

The
Apostolic
Foundation

***The Apostolic Foundation ***

*** Setting a Pattern For The End Times Church ***

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Foreword

God has been restoring the Fivefold Ministry to the Body of Christ for many years, and the last century was a very significant time in the history of the Church.

The 20th Century ended with a bang, with the Prophetic Office being fully established, and the first beginnings of the Apostolic Office beginning to fully show in the modern church.

Many have sought to explain this new move of God and put forth their teachings concerning the ministry of the Apostle. And being part of this move, I looked to see what revelations had been received by Bible Teachers on the subject. I was disappointed to find very little, and of those who had attempted to address the subject, the concepts were clearly still primitive and lacking in new revelation.

As I looked to the Lord, He spoke very clearly and showed that He would train me and those whom He had given me, and would reveal principles that had not been taught before concerning the Apostolic Office. Our training involved far more than studying the ministry of the Apostle. It involved going through a series of training experiences both in the Spirit and the Word, directed by the Lord Himself.

In His presence and under the revelation of the Holy Spirit, we began to study the Scriptures of the Old Testament, where the Apostle did not yet exist. It all began when the Lord told me very clearly that I was to be a type of Moses and that Moses was a picture of the Apostle of the New Testament.

The parallels between Moses and the Apostolic Ministry were startling, and the principles that surfaced as we lived and learned these things were concepts that we had never heard of before or read anywhere.

Then one day I was meditating on the passage where God told Moses to build the tabernacle according to the pattern he received. I tried looking up the word pattern in the concordance of my Bible software, and discovered an amazing passage I had never seen before.

I found that David also had received from the Lord a pattern for the Temple. And that was when I realized that David also was a type of the Apostle. So both Moses and David were apostolic types, and their lives and experiences both brought forth new shades of truth concerning the ministry of the Apostle in the New Testament.

The Apostolic Foundation

In time the Lord revealed that there were in fact four types, and over a period of three years, we learned and began to teach the principles that God was showing us. Both Colette Toach and myself were in Prophetic Office, and she was instructed first to place me into Apostolic Office. I later then also placed her into the Apostolic Office.

What followed was a teaching series we did together which we called The Way of the Apostle, which set forth a complete teaching concerning this vital End Times ministry office, and how it operates.

This book is the first in a series covering our entire teachings on the ministry of the Apostle. It includes the foundational lectures I taught on the subject and gives a comprehensive breakdown of the Apostle. With this knowledge alone you will be well equipped to move into your calling as an Apostle and recognize how God has been working and preparing you for this.

This book is followed by four more in the series, preached by both Colette and myself, entitled, The Moses Mandate, The David Dynamic, The Joshua Juncture and the Solomon Succession. So if you are blessed by this book, you should seriously look at obtaining the other four also, and you will have the most comprehensive teaching on this subject available to the Body of Christ.

May you find your place in the End Times Church and recognize the calling of God upon your life. And may you see clearly which Apostolic Types God has called you to.

In His Presence

Les D. Crause
Apostle and Founder
Global Ministry Resources

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Chapter 01

What Is An Apostle

Chapter 01 - What Is An Apostle?

‘Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds. 2 Corinthians 12:12’

What is an apostle? We hear a lot these days about the Apostolic Ministry and the Apostolic Office.

But do real Apostles still exist today?

Was Paul not one of the last of the apostles?

Many claim to be apostles today. Are these genuine apostles, or are they deceived?

How would you recognize an apostle?

Many use the word as a title before their names. Some even dress in special clothing to become more visible.

But does that make such a person an apostle? What does an apostle look like?

And are there any female apostles, or is this only for men?

Would a real apostle identify himself or herself?

Should they go around claiming to be apostles?

Is an apostle someone who has reached a higher level of spiritual maturity?

What exactly is an apostle?

Perhaps you have asked some of these questions or thought about them. I hope to help you answer them in this study.

First Exposure

One of the first people I ever heard of who claimed to be an apostle, was a man who had started his own ministry. He had a unique approach.

Although he had only one church, it became almost like a denomination.

