

## Godly Teaching – A Foundational Pillar of God’s Church

**Text: Acts 13:1-3** Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. <sup>2</sup> As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. <sup>3</sup> And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

**Ephesians 4:10-15** He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup> And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; <sup>12</sup> **For the perfecting** (*Greek-Tel'-i-os—of full age, complete mature*) **of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:** <sup>13</sup> **Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God,** unto a perfect (*Greek-Tel'i-os—SEE ABOVE*) man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: <sup>14</sup> That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; <sup>15</sup> But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

**II Timothy 3:16-17** <sup>16</sup> All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: <sup>17</sup> That the man of God may be **perfect** (*Greek: AR'-tee-os---Complete, Mature*), thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

**Introduction:** What are the Some Fundamental Essentials for a Strong Church? What do Strong Churches all have in common?

**Some would say:**

- a. A Large Building
- b. A Large Number in the Congregation—Does not History Prove this to be true---POPE- TV Churches
- c. Powerful Preaching—Many churches are pastored by soft and dull preaching
- d. Powerful Business People or Lots of Money in TREASURY
- e. Seminary Pastors and Doctors of Divinity

### What are the Necessary Essentials for a Strong Church?

1. It must be STRONG IN THE HOLY GHOST PRESENCE--Spirit Led and Spirit Empowered-WITHOUT THIS ONE THING—**GOD’S STRONG PRESENCE**---NOTHING ELSE I SAY WILL MATTER—
2. SOUND Biblical Teaching and True and UNCOMPROMISING Doctrine
3. Heartfelt Praise and Worship—God Seeks His Followers to WORSHIP in SPIRIT and TRUTH
4. Stands with God’s Word against SIN without Compromising to Please its members ---**YET, is not judgmental or self-righteous toward anyone**
5. Walks in Love and unity toward all People, especially each other
6. Daily Praying and Bible Reading Members---**Maturity**
7. Spiritually Hungry Members- A LACK OF APPETITE MEMBER is AN UNTEACHABLE member
8. Active Seeker of DAILY GOOD WORKS toward others- if Christ is truly in the heart, one will seek to DO the Works of Christ
9. Faithful and Dependable Members- Foundation for Longevity in the Christian Walk---MARATHON NOT A SPRINT
10. BURDEN TO WIN THE LOST TO CHRIST

- I. **God's Gifts to the Church**---Christ Ascended but he left behind Gifts for the Church  
Ephesians 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; **WHAT ARE THESE GIFTS FOR?**
- II. **THE PURPOSE OF CHRIST'S GIFT TO THE CHURCH**  
Ephesians 4:12-14 **For the perfecting** (*Greek-Tel'i-os---of full age, complete mature*) of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:<sup>13</sup> Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect (*Greek-Tel'i-os---SEE ABOVE*) man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:<sup>14</sup> That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
- **The Perfecting of the Saints**
  - **The Work of the Ministry---Seeking the Lost**
  - **The Edifying of the Body of Christ**
- III. **Ephesians 4--Their Mission is UNTIL**--- Ephesians 4:12-14
- <sup>13</sup> **Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God,**
  - **Maturity**---unto a perfect (*Greek-Tel'i-os---SEE ABOVE*) man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
  - **Established in Truth and Sound Doctrine**---14--That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
- IV. **Now, In Closing, Let's Look at What we Teach and Why we Teach God's Word**  
**II Timothy 3:16-17** <sup>16</sup> All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: <sup>17</sup> That the man of God may be **perfect** (*Greek: AR'-tee-os---Complete, Mature*), thoroughly furnished unto all good works.
- **God's Book is Given and Inspired by God Himself**
  - **God's Word is Profitable for Doctrine**
  - **For Reproof**---a sword against FALSE TEACHERS
  - **For Correction**
  - **For Instruction in Righteousness**
  - **AN ESSENTIAL TOOL FOR SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT and MATURITY**
  - **An Essential Guide on HOW to do GOOD WORKS**---full of examples of works that please God