

- 3B The making of disciples through evangelism and teaching, Matthew 28:18-20, 18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.
- 6A The unique reward for apostles, and notice the limit of 12, Revelation 21:14, 14 Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

## **The Spiritual Gift of Apostle**

- 1A** God the Holy Spirit sovereignly bestowed this gift on Paul at his conversion. Ephesians 4:11, "And He Himself gave some to be apostles..." cf. v.8, "He gave gifts to men."
- 2A** The word means "sent out" John 20:21, So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."
- 3A** Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of apostleship:
- 1B** Jesus is the apostle of our confession, which means of our entire faith, Hebrews 3:1, 1 Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus,
  - 2B** The apostles are the foundation of our faith, but Jesus is the cornerstone, Ephesians 2:19-22, 19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.
- 4A** An apostle was an eyewitness of the risen Christ. Acts 1:21-22, 21, "Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection."
- 1B** This makes the spiritual gift of apostleship only temporary.
  - 2B** It ceased with the passing of the eyewitness generation.
- 5A** The responsibilities of the apostles:
- 1B** Establishment of doctrine, Acts 2:42, 42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.
  - 1C** Especially through inspiration and the completion of the canon of Scripture, John 16:12-13, "12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. "
  - 2C** Again this doctrine and canon is upon Jesus Christ, 1 Corinthians 3:11, 11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
  - 2B** The preaching of Christ as the official herald of the King of kings, Galatians 1:15-16, 15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, 16 to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood,