

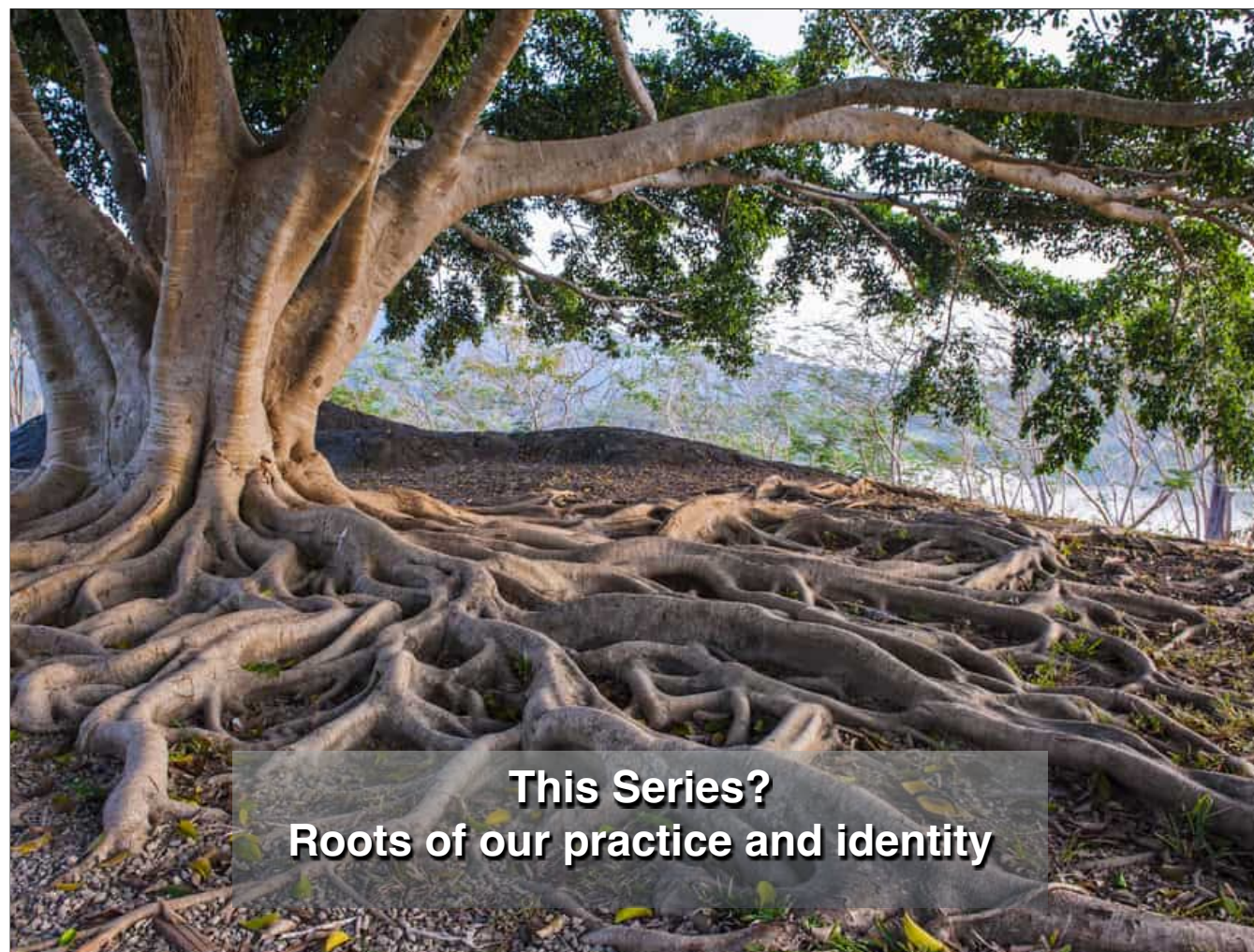
ROOTS

Why We Are What We Are





What do you know of your family history?



This Series?
Roots of our practice and identity



Why have a class like this? It is not about history.



We don't talk about...

Restoration!



Our uniqueness...why do we do what we do? Many people profess to believe the Bible but don't do that. Why do we do what we do?

