

Visualized Bible Study

Part 5b

The Lord's Reign.

A photograph of an open Bible showing the Gospels. A hand holds the pages open. In the lower-left foreground, a red rose is partially visible.

*History of
The Lord's Church*

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PART 5b

**“History of the
Lord's New Covenant People.”**

**THE SPIRITUAL BODY OF CHRIST began on
the first Jewish Day of Pentecost after the cross.**



PART 5

**The History of
The Lord's Reign over His New Family
From Pentecost to Division.**

God reveals His pattern for His family.

***THE NEW TESTAMENT WRITINGS,
which Jesus consecrated
with His own blood,
are God's final and complete revelation***



**Jesus reigns as King
and brings His Assembly into being.**

**In the early days of His reign
the risen Christ revealed from heaven
the message of the New Testament
to selected men such as Peter and Paul.**

***Guided by the Holy Spirit,
these men wrote down inspired truths.***

**Copies of these revelations
were circulated among the early
congregations who accepted them
as Holy Scripture with Divine Authority.**



**In the providence of God
these inspired writings
became the New Testament
which we have today.**

**Therefore, to depart from
The New Testament teaching today
is to depart from GOD'S WAY.**

**EVEN WHILE THE NEW TESTAMENT
was being written
man was still departing
from God's Way.**

**Even Christians thought
they could lie and fool God.**

**One Christian couple, for example,
actually conspired to lie
about a contribution
that they were giving
to the congregation.**



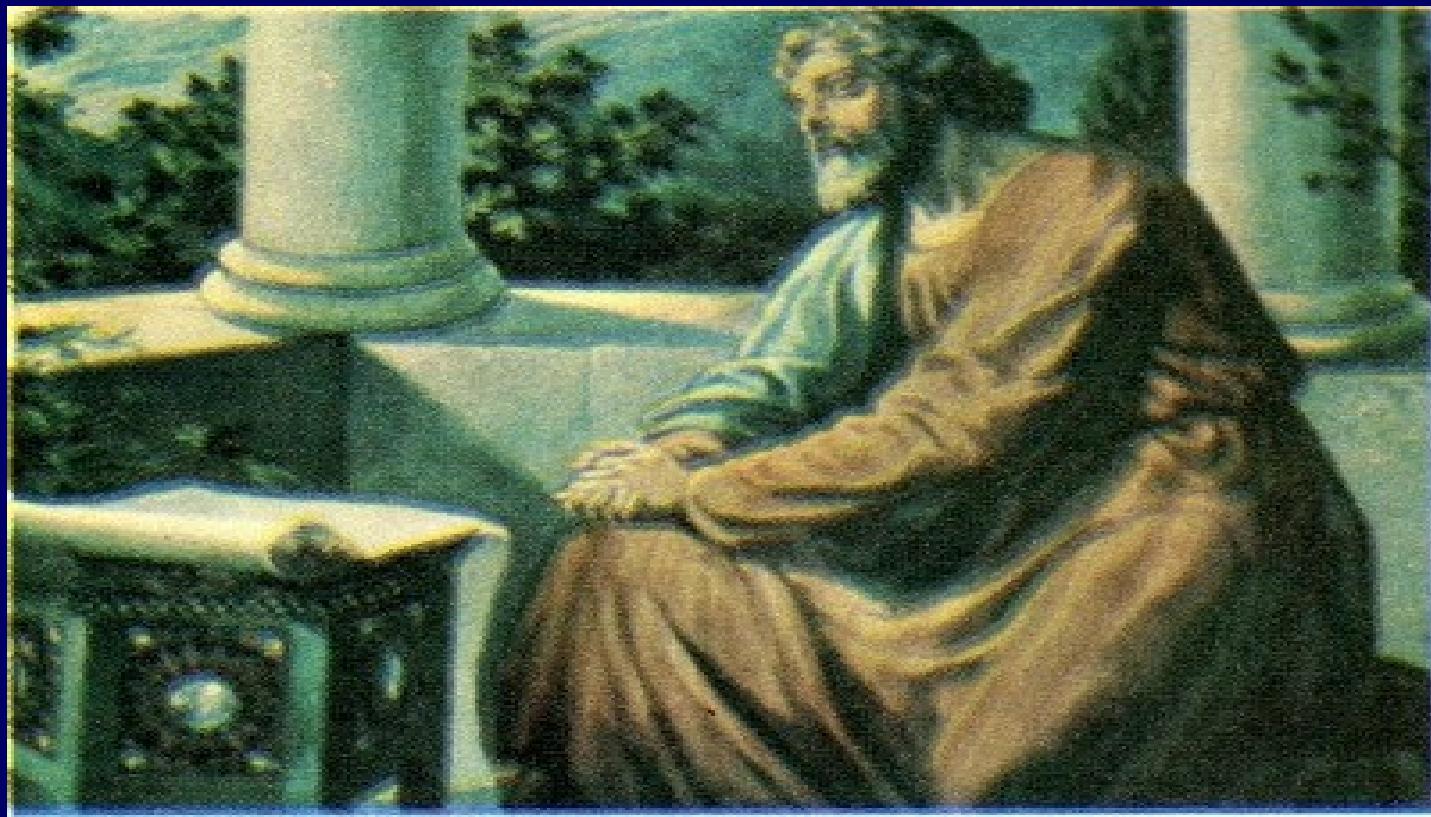
**When Ananias, the husband,
told the lie, immediately he fell dead
at the feet of the apostles.**

