dangerous belief that <u>followers could only access God through</u> <u>priests</u>. Sound familiar of our times? This directly contradicts what Scripture teaches!

Every believer possesses the capability to hear God *directly*, and the Nicolaitians exploited this truth, preventing individuals from developing their own relationships with Him. This was taught bu Yahshua (Jesus) himself.

The Acts of the Holy Spirit demonstrates a community-based governance approach, wherein <u>every member</u> shared responsibilities and spiritual gifts <u>without hierarchical limitations</u>. Each believer contributes uniquely to <u>the common good</u>, as we are reminded in Corinthians.

The early church embodied both <u>a body and a family</u>, yet as it expanded into Rome, it *morphed* into an *Institution*; in Greece, it became a *philosophy*. By the time it reached *Europe*, it transformed into <u>a mere culture</u>, and ultimately, in America approximately 52 years ago—it became <u>a Business</u>. Now, reflect on this critical question: what happens when a body becomes a business?

The unsettling answer is that *it risks becoming a prostitute!* As a result, we must acknowledge that *the modern church* has *diverged* 

*from its original path.* We are passionate about seeing His church restored to *a vibrant model, aligning with His divine blueprint* for *the end-time church*—an *inspired* and *anointed* <u>return to the</u> <u>framework outlined in Acts</u>!

## The Early Church

It is crucial to recognize that *the church in the Acts of the Holy Spirit* was more than any mere church organization; *it was a living, breathing body and faith community*—a <u>Missional Kindred</u> <u>Covenant Family</u> that *embraced life together*! This foundational experience not only *transformed the participants* but also *shifted the worldviews* of those around them. In a fallen world, *the allure of community life becomes evident*, especially for those *lacking the warmth of family bonds*.

A closer examination reveals that *their movement beautifully mirrors our current reality*, where people often feel more isolated despite advanced technology.

While we can appreciate the benefits of staying connected digitally, it often leads to *a superficial existence*—think of those dining together, yet captivated by their phones instead of engaging with one another. The early church showcased <u>genuine hospitality</u>, <u>drawing the unsaved to the Lord through meaningful connections</u>.

They came together in "<u>one accord</u>" (Acts 1:14), fully adhering to the model set by Yahshua/Jesus. The Lord instructed them to <u>unite</u> <u>in prayer</u> and <u>wait for God's promise</u> (Acts 2:1-4). This gathering mirrors the Israelites' desire for a mediator, which rejected God's longing for direct relationships with Him (Exodus 19:2-8).

Although they sought *a mediator*, God aimed for them to <u>become a</u> <u>nation of kings and priests</u>. At Pentecost, the breath of God infused the believers, empowering them with spiritual gifts necessary for ministry. This moment fulfills the prophecy of Joel, activating us for *the Great Commission* to reach the unsaved. Every believer is endowed *with a God-given assignment*, as articulated in Jeremiah 1:10, designed specifically for each of us before birth.

The church, encompassing all members serves as *the <u>City on a</u> <u>Hill</u>, tasked with <u>reflecting Heaven's anointing here on Earth</u>. Through our commitment, we reveal Yahshua/Jesus to <i>those lost*, enabling them to *encounter* the profound *depth* of *Heaven among us*. Let us engage in reinstating the "<u>Acts Blueprint</u>" into our personal faith life; engaging in, it's foundations and seeing the results manifest by the Holy Spirit' benefits by following God's template and model given to us. Amen.



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