

Welcome to the Worship Celebration of



SIMPLY BIBLICAL | FAMILY INTEGRATED

Church – The Beginnings, Part 33
Godly Church Leadership – Antioch
Acts 13:1-2



Have you ever heard someone say ...

Hey, I don't like ORGANIZED RELIGION ...

I usually ask them ... so do you want CHAOTIC RELIGION?

They normally say – “well you know what I mean ...” and then proceed to somewhat explain what they mean...

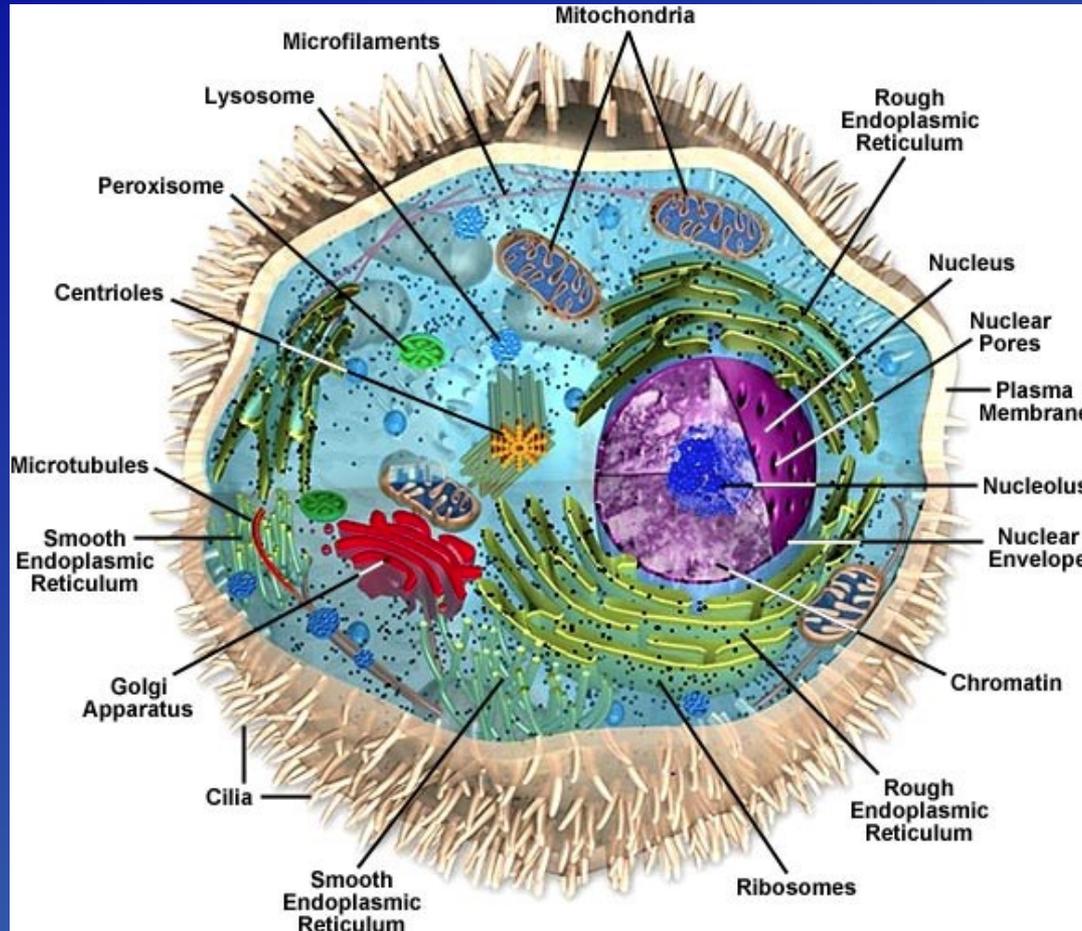
Churches, that are highly organized, building, steeples, paid staff, and so on... they really are saying

“I DON'T WANT GOD TELLING ME WHAT TO DO”

This is dirt and rocks – chaotic and disorganized



This is a living cell – highly organized – for LIFE



**Godly Church Leadership is God's IDEA –
His Design – The Church - ORGANIZED – For LIFE**

Acts 13:1-2



Godly Church Leadership – Antioch

Acts 13:1-2

Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. ² As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”

Background regarding the church of Antioch:

- 1. Mostly, overwhelmingly a Gentile church with mostly no Biblical Background**
- 2. Originally planted by Jews from Cypress and Cyrene preaching to Gentiles (Greek speaking Gentiles)
[ref. Acts 11:19-21]**
- 3. God brought together Leaders to help this brand new church to grow [ref. Acts 11:22-26]**
- 4. God chose the church in Antioch to spearhead the Famine Relief effort for the church the region of Judea and Jerusalem.**

DIVERSE LEADERSHIP TEAM – God Chosen – Godly Leaders:

It is OK to have differences of backgrounds - yet be Relevant to the people you are ministering to

This church originated from Born-Again, Messianic Jews who preached the Gospel to lost Gentiles of Antioch ... and those Jews were from Cypress and Cyrene (ref. Acts 11:19-21).