**Three hours later his wife, Sapphira, offered
the same lie and suffered the same fate.**



**God's people were again impressed
with the necessity of walking in God's Way.
Acts 5:1-11.**

**REMEMBER, GOD'S WAY WAS MADE
KNOWN to the early Christians
through the preaching and writing
of inspired men like the apostle Paul
who was converted from Judaism.**



**Travelling throughout the Roman world,
he preached the Word of God
with courage and conviction.**



**Paul did not hesitate to brand
as false doctrine anything taught
which was contrary to the truth
which he knew God had revealed to him.**

***PERSECUTED BY THE JEWS
and others who rejected Christ,
Paul was finally imprisoned
where he could not preach publicly.***

**But even in prison Paul continued
to contend for and to spread God's truth
through every avenue available to him.**



**Through the Holy Spirit,
God guided him into all truth in writing
letters to individuals and congregations.**

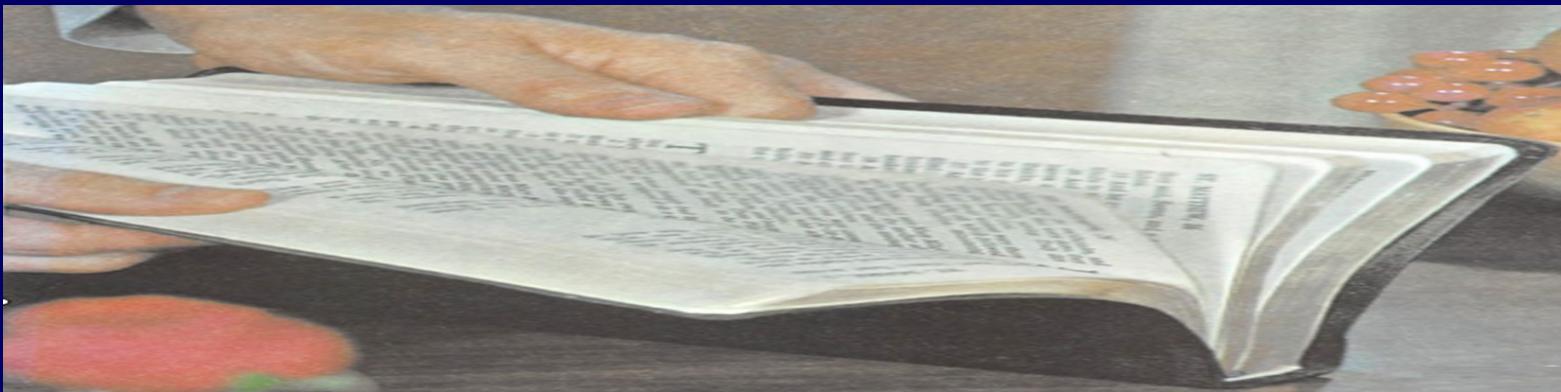
**Paul instructed that these
Inspired writings
be read to the congregations
and be accepted as having authority.**

**Paul continually insisted
on the Divine Authority of the gospel
which God inspired him to preach.**

Colossians 4:16; 2 Thessalonians 3:14;

PAUL WROTE,

“But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that you have received, let him be accursed.” (Galatians 1:8-9;)



