

Introduction

Over the past 8 years, Rock Pike has seen many things change & we've seen many people grow.

The church grew in size, produced fruit, was purged & is now going through another season of growth.

In this new season, it's my belief that GOD wants us to work on becoming ***"A Biblical Church"*** - collectively & individually.

This week we enter our third week in a series called: ***"A Biblical Church"***

Matthew 16:18 ~ And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

But what is ***"A Biblical Church"***? How did the church get started? Who were the first members? What was its mission?

We continue to journey through the Book of Acts in this series – in search of ***"A Biblical Church"*** & asking a very specific question:

"Is Rock Pike Baptist Church a Biblical Church?"

We must evaluate our church collectively & individually – not with other churches around us – but against the original church found in the Book of Acts – built by JESUS.

Review

Who wrote the book of Acts? *Luke, the beloved physician. ~ (Colossians 4:14)*

When was the book of Acts written? *Approximately A.D. 60-62*

Acts is the sequel to which Gospel? *The Gospel of Luke*

Week 1 Review

In order for Rock Pike to be ***"A Biblical Church"*** we must adhere to three main keys:

***The HOLY SPIRIT must: DIRECT
CONTROL
EMPOWER***

Week 2 Review

In order for Rock Pike to be ***"A Biblical Church"*** we must:

***The Church must: GATHER REGULARLY
SEEK GOD'S GUIDANCE
BE UNITED***



Senior Pastor, John Sines Jr

Before we get into our text, let's ask GOD to show us how to become – “A Biblical Church”?

Acts 2:1-4

Pentecost – the fiftieth day after the Resurrection.

The word Pentecost literally means “fifty” & would be a celebration following a series of festivals that were for GOD & to honor HIM.

Exodus 23:14 ~ Three times thou shalt keep a feast unto me in the year.

The first feast followed “Passover” & was “The Feast of Unleavened Bread”.

1. **PASSOVER** – began at sunset on the 14th day of the 1st month
2. **FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD** – lasted for the next 7 days
3. **FEAST OF HARVEST** – lasted 49 days as they counted the first fruits
4. **PENTECOST** – the fiftieth day from Passover celebration
5. **FEAST OF INGATHERING** – a time when all work in the field was finished

These are very significant festivals & the Jewish people would have been practicing these events as laid out in Exodus 23:14-16.

Exodus 23:15 ~ Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:)

Exodus 23:16 ~ And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, *which is* in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field.



These festivals line up with the life & ministry of JESUS.

1. PASSOVER – THE SACRIFICE

✝ 1 Corinthians 5:7 ~ Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

2. FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD – THE BURIAL

✝ Exodus 12:15 ~ Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.

3. FEAST OF HARVEST – THE RESURRECTION

✝ 1 Corinthians 15:20 ~ But now is Christ risen from the dead, *and* become the firstfruits of them that slept.

4. PENTECOST – THE ARRIVAL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

✝ Acts 2:1 ~ And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

✝ Acts 2:2 ~ And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

✝ Acts 2:3 ~ And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

✝ Acts 2:4 ~ And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5. FEAST OF INGATHERING – THE RAPTURE

✝ Zechariah 14:16 ~ And it shall come to pass, *that* every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.



Senior Pastor, John Sines Jr

After the Resurrection, JESUS lived for 40 days, then at day fifty – the HOLY GHOST empowered the church as a whole.

But the disciples themselves had already received the HOLY SPIRIT from JESUS directly.

John 20:22 ~ And when he had said this, he breathed on *them*, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

This tells me, that the HOLY SPIRIT must be on men leading the church, before it will come on the church as a whole.

GODLY leaders are essential to being “A Biblical Church”.

Once a GODLY leader is in place, praying & waiting on the LORD – then the Spirit of the LORD will eventually move!

How will the HOLY SPIRIT move?

A. POINT US TO TRUTH

✠ **John 16:13 ~** Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

B. DIRECT US FROM SIN

✠ **Galatians 5:16 ~** *This* I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

C. LEAD US TO PURPOSE

✠ **John 14:26 ~** But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

CONCLUSION:

To be “A Biblical Church” – RPBC must:

**MOVE TOWARDS TRUTH
MOVE AWAY FROM SIN
MOVE TOWARDS PURPOSE**



Senior Pastor, John Sines Jr