

me in many ways. Because I began and ended the week, I had more messages than at some times and the outlines will follow. I am fairly certain of the date although if I should be shown to be in error, I cannot argue about it. I have kept the notes but not the technical stuff!

**The Ministry: The Practical Authority of the Word of God in the New Testament Company**

- 1. Our Declaration**
- 2. Authority in our Gathering**
- 3. Authority in Government**
- 4. Authority in Order**
- 5. Authority in Function**
- 6. Authority in Personal Differences, Preferences**
- 7. Authority in Programs**

**The Idea:** The basic idea is to stress the fact that God has given us guidelines in all of these areas....some of which we are almost unaware of the ideals stressed in the Word. The thought is not to construct a new legalism but to have a vibrant attitude of obedience towards the revelation God has given and enough love for the Lord Jesus to want to see it executed. The danger is one of hypocritical self-serving and a censorious attitude towards others...pitfalls into which we must not fall. So it is not always an easy matter for exact definition but we will look at a number of factors and hope to instill in our minds the thought that the Word of God is right and we are only on the true path when we are with it.

**MESSAGE #1. OUR DECLARATION**

Biblical Passages: Acts 2:22-36; 4:1-12; 17:1-4; 26:13-18

**I. Introducing the Subject:**

The term "practical" refers to the working nature of the Lines laid down in the Word of God for areas of our fellowship and living. It differs from "theoretical" in which we hypothesize that something should work or should not. Based on its own statements and claims, we declare that the Bible is the infallible rule of faith and practice. We make it the ground on which our other structures are built. Within this declaration there are a number of things that are given to us authoritatively..they are taught to us by the Word and in accepting the Word we accept and announce them. Our declaration therefore is not only to the fact that the Bible is our guide but also to