

Foundations to the Congregation 2023

II. The Church after the time of the Apostles.

A. Changes in the NT Church:

After the time of the apostles, the church experienced a lot of change. Through the next several centuries, adjustments were made that changed the basic structure of the church and its function.

1. A hierarchical _____ developed (bishops, archbishops—ultimately the pope in Rome).
2. Ecumenical councils made decisions and fashioned _____ that were forced upon church members.
3. Church-state entanglements resulted in corruption on both sides as _____ and _____ tried to control each other.

B. Reform in the Church:

1. Major protestant _____ led a movement to purify some of the abuses. They had a great deal of success, but they created additional problems as well.
2. Protestant theologians simply formed _____ creeds to enforce new theological _____.
3. Divisions of the Body of Christ became an accepted _____ as protestant denominations developed both in Europe and in America.
4. Denominations began to _____ each other rather than seek to win the world to Christ.

The mood of the church was largely an _____ vs _____ mentality. The main priority in many churches was: debate, refute, argue, dispute...and evangelize if you have time.

C. Effort to restore NT Christianity:

In the late 18th and 19th century, a number of men within several denominations began efforts to restore the church as it is revealed in the New Testament...

1. **James O'Kelly: 1792**—Left the _____ because of a dispute over the Methodist Bishop. He and his followers took the name "Christian Church" and spread through the southern states.
2. **Abner Jones and Elias Smith: 1801**—Jones left the _____ in New England and formed a "Christian Church." Their followers spread through New England and the Great Lake States.
3. **Barton W. Stone: 1804**—He left the _____ church of Kentucky and began a Christian church movement in the Ohio Valley.
4. **Thomas Campbell: 1809**—Left the "Old Light, Anti-Burgen Seceder Presbyterians" In 1808 he _____ himself to the work of Christian unity. In 1809 he wrote the 13 propositions of the Declaration and Address.
5. **Alexander Campbell: 1809**—Immigrated to western Pennsylvania. Probably the most eloquent speaker of the Restoration Movement. He, like his father, emphasized _____ through _____ authority.

NOTE: All individuals above formed Christians Churches, emphasizing two aspects of New Testament Christianity:

- The _____ of believers in the body of Christ.
- The _____ of the New Testament as the rule of faith and practice.

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III. Salina Heights Christian Church:

A. Humble Beginnings:

1964—Thirteen people formed the nucleus of Salina Heights Christian and became charter members. Over the next seven years they grew to 58 members.

B. Rapid Growth Continued:

God blessed and continued to give increase to the work of Salina Heights Christian Church.

2001—An overcrowded facility, led to the purchase of our existing facility (801 E Cloud St).

C. Difficult and Transitional Years:

Honoring the preachers of our past...

D. A Fresh New Look:

2017—A new plan for expanding the Kingdom: (Matthew 22:37-40, Mark 10:45)

1. In 2017 SHCC developed a _____.

- Love _____ Passionately
- Live _____ Community
- Lift Up _____ Regularly

LOVE → LIVE → LIFT

- a. Our membership expectations are simple: _____.
- b. This is how we gage _____ in ministry.
- c. This is how we determine our _____.

2. Our _____:

- a. Attend worship services _____.
- b. Go to _____ or get into a _____ Group—which ever opens first.
- c. Serve _____.