

Acts 13:1-12
What is a Spiritual Church?

Introduction:

The believers in Christ were first called Christians in Antioch. (Acts 11:26) For those in the Antioch church it was like wearing a badge of honor. We might ask what are the marks of a Spirit-filled church? Answer: When her members walk in obedience to the will of God. Since God reveals His will in Scripture, a Spirit-filled church must be deeply committed to the Word of God.

I. OBSERVING SPIRITUAL LEADERS

A. Prophets and Teachers – v.1

1. Five teachers named: (Acts 11:20 cf. Rom. 16:21)
2. Reaching many on islands.

B. Integrated Church:

1. Various backgrounds
2. Multiple staff ministry – Phil. 1:1; Titus 1:5

II. OBSERVING SPIRITUAL MISSION

A. Preparatory work:

1. Worship – v. 2
2. Fasting and prayer – v. 3

B. The Holy Spirit is a person – Acts 1:8; Rom. 5:5

1. Laying on of hands – (The outward call)
2. Gordon Keddie – Heb. 5:4

III. OBSERVING SPIRITUAL OPPOSITION

A. The great pretender – Elymas – Bar-Jesus

1. Empowered by the Spirit – v.10
2. The responsibility of Elders – Turn To: Acts 20:24-32

B. Free to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ

IV. OBSERVING SPIRITUAL VICTORY

A. Fruit for your labor – v.2

1. Success and failure – II Cor. 2:15-16
2. Presbytery reports
3. Our victories must rely upon the principle of God's timing.
4. Sensitive to providence