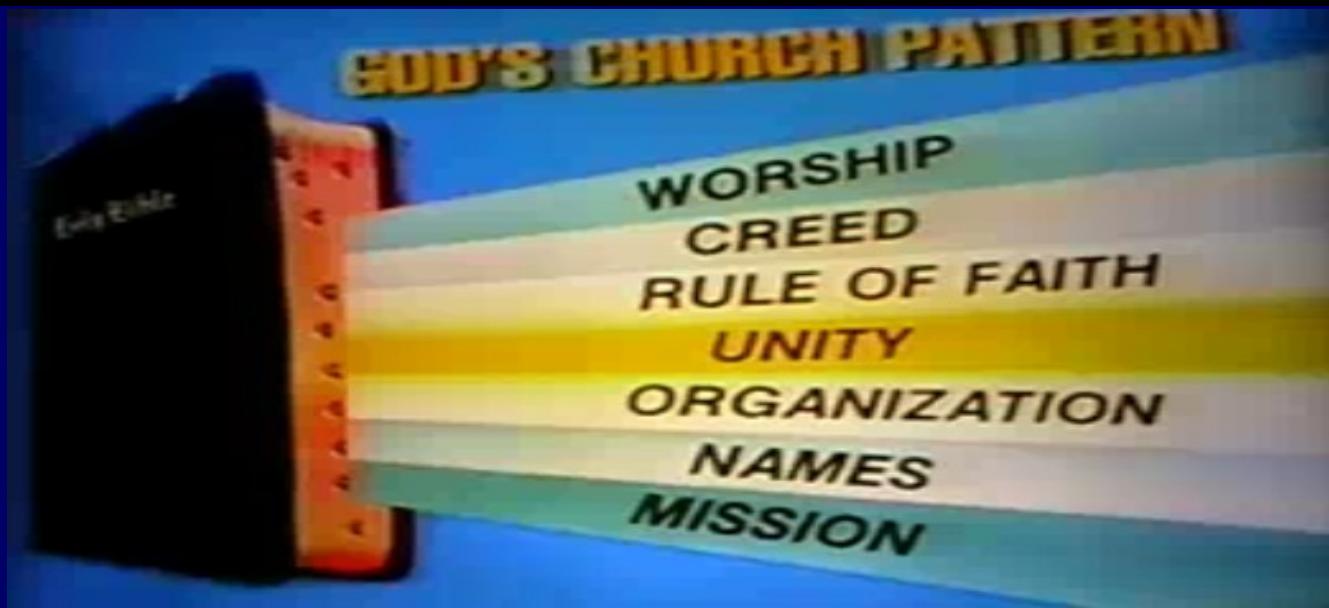
**This gospel, preached not only by Paul
but by all other inspired men of that day,
is revealed fully only
in the New Testament Scriptures.**



**No man has the right
to change a single
principle, policy or practice
found in the New Testament.**

**GOD HAS GIVEN
A COMPLETE PATTERN
for His assembly in the New Testament.**

Jesus built His body exactly as He wanted it, including its **worship**, **creed**, **rule of faith**, **unity**, **organization**, **names** and **mission**.



**Those who wish to honour Jesus
and walk in God's way
will see that today's congregations
follow the New Testament pattern.**

**The complete pattern for Christ's body
is revealed in the New Testament.**

**No man has the right to change this pattern.
Those who have tried to do so have merely
produced assemblies
different from Christ true assembly.**

GOD'S PATTERN for Christ's family, Christ's body is not difficult to understand.

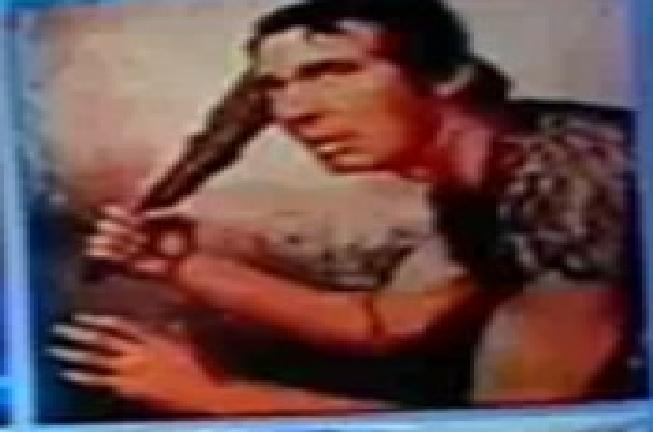
The early Christians evidently understood it.

