

# THE DOCTRINE OF THE APOSTLES

PART ONE

DOCUMENT BY PASTOR TONY NAIR

## THE DOCTRINE OF THE APOSTLES

Doctrine is absolutely important in the Church of Jesus Christ because doctrine determines several things in a believer's life. Doctrine determines one's character, fellowship and destiny. In the Body of Christ in order to maintain fellowship it is important that we as the twenty first century believers align ourselves with the Apostles doctrine. The early church continued steadfastly in the Apostles DOCTRINE and FELLOWSHIP, in the breaking of bread and prayers [ACTS 2:42]. If the doctrine is not right, then it is difficult to maintain fellowship and impossible to break bread together and pray together. So the question to be asked is what was the Apostles doctrine that caused the Messianic temple i.e. the church to be its foundation and Jesus Christ the chief cornerstone [EPH 2:19-20].

When Apostle Paul was appearing before King Agrippa, he says: [ACTS 26:22-23]. It is clear that Paul spoke 'no other things', than what the prophets and Moses said would take place. So Paul spoke what the Old Covenant Prophets spoke. Paul and the Apostles were speaking the realization and the fulfilment of what those Prophets have said would take place. What did the Old Covenant Prophets speak? They spoke of the crucifixion of Jesus and the glories that were to follow. [READ 1PET 1:3-12]. Everything they spoke of was Christ-centred. Peter says that they prophesied of things that were to come and it was not for their generation but for another generation [1PET 1:10-12]. The Prophets longed to have seen those days in the first century. [MATT 13:16-17]. The Pharisees and the scribes failed to believe Jesus in the first century. Look at what Jesus told them [JOHN 5:45-47].

They were reading the Law of Moses every Sabbath and their spiritual eyes were not opened. The ONE they read about was in their midst and they took Him and crucified Him [ACTS 13:27]. They did not know the voices of the Prophets. God spoke in the Old Covenant through the Prophets in various ways, but in the first century God sent His Son to speak [HEB 1:1]. When the Apostle Peter spoke in Acts chapter three after the healing of the lame man, he preached his sermon by taking his audience to the Old Covenant Prophets [READ ACTS 3:11-26]. What the Prophets foretold were coming into realization within the Apostles days [ACTS 3:18, 24].

Ask anyone and very few would give a biblical answer to this question. What was the Apostle Paul standing trial for? that the first century Jews clamoured for his death and said 'away with such a fellow from the earth, for he is not fit to live' [ACTS 22:22] and even Festus said to Paul that he is beside himself and much learning is driving him mad [ACTS 26:24] and that even King Agrippa told Paul that Paul almost convinced him to become a Christian [ACTS 26:28]. Was Paul preaching some new doctrine which was not in the Old Covenant? If Paul did not then he is contradicting himself because he said that he spoke none other things than that which was preached by Moses and the Prophets. The Apostle Paul was standing trial for the hope of Israel. What was the hope of Israel? The hope of Israel was the resurrection of the dead of which the twelve tribes hoped to attain [ACTS 26:6, 7 ; 23:6; 24:14-15,21;20].

The hope of Israel will be discussed in the next document. The resurrection of the dead is the hope of Israel in the first century and it was not a hope for the church. It was for the twelve tribes and the church of Jesus Christ does not have tribes. The Apostle Paul cannot be standing trial for the hope of Israel which concerns the resurrection in the first century which many Christians still believe that to take place. It makes no sense for someone to stand trial for something to take place two millennia later. The problem is that the doctrine widely spread in Christianity is that physical bodies will be flying out of gravesites at the return of the Lord and that is not what Paul was standing trial for.

Document 01/01

By Pastor Tony Nair