This man had a zeal for restoring the fivefold ministry. He wanted to help people identify their ministries. It was a brand new move and a wonderful thing.

He was a man who was used mightily by God in signs and wonders. He set up prophets in his church and gave them titles. Then he took for himself the title of apostle.

People were not allowed to call him reverend or pastor. They had to call him by his title of 'apostle'.

I never ever met this man, but I met some of the people who went to his church. It was clear that they were awe-inspired by him. They hero-worshipped him! They quoted everything that he said, almost word for word.

He seemed to be a mighty man of God, but some things did not look quite right.

On one occasion, he met one of his prophets just before the meeting. Addressing the prophet he said, "By the way, I thought I'd just let you know what I'm preaching on tonight. When you prophesy, will you please make sure it lines up with my sermon?"

This man, who was a genuine prophet of God, looked at him in disbelief. He said, "I beg your pardon! I prophesy what the Spirit of God lays upon me to prophesy," and he rebuked the so-called apostle.

The apostle was quite unmoved and just rebuked him back.

Things began to go wrong in that church and this apostle had a heart attack and died. Some of the people in his church wanted to go and raise him back from the dead. But it was clear that his ministry was over.

It had started out with something genuine, but it had gone wrong. Perhaps it had moved beyond what God intended. Perhaps he opened a door to the enemy. It is not for me to judge.

I am sure you have also heard stories of so-called apostles who have exalted themselves. Many have fallen into deception and led others astray.

Because of this many are afraid of this term 'apostle'. They are nervous when somebody says, "God's called me to be an apostle."

There is also the opposite extreme these days. People everywhere are claiming to be apostles.

It happened that way with the Prophetic Ministry. Prophets were rare at first. But then suddenly a move took place and they started springing up everywhere.

Prophets are now very common in the church. But Apostles have started appearing in the same way.

We need to know what is the genuine and what is not the genuine. We need to be able to identify what is of God and what is not of God. And we need to be able to test those who claim to be apostles.

God was pleased with one of the churches that John wrote to in Revelation. It was the church at Ephesus. He said, "You have tested those who claim to be apostles and found them to be false."

Right back there already, there were true and false apostles.

We will be looking at all of this in some detail.

You will find out how to know without a doubt if an apostle is genuine or not. And you will learn to recognize an apostle when you meet one

Chapter 02

What Apostles Are Not

Chapter 02 - What Apostles are Not

Not a Super-Spiritual Giant

We will consider first what an apostle is not, before we look at what an apostle is.

An apostle does not have to be a super-spiritual giant. The ministry of the apostle is a gift and a calling, not a spiritual attainment.

There is of course a price to pay for appointment to ministry office. (We will look more at that later). But God calls and chooses by His grace.

He is God the King and He knows the future. It is He alone who can choose, call and ordain someone to be an apostle.

An apostle does not have to be someone who is far above others in righteousness and holiness. This is true also for the other ministries.

An apostle is not somebody who has revelation that does not rely on the Scriptures.

I remember somebody telling me about a wonderful apostle they knew. He was a man who spent all day in the presence of the Lord, praying and seeking the Lord.

He was just so close to God! And he would write letters to his churches, just like Paul did. The people would take and read them, and they would build their doctrine on his letters rather than the Word.

He had built himself into a state of spirituality where he claimed to be 'clear' of certain things. It gave him the right to indulge in sins of the flesh freely. So what was sin to others was now no longer sin to him.

Can you not clearly see the signs of a cult in this?

You have heard of people like this. You have heard of cult leaders that have risen up and led people astray; claiming to be apostles of Christ because they have superior revelation.

They will say things like, “We don’t dabble in the milk any more brother, we’re into the meat!”

When you hear people talking like that and claiming to have unique revelation, you need to be careful.

Not a Missionary

The word apostle means, “sent one”.

This sounds a lot like being a missionary, and many missionaries are indeed apostolic. But it is not true to say, ‘all missionaries are apostles’.

Perhaps you thought that you would have to be a missionary to be an apostle. Now you can let that idea go.

