



A FRESH LOOK

NEW TESTAMENT

CONCEPTS OF

WORSHIP AND

ASSEMBLY

WORSHIP IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- Where is the temple in the New Testament? **We are the temple.**
- Why is the body (both us individually and the collective church) the temple? **The Holy Spirits dwells in us.**
- Who are the priests that offer the sacrifices? **We are the priests.**
- What are the sacrifices? **The way you live and good deeds.**
- When is the worship performed? **All the time.**
- What does it mean to worship in the Spirit and in Truth?
- **Jesus said the change was to be from:
Physical Symbolism to Spiritual Reality**



Romans 12:1

Passage	Terminology	"Worship"?	Direction	Liturgy?
Mt 18:17-20	Gathering (synagō), Assembly (ekklēsia)	No	Horizontal	No
Acts 2:42-47	Together (epi to auto)	No	Both	No
Acts 4:23-35	Gathering (synagō)	No	Both	No
Acts 11:21-30	Gathering (synagō)	No	Horizontal	No
Acts 12:12-17	Gathering (synathroizō)	No	Mostly vertical	No
Acts 13:1-4	None	leitourgeō (ministering)	Both	No
Acts 14:21-28	Gathering (synagō)	No	Mostly horizontal	No
Acts 15:4-29	Gathering (synagō)	No	Horizontal	No
Acts 15:30-35	Gathering (synagō)	No	Mostly horizontal	No
Acts 20:6-12	Gathering (synagō)	No	Horizontal	No
1 Cor 11:17-34	Coming together (synerchomai), Assembly (ekklēsia)	No	Both	Possibly in the Lord's Supper
1 Cor 14:1-40	Coming together (synerchomai), Assembly (ekklēsia)	proskuneō Prostrating by Outsider	Mostly horizontal	Possibly with the amen and thanksgiving
1 Tm 2:8-12	"In every place" (en panti topō)	theosebeia (godliness)	Both	No
1 Tm 4:11-16	None	No	Horizontal	No
Heb 10:23-25	Assembling (episynagōgē)	No	Horizontal	No
Jas 2:2-4	Assembly (synagōgē)	No	Neither	No

SUMMARY OF ASSEMBLY PASSAGES

WHY ASSEMBLE TOGETHER?

- Hebrews 10:24-25
 - Stir up one another to love and good works
 - Encourage one another
- I Corinthians 14:26
 - Building up one another (edification)
- 1 Thessalonians 5:11
 - Encourage one another and build one another up



SPUR ONE ANOTHER ON TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS
HEBREWS 10:24-25

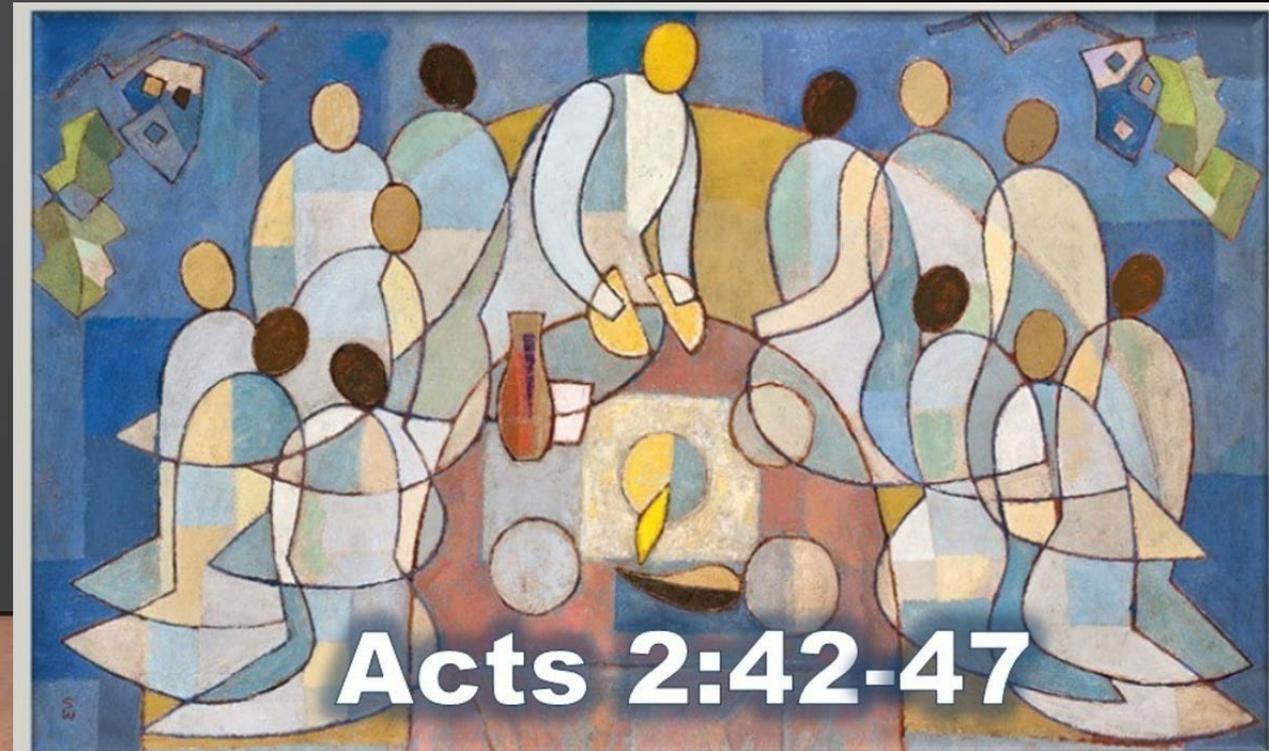
Spur one another on to love and good works.
We must spur one another on to love and good works.
Not forsaking the assembly,
But encouraging one another,
We will spur one another on to love and good works.

WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO GET RIGHT IN THE ASSEMBLY?



WHAT DID THE EARLY CHURCH DO WHEN THEY ASSEMBLED?

- Acts 2:42 - And they devoted themselves to the **apostles' teaching** and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.



WHAT IS THE APOSTLES TEACHING?

- 1 Cor. 14:6 - Now, brothers, if I come to you speaking in tongues, how will I benefit you unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or teaching?
- 1 Cor. 14:26 - What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.
- 1 Cor. 14:29-31 - Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said. If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent. For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged,

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TEACHING AND PREACHING?

- διδαχή – (*didache*) – that which is taught or doctrine, or
- διδασκαλία – (*didaskalia*) (– the act of teaching or instruction

- Εύαγγελίζω – (*euangelizo*) – to bring or declare good or glad tidings. Almost always used of the good news concerning the Son of God (proclaiming the Gospel. To evangelize.
- *Κηρύσσω* – (*kerusso*) – to be a herald or to proclaim in general, or to preach the Gospel as a herald.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TEACHING AND PREACHING?

- Acts 5:42 - And **every day**, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease **teaching** (didaskalia) **and preaching** (euangelizo) that the Christ is Jesus.
- Acts 15:35 - But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, **teaching** (didaskalia) **and preaching** (euangelizo) **the word of the Lord**, with many others also.
- Acts 18:11 - And he stayed a year and six months, **teaching** (didaskalia) **the word of God** among them.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TEACHING AND PREACHING?

- Acts 20:20-21 - how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching (didaskalia) you in public and from house to house, testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Acts 28:30-31 - He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching (didaskalia) about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TEACHING AND PREACHING?

- Col. 1:27-28 To them God chose to **make known** how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we **proclaim, warning everyone** and **teaching** (didaskalia) **everyone** with all **wisdom**, that we may present everyone **mature in Christ**.
- 1 Timothy 5:17 - Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in **preaching** (the word –logos) **and teaching** (didaskalia).

WHERE DID WE GET OUR IDEA OF A LOCAL PREACHER?

- Itinerant Apostolic Worker (church planters/missionaries)
 - » Multiple Shepherds/Elders/Overseers – 1st Century Church
 - » Single leading elder in each church - ~100 A.D. Ignatius of Antioch – now call Bishop
 - » Separation of *Clergy* and *Laity* - ~100 A.D. Clement of Rome and Tertullian
 - » Elder to Priest – Cyprian of Carthage ~249 A.D.
 - » Glorification of Clergy – Constantine ~313 A.D.
 - » Priest to Pastor – Reformation Luther/Calvin ~1530 A.D.
 - » Pastor to Preacher/Evangelist – Restoration Movement ~1828 A.D.

WHERE DID WE GET OUR IDEA OF A PULPIT SERMON?

- Present Day Sermons:
 - It is a regular occurrence
 - It is usually delivered by the same person
 - It is delivered to a passive audience
 - It is a cultivated form of speech
- Apostolic Preaching in Acts
 - It was sporadic.
 - It was delivered on special occasions for evangelism in the mission field
 - It was sometimes dialogical rather than monological
 - It was often extemporaneous without rhetorical structure

WHERE DID WE GET OUR IDEA OF A PULPIT SERMON?

- Not found in the 1st Century Assemblies
- » Separation of *Clergy* and *Laity* - Clement of Alexandria ~200 A.D.
- » Greek Sophists become Christians ~250 A.D. – Debate/Rhetoric
- » Orators become church leaders – John Chrysostom and Augustine ~ 350 A.D.
- » Reformation - Luther/Calvin– Preacher/Pastor is “mouth of God” ~1530 A.D.
- » Preacher/Evangelist – Restoration Movement is still the “mouth of God” ~1828 A.D.
- What have we lost in the process?
- What can we do to get it back?

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF OUR SINGING TOGETHER?

- Col. 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.
- Eph. 5:18b-20 - Be filled with the Spirit, addressing (speaking to) one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- psalm (*psalmos*) – a song of praise (instrumental accompany)
- hymn (*hymnios*) – a religious song
- spiritual song (*pneumatikos odais*) – a song from the spirit