Tenets of the Christian Faith

 Week One

 PATTERNS

**Lesson IC1 Warnings about holding fast The Pattern (G 10)**

**1. What is it? (definition; summary of the doctrine)**

Three Greek words have been translated in the New Testament on Pattern:

Type - Titus 2:7 & Hebrews 8:5

Outline - 1 Timothy 1:16

Copy or Copies - Hebrews 8:5, Hebrews 9:23.

**Hebrews 8:5 Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.**

Does Jesus Christ set the pattern in all things?

YES. The Master Jesus Christ has set the pattern in all things. He has called all men to follow his pattern with this decree.

**John 14:12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, this is my gospel; and you know the things that you must do in my church; for the works which you have seen me do that shall you also do.**

**Mark 7:6 This people honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.**

Everything we do ought to be a pattern of the Word of God in us. (STANDARD)

When we walk with Christ and follow His pattern we will see that true joy comes from Him, yes, He will bless us with the things we desire, but we must first trust Him.

**1 John 2:15-17 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.**

**2. Taught in the Old Testament**

The Old Testament predicts a Messiah - Isaiah 53, and the New Testament reveals who the Messiah is John 4:25–26.

The Old Testament records the giving of God’s Law, and the New Testament shows how Jesus the Messiah fulfilled that Law. Matthew 5:17; Hebrews 10:9.

The Old Testament, God’s dealings are mainly with His chosen people, the Jews; in the New Testament, God’s dealings are mainly with His church. Matthew 16:18.

Physical blessings promised under the Old Covenant Deuteronomy 29:9 give way to spiritual blessings under the New Covenant. Ephesians 1:3.

The Old Testament prophecies related to the coming of Christ, although incredibly detailed, are made clearer in the New Testament.

God’s revelation to individuals through His Scripture is progressive; the New Testament brings into sharper focus principles that were introduced in the Old Testament.

The book of Hebrews describes how Jesus is the true High Priest and how His one sacrifice replaces all previous sacrifices, which were mere foreshadowing.

The Passover lamb of the Old Testament Ezra 6:20 becomes the Lamb of God in the New Testament John 1:29.

The Old Testament gives the Law. The New Testament clarifies that the Law was meant to show men their need of salvation and was never intended to be the means of salvation. Romans 3:19.

The Old Testament saw paradise lost for Adam; the New Testament shows how paradise is regained through the second Adam (Christ).

The Old Testament declares that man was separated from God through sin Genesis 3, and the New Testament declares that man can be restored in his relationship to God Romans 3-6.

**3. Taught in the New Testament**

WE HAVE BEEN CALLED TO MAKE DISCIPLES and TAKE CARE OF THE WEAKER VESSELS.

**Matthew 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.**

**James 1:27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.**

**John 18:36 Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.**

Do you know why the majority of believers who are do not follow Christ patterns?

They have no hope in Him. They see Christians living worldly lives than they are and wonder why follow the pattern of Christ when they are not. The word WORLD is a pattern of this World system (human being live by Default).

The truth is this, many who claim to be believer are not, they are only pretending to know who Christ is, and are actually making a mockery of what Christianity is all about.

This is why it is so important that we who do love and follow Christ, live a Godly life, proving that a life truly can be changed and blessed when Christ is Lord in it.

It is not about following commands; it is about having respect for what Jesus did through obedience for you and honoring Him by living your life through His example by obeying.

**Titus 3:1-7 Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work, To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men. For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. But after that the kindness and love of God our Savior toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.**

These things are good and profitable unto men. It is by the grace of God that we are not punished for all the things we have done in our flesh. But grace is more than that, it is the favor of God, His commitment to us for believing in His Son, and accepting Him, His assurance of eternal life, and His promise to be there for us through the good and bad times.

Following the pattern of Christ not only brings rest to the weary, it also brings peace with God and salvation to others as they see Him through us.

**4. Historical Progression**

Paul outlines a tragic progression that begins with people growing weary and ashamed of truth.