Missionaries are not sent out in the same way as apostles. They are sent by an organization. The Apostle is sent out by the Lord directly. We will be covering that later.

Not the Founder of a Church

An apostle does not have to be someone who starts a new church. This seems to be a common teaching.

Many believe that if someone goes out and starts a new church, they are the apostle of that church and can claim that title.

They reason that if you start a new church, then you are an apostle.

The Scripture tells us that when Saul persecuted the early believers they scattered everywhere. And everywhere they went, they preached the gospel. They reached up as far as Antioch and preached to people there.

Do you know what happened? People were saved. Christians came together and a church started up.

The Apostles however, were still in Jerusalem! There was no apostle anywhere near to start that church. They had to send someone up there.

Barnabus and Saul went to teach and get the church in order. But they were not even apostles yet. Barnabus was a prophet and Saul was a teacher.

Apostles are not the only ones who can plant new churches. There are people planting new churches who are not even filled with the Holy Spirit yet. They have not received any gift, office or calling from the Lord.

Can they claim to be apostles? Of course not!

Chapter 03

What An Apostle Is

Chapter 03 - What an Apostle Is

So what is an apostle then? Let me give you a few guidelines.

One Who Is Sent

An apostle is someone who has been sent. That is what the Greek word 'apostolos' means.

An apostle should have more than one gift ministry. An ordinary pastor or evangelist cannot do what an apostle is called to do.

The apostle has risen up through the ranks. He has carried out most of the fivefold ministries before moving into the Apostolic Office.

The apostle receives his mandate from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Spiritual Entrepreneur

An apostle is someone who lays new foundations. He is able to start new things and set them in order.

I think the best description, and one that the Lord dropped in my spirit, is that an apostle is a spiritual entrepreneur.

What is an entrepreneur?

An entrepreneur is what most of us are not.

Most of us work for someone who has already established a business. The entrepreneur gets everything going and then finds others to help.

Most people study and prepare themselves to obtain a qualification. They then offer their services for an income. They fit into someone else's structure and plan.

An entrepreneur is a person who is bubbling with new ideas and plans - a person who has a goal and a vision.

He is someone who desires to go out where no man has gone before; a person who wants to go in and start things that nobody did before.

Paul said, "I was determined not to build on another man's foundation."

He said, "I'm going to lay my own foundation. I am not going to fix up somebody else's building. It is all wrong because it was built wrong."

He had a vision inside; something strong burning in him. He had a clear goal and a clear mandate.

That mandate was given to him as he was struck to the ground; as the light shone around him and the Lord Jesus spoke to him and said, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?"

Paul had a unique passion burning in him. He was a spiritual entrepreneur.

God is raising up apostles today like Paul.

They are people who have a cause burning in them.

They have a goal, a vision and a clear mandate from the Lord. That mandate is to go out and do what perhaps nobody else is doing.

Chapter 04

General Signs of Calling

Chapter 04 - General Signs of Calling

What are the signs of somebody who is called to be an apostle?

I want to look first at some general signs. After that, we will look at some specific signs.

Jesus Calls

Firstly, apostles are called directly by Jesus Christ.

In Luke 6:13 we read concerning the early apostles: **“And when it was day, he called [to him] his disciples: and from them he chose twelve, whom also he called apostles;”**

Jesus did not give an appeal saying, “I’m recruiting for apostles. Would all applicants please queue up at my house at 6:30 tomorrow morning, and I’ll interview you.”

No! He had thousands who wanted that job! He was not planning to interview them all. He spent the whole night in prayer instead.

Here was Jesus, the Son of God; who was in tune with the Father; who knew things that nobody else knew; who walked in the anointing of God and in spiritual revelation.

Yet He spent the whole night in prayer waiting before the Father. He did not want to make a wrong decision. There would be only twelve - a very specific number.

The next day when He called all the disciples, they must have come running.

We do not know how He knew whom to choose. Perhaps He had visions. Perhaps during the night as He had prayed, faces came before Him.

He called them out - twelve specific people. He chose them, appointed them and called them apostles.

So an apostle is not called by an organization or by popular vote. An apostle is divinely called by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

