

CHURCH ELEMENTS:

PUBLIC PREACHING

WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

- MARKS – *Who the Church Is:*
 - Orthodox. Order. Ordinances.
- WORKS – *What the Church Does:*
 - Exaltation. Edification. Evangelism.

WHAT ARE THE ELEMENTS OF THE CHURCH?

“And they devoted themselves to *the apostle’s teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.*”

- Acts 2:42

WHAT ARE THE ELEMENTS OF THE CHURCH?

- *The Apostle's Teaching* (Doctrine/Instruction/Word):
 - Preaching. Reading. Polity (Offices – Elders/Deacons).
- *The Fellowship*:
 - Serving. Sharing. Accountability & Discipline.

WHAT ARE THE ELEMENTS OF THE CHURCH?

- *The Breaking of Bread:*
 - Lord's Supper. Baptism. Confession.
- *The Prayers:*
 - Adoration. Thanksgiving. Supplication. Evangelism.

OLD TESTAMENT THEOLOGY

- God *brings life* through His spoken Word:
 - Genesis 1... “*And God said... And God said...*”
 - Genesis 2:7
- God *orders and enlightens* through His Word:
 - Genesis 2:16
 - Psalm 119:130

OLD TESTAMENT THEOLOGY

- God *calls* through His spoken Word:
 - Genesis 12 (Abraham)
 - Exodus 3 (Moses), 19-20 (Israel, “*these words,*” 20:1)
- God *accomplishes* through His Word:
 - Isaiah 55:10-11
 - “Thus says the LORD”

OLD TESTAMENT THEOLOGY

- The *pattern* of publically speaking God's words:
 - Deuteronomy 33:10
 - Nehemiah 8:7b-8
- The *punishment* of publically speaking *our* words:
 - Jeremiah 23:16-22
 - Malachi 2:4-9 (c.f. Deuteronomy 33:8-11)

CHRIST AND THE EARLY CHURCH

- The *life & authority* of the Word affirmed by Christ:
 - Matthew 4:4
 - John 17:17
- The *pattern* of proclamation seen in the early Church:
 - Acts 2:14, 37, 40-41
 - Acts 13:16, 46; Acts 20:27-32

THE APOSTLE'S TEACHING

- The *command* to publically preach the Word of God:
 - 2 Timothy 4:1-2
 - Titus 2:15
- The *results* of the publically preached Word of God:
 - Romans 10:14-17
 - Galatians 3:1-5

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- Remember, the Apostle's Teaching is this...
 - 1 Thessalonians 2:13
 - Hebrews 4:12
 - 1 Peter 1:22-25
- Remember, the threat to the Apostle's Teaching...
 - Revelation 2:12-17

WHAT OF CHURCH HISTORY?

“God’s Word cannot be without God’s people, and conversely, God’s people cannot be without God’s Word.”

- Martin Luther, 16th century

WHAT OF CHURCH HISTORY?

“The church is not a group of people groping for a philosophy of life congenial to modern conditions, but a living body already being shaped by apostolic teaching. Holding steady to that teaching is a principal mark of the authenticity of the church.”

- Thomas Oden, 20th century

QUESTIONS?