Those Born-Again Jews who were used of God help start the Antioch Church were not from Antioch. Yet, they cared for the lost in that city. They were pioneers, thus already displaying leadership

In Acts 13, The leadership matched the foundational beginnings, ethnically and culturally (mostly)

DIVERSE LEADERSHIP TEAM – God Chosen – Godly Leaders:

Barnabas – he was from Cypress

Lucius – he was from Cyrene

Simeon – he was called “Niger” which means black. More than likely from “black” Africa.

Saul - he was from Tarsus – near the region of Antioch – he knows their shared culture.

Manaen – more than likely the only Israeli Jewish person on the leadership team. The connection to being brought up with Herod, means in his household, and may mean raised by the same royal house staff and nurses, etc. Thus, Manaen would most likely be highly educated and be more well-travelled.

DIVERSE LEADERSHIP TEAM – God Chosen – Godly Leaders:

The Leadership Team consisted of Prophets & Teachers – compare with Eph. 4:11-16 ...

And God gave some to be Apostles, some to be Prophets, some to be Evangelists, and some to be Pastor-Teachers → for the Equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry

Differing Gifts, Talents, Abilities on a Team, working together, relying upon each other, collaborating ...

Having differences can become stumbling blocks or assets. We know of tragedies → but this is shining example for us

PRINCIPLES:

The First, God designed, Leadership Principle we observe is Multiple Leaders on the same page, together, in unity, in Christ, in the Holy Spirit. We see this principle in practice historically, here in Antioch. We see this principle with Doctrinal understanding Eph. 4:11-16, 1 Tim. 3:1-13, 1 Tim. 5:17-18, Titus 1:5-9, 1 Peter 5:1-5, Acts 6:1-6, 1 Thess. 5:12-13.

DICTATORSHIPS NOT ALLOWED – thus Christ is the Real Leader

For more research on God's Church Leadership Model, please, go to: <https://NLFJI.org/LM/>

PRINCIPLES:

The Second Godly Leadership Principle is →
Worship and Intercession, in Unity, in Christ

“... they ministered to the LORD and fasted ...” Acts 13:2

This is not the whole entire congregation, it is only those 5 individuals who are doing this together. The word for Ministered in Greek is the root of our English word “Liturgical” ... → → ...

The Second Godly Leadership Principle is →

Worship and Intercession, in Unity, in Christ

“... they ministered to the LORD and fasted* ...” Act 13:2

The word for Ministered in Greek is the root of our English word “Liturgical”. It is used when translated from Hebrew into Greek as to what the High Priests would do within the Tabernacle and/or the Temple complex in Praying, Praising, and Worshiping God with Service – which included sacrifices and other temple related duties. They were Worshipping, Praising and Praying to God, together. The High Priest would go to the LORD on behalf of the people that he was representing. He would Intercede for them. And, so it is with these 5 chosen Servant-Leaders of this church. → Worship and Intercession

*** → Interceding / Worshipping so long as to forget to eat**

Why does this matter to those of us who are not Elders in our church?

The Elders (as well as Deacons) are supposed to be **Examples** to flock of God, shepherding them with care, love, and concern.

As **Examples**, they set the **TONE** regarding Spiritual **LIFE**.

Paul said in 1 Cor. 11:1 – Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

If they are God's Chosen Leaders, then those of us who aren't can look to them lead us into a deeper walk with Jesus Christ. We can follow them, because they are following Christ.

Are the leaders praying, seeking God, Interceding for the church, both together as a leadership team and as individuals? Are they obeying Christ, faithfully, for His Glory, and not their own? Then folks should take notice and do the same.

Why does this matter to those of us who are not Elders in our church?

The Elders (as well as Deacons) are supposed to be Examples to flock of God, shepherding them with care, love, and concern.

As Examples, they set the TONE regarding Spiritual LIFE.

In this case, those 5 leaders were in unity in Christ, for His Kingdom Purposes, worshiping God together, seeking His face and He answered them. They, as a church, were given some new marching orders. They were faithful with the Famine Relief ... their next marching orders from God ... will take that up, next week.