**2 Timothy 4:3-4 For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.**

In these verses he describes a church being undermined and destroyed. This is not a prophecy of the death of a single congregation, but a general description of the death of a thousand.

**Reject truth.** This may happen gradually, as distrust toward God’s revealed truth spreads. Or it may come swiftly, as love of the world chokes the fruitfulness of a congregation. What was once hatred of error becomes intrigue and then interest.

**Reject truth-tellers.** As a church turns away from the truth, its members soon turn against truth-tellers. Such people will no longer tolerate the teaching they once enjoyed. Because they have begun to question the truth, they will turn against those who boldly proclaim it. The very teachers who once drew and delighted them will begin to repulse them.

**Embrace false teachers.** Once a church has rejected those who teach the truth, it will replace them with teachers who give them what they want to hear. Having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions. This church now desires novelty over truth, platitudes over exhortation. So, they invite false teachers to guide them into a deeper, fuller twisting of the truth.

**Embrace false doctrine.** Once people have rejected truth and truth-tellers, and once they have found teachers who will lead them into twisting truth, they will wander off into myths. Now they will embrace full-out heresy. They will become so hardened in their sin (heart will turn away truth) that they will elevate error to the status of truth. They will wander off, like sheep straying away from the watchful care of a good shepherd into a pack of wolves.

**5. Heretical Counterfeits (impact of false doctrine, what truths it changes; how it affects the Gospel, sources of the counterfeits)**

**Blessed Hope -Titus 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ.** Jesus’ imminent return motivates the believer to live godly in an ungodly world. To be looking means that we live each day in continual anticipation and expectancy, with the conviction that Jesus could come at any time. It is against Scripture patterns to take the man’s world strategy of “7-spheres of influence” and conquer each of them to allow His return to earth.

**6. Application Today (why it matters so much where it puts Jesus, the body of believers, Israel, truth, etc.)**

**Protesting against the government is NOT a God strategy. The question to ask is What Would Jesus Do (WWJD)?**

**How did Jesus handle injustice?**

**John 17:16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.**

**1 Peter 3:15 But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.**

**John 14:27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your heart be troubled and do not be afraid.**

**John 16:33 I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.**

**7. Supporting Scripture and references**

**Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.**

**1 John 5:19 We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.**

**John 17:14-15 I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one.**

**John 15:19 If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.**

**James 4:4 You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore, whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.**

**1 John 2:15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.**

**John 17:14-16 I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.**

**Titus 3:8-11 For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, Yes, many of us were just like them, even those who grow up in the church have their demons, but our good works, following the pattern of Christ, is not for our salvation, Jesus took care of that for us, it is for those of the world to see the true Jesus. This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men. But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain. A man that is a heretic after the first and second admonition reject; Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinned, being condemned of himself.**

**Galatians 6:7-10 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.**

Jesus Christ Magnified.

**Titus 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.**

OLD TESTAMENT

The flood and the ark

Passover and the Red Sea

Wilderness and the Promised Land

Exile and return

War and peace

Kingdom and kings

Prophets and priests,

the temple, its sacrifices, and its rituals, wisdom in death and in life, songs of lament and rejoicing, the lives of faithful sufferers and the blood of righteous martyrs — the Old Testament is extraordinarily Jesus-shaped.

**Salvation – John14:16 He is the only way, truth, and life.**

It’s ONLY through repenting, turning away from sin and making Him Lord of your life. It’s not let’s get baptized in water and we are now cleansed and have eternal salvation.

**Sin – Romans 10:10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.** It’s not the devil made me do it so let cast out the devil from me or this region who is causing me to sin.

**Prayer - Eph 2:9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.**

Fasting enables the Holy Spirit to reveal your true spiritual condition, resulting in brokenness, repentance and a transformed life. Your confidence and faith in God will be strengthened. It’s important to understand that fasting is not a way to get a better response to prayer.