**For years they were all together
in the ONE FAMILY which Jesus built.**

**As they established congregations
throughout the Roman Empire
these congregations were all organized
in the same way and all believed
and taught the same doctrine.**

But today there are many modern religious groups different from this pattern and divided among themselves.

Men
women
depend
from
God's way



Since God's divine pattern can be seen clearly in the New Testament Scriptures,

Why have men through the years left God's pattern and established conflicting religious groups instead?
Ephesians 4:4-6;

Just as always, many modern religious leaders are not satisfied to follow God's divine pattern.

Though they feel sincerely that they are able to improve on the pattern, they are mistaken.

2 Thessalonians 2:3; 2 Timothy 4:3-4;

**JESUS IN LUKE 8
compares the word of God
to seed being sown in a field.**



**When only the pure Word of God
was planted by the apostles
in the hearts of men,
it produced only one harvest:
united Christians.**



**All were added by God
to the same family / kingdom
Under the reign of Jesus the King.**

**Since God has ordered that every seed
shall bring forth after its own kind.**

**That same pure New Testament Seed
will produce the same harvest
of Christians today.**

**By the same token,
it should not produce
many different religious groups.**
Genesis 1:11;

**BUT MANY PEOPLE ARE ASLEEP
to the fact that much seed is being sown
in the name of Christianity
which is not the pure New Testament
Teaching but a mixture containing
human creeds, dogmas and philosophies.**



**Jesus referred to those
who sow bad seed as the enemy.**

**Indifferent to the Bible
and ignorant of its teachings,
some people who are even religiously inclined
are unaware that preachers, priests and
rabbis can and often do teach false doctrines.**

**But Jesus warns, “Beware of false prophets,
which come to you in sheep's clothing,
but inwardly they are ravening wolves.”**
(Matthew 7:15;) Matthew 13:24-30;

Jesus knew that God's law of reproduction demanded that “every seed must bring forth after its own kind.” (Genesis 1:11;)

God's Law of Reproduction.

Begun by Miracle

reproduced by Natural Law



Every Seed After Its Kind

Every Seed After Its Kind

Every Seed After Its Kind

**In the plant kingdom
God created by miracle
the first plants containing seed
that they might reproduce by law.**



Also in the **fleshly kingdom**
God made the first animals
and the first **human** pair by miracle.

He provided that **through their seed**
they, too, should reproduce by law.



THE SPIRITUAL KINGDOM, or BODY
also had a **miraculous beginning**
when the Holy Spirit
came upon the apostles
endowing them with power
bringing to their remembrance
the Word of God,
the seed of THE KINGDOM.

**God also provided
that through this seed
Christians could be reproduced.**

Matt 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16;
Acts 2:1-12; 36-49;



GODS LAW OF REPRODUCTION
applies in the plant kingdom.

**Every seed must
bring forth after its own kind.**



When a **seed** is sown in a field
it produces a new plant the **same type**
as the plant from which the seed came.

We would not expect
to plant **wheat** and reap **corn**.



**There are no exceptions
to God's Law of reproduction
in the plant kingdom.**

Genesis 1:11, 72;

GODS LAW OF REPRODUCTION
also applies in the **fleshly kingdom.**

**Every seed must bring forth
after its own kind.**

God said to Adam and Eve,
“Be fruitful and multiply.”



A human infant can come only from human parents. Nor would we expect eagles to produce canaries.

There are no exceptions to God's Law of reproduction in the fleshly kingdom.

Genesis 1:27- 28;



**IN THE SPIRITUAL KINGDOM
God's Law of reproduction
also applies.**

**Here again every seed
must bring forth after its kind.**



**When the apostles
planted the pure Word of God
in the hearts of men
only Christians were produced.**

GOD'S LAW OF REPRODUCTION
Begun by Miracle - Reproduced by Law



Baptized

Confessed

Repented

Believed

SPIRITUAL KINGDOM

**Those who were taught by the apostles
believed in Jesus Christ,
repented of their sins,
confessed the Christ as God's Son
and were baptized
for the remission of sins
through Jesus' blood.**

**Only in this same way
can anyone today become a Christian,
a member of Christ's
NEW COVENANT ASSEMBLY.**

**This pure seed
should not bring forth
Many Different Religious Groups
with Many Different Beliefs.**

**The sowing of any religious teaching
which would produce
differing religious groups
is a departure from God's way.**

Acts 2:1-42; Matthew 7:15-23;

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Next - Part 5c The Lord's Reign