

**Acts 3:21** –

<sup>19</sup> Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, <sup>20</sup> and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, <sup>21</sup> whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began."

**//---→ RESTORATION is an INESCAPABLE CHARACTERISTIC of GODS DEALINGS with MAN ever since the GARDEN!**

**///---→ THE POINT is that GOD IS and HAS been RESTORING what has been LOST to TRADITION and RELIGION with the GOAL of GETTING us BACK to the ORIGINAL BLUEPRINT.....**

**//---→ If WE want to SEE the RESULTS that the CHURCH HAD in the BOOK of ACTS, and then SOMEDAY move BEYOND that to the GREATER Things, we MUST FIRST align ourselves with the ORIGINAL MODEL....**

**Eph 2:20**

<sup>19</sup> Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, <sup>21</sup> in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, <sup>22</sup> in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

**Eph 4:11**

<sup>11</sup> And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; <sup>14</sup> that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, <sup>15</sup> but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—<sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

**//----→ AND WHAT did THIS MODEL PRODUCE ? ? ? ?**

### **Acts 2:41**

<sup>41</sup> Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. <sup>42</sup> And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. <sup>43</sup> Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

<sup>44</sup> Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, <sup>45</sup> and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

<sup>46</sup> So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

**"APOSTOLIC CENTERS"** = a BEACHHEAD for the GOSPEL in a TERRITORY. A REGIONAL MINISTRY HUB and RESOURCE CENTER established to PROVIDE EVERYTHING NECESSARY for CHURCHES within its REGION to GROW and MULTIPLY

//---→ AS you **READ** through the **BOOK** of **ACTS**, you **FIND** that **WHENEVER** the **CHURCH EXPANDED** into a **NEW AREA** or a **NEW CULTURE**, there was a **NEW APOSTOLIC CENTER** established.

**These Apostolic Centers were ALL UNIQUELY DIFFERENT, but they ALL met a NUMBER of SIMILAR NEEDS:**

1. They were FIRST and FOREMOST – TEACHING & TRAINING Centers. EACH Apostolic Center was PLANTED by an APOSTLE, then RAN by a Visiting APOSTOLIC TEAM who would DEVOTE at least ONE YEAR or MORE to INTENSIVE TEACHING and TRAINING of DISCIPLES
2. They were SENDING CENTERS. From an APOSTOLIC CENTER, MINISTRY TEAMS were SENT OUT to PLANT new CHURCHES in a REGION, STRENGTHEN existing CHURCHES & PENETRATE new TERRITORIES with the GOSPEL
3. APOSTOLIC CENTERS frequently served as GATHERING PLACES for REGIONAL CELEBRATIONS. In the O.T., GOD established a PATTERN of REGIONAL WORSHIP GATHERINGS through BIBLICAL FEASTS. The Early Church CONTINUED this practice WELL into the 4<sup>th</sup> Century (Roman Catholics)
  - CHRISTIANS in SMALL isolated HOUSE churches would COME TOGETHER at an APOSTOLIC CENTER for MASSIVE CELEBRATIONS as HUNDREDS and even THOUSANDS gathered for PRAISE and MINISTRY.
4. Through TEACHING, TRAINING, and the SENDING OUT of APOSTOLIC MINISTRY TEAMS, APOSTOLIC CENTERS acted as HUBS where ALL the CHURCHES in the REGION had ACCESS to the 5-FOLD MINISTRY GIFTS