All of what we do is rooted in a single idea of restoring the pattern of the New Testament today. We immerse in water for the remission of sins...because we read it in the New Testament pattern. We have elders and deacons because we read of Paul ordaining elders in every church in every city and the qualities in 1 Timothy and Titus point us to some kind of organizational scheme. We sing with only the human voice as our instrument because that is all that is reflected in the life of the first century church and beyond. We participate in the Lord's Supper every Sunday because of statements made in Acts 20:7 and then bolstered through other details both in the New Testament and verified in the second century.



At the crossroads...

But there's a bigger reason. Our fellowship stands at the crossroads of the future. Dozens of churches of year are pronouncing restoration irrelevant in an age of personal opinion as doctrinal statement. Some make what seems to them minor modifications which are nothing more than dynamite at the foundation column of the Lord's church. We need to know where we came from before we can know where we are going.

Challenge?



**To See It Through Fresh Eyes Rather Than Through
Preconceived Notions.**

I hope you will bring that same open minded search to our study together. There will be questions I probably have not asked and many questions I cannot answer. But a search for the truth is always a positive journey.



What is Restoration?



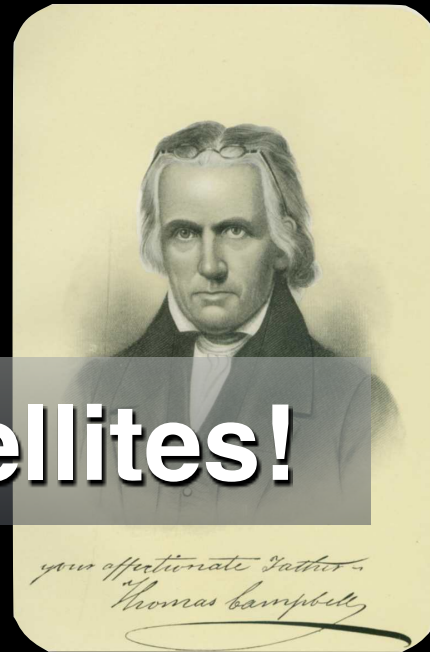
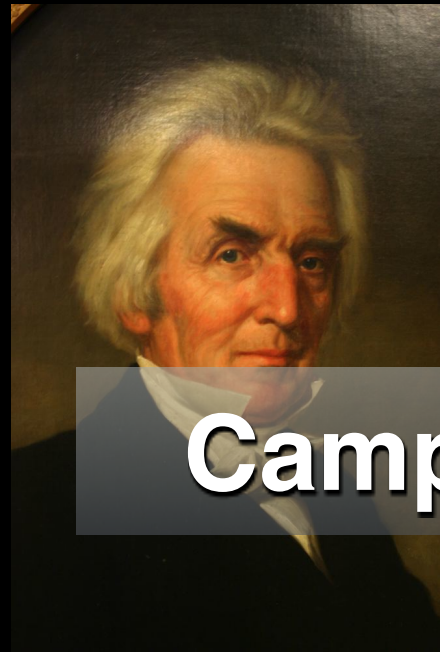
When it's in a mess, start over.

Restoration and Reformation



**Difference between a blueprint
and a coat of paint.**





Campbellites!

**People Believe Alexander and Thomas
Campbell came up with the concept of
restoration**



That's A Bad View of Restoration



2 Kings 22:3–5 (NIV)

³In the eighteenth year of his reign, King Josiah sent the secretary, Shaphan son of Azaliah, the son of Meshullam, to the temple of the Lord. He said:

⁴“Go up to Hilkiah the high priest and have him get ready the money that has been brought into the temple of the Lord, which the doorkeepers have collected from the people.

⁵Have them entrust it to the men appointed to ***supervise the work on the temple. And have these men pay the workers who repair the temple of the Lord—***



2 Kings 22:8 (NIV)

⁸Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the secretary, “***I have found the Book of the Law in the temple of the Lord.***” He gave it to Shaphan, who read it.

2 Kings 22:11 (NIV)

¹¹When the king heard the words of the Book of the Law, ***he tore his robes.***

2 Kings 23:2–3 (NIV)

²He went up to the temple of the Lord with the people of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests and the prophets—all the people from the least to the greatest. He read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant, which had been found in the temple of the Lord.

³The king stood by the pillar and ***renewed the covenant*** in the presence of the Lord—***to follow the Lord and keep his commands, statutes and decrees with all his heart and all his soul, thus confirming the words of the covenant written in this book.*** Then all the people pledged themselves to the covenant.

Nehemiah 8-9



Nehemiah 8:2–3 (NIV)

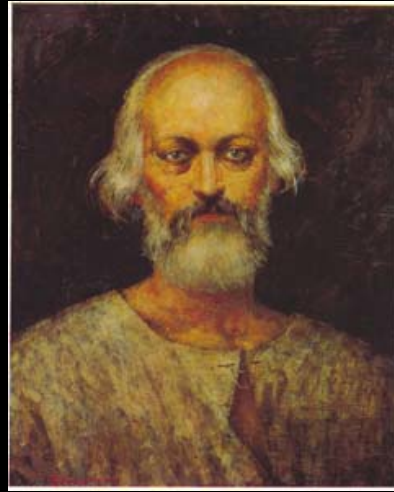
²So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought **the Law** before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand.

³He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. **And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.**

Nehemiah 8:14 (NIV)

¹⁴They **found written in the Law, which the Lord had commanded through Moses, that the Israelites were to live in temporary shelters** during the festival of the seventh month

Bogomils or Paulicians



Armenia around 650 A. D.

Key of Truth
frequently quotes from NT.

Rejected infant baptism, stressed
faith, repentance, and immersion
of adults

Worship was simple

Armenia around 650 A. D.

Key of Truth—frequently quotes from NT.

Rejected infant baptism, stressed faith, repentance, and immersion of adults. Worship was simple and devoid of the Catholic liturgical elements

Rejected ecclesiasticalism. Church was composed of baptized believers

Waldenses

12th century followers of Peter Waldo, a rich merchant in Lyon.

Translated Bible into an early form of French which the Roman Catholics called a vulgar language.

Rejected the papacy, liturgy, relics, purgatory, and acts of worship not found in the Bible.



Waldenses

12th century followers of Peter Waldo, a rich merchant in Lyon.

Wanted to remain Catholic

Translated Bible into an early form of French which the Roman Catholics called a vulgar language. Ended up rejecting the papacy, liturgy, relics, purgatory, and acts of worship not found in the Bible.

Unitas Fratrum



Out of 15th century Bohemian
reformation of John Huss

Leader was Peter Chelzicky

Advocated a return to the spirit of primitive
Christianity and believed the source of the
power of Jesus was found in his law of love.

Moravian Brethren

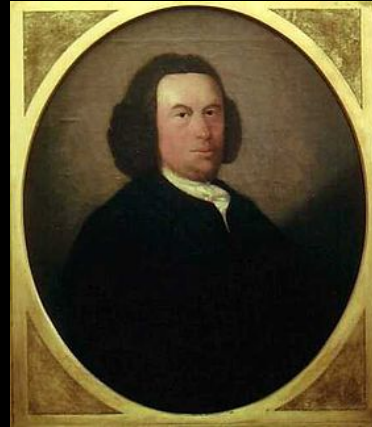
Unitas Fratrum

Unity of the Brethren—out of the 15th century Bohemian reformation of John Huss.

Spiritual father was Peter Chelzicky. Net of Faith written in 1440. Advocated a return to the spirit of primitive Christianity and believed the source of the power of Jesus was found in his law of love. Today it is the Moravian Brethren (think Winston-Salem)

Sandemanians

John Glas in 1728



Return to the worship and order of
the early church

Weekly observance of the Lord's
Supper, the holy kiss, love feasts,
weekly contributions to the poor, and
mutual exhortation.

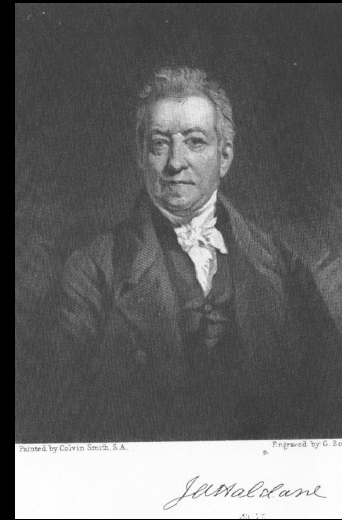
Autonomous congregations led by elders.

John Glas in 1728. Both Glas and Sandeman (his son-in-law) were conceded about returning to the worship and order of the early church. Weekly observance of the Lord's Supper, the holy kiss, love feasts, weekly contributions to the poor, and mutual exhortation. Autonomous congregations shepherd by elders.

Haldanes

Greville Ewing and James and
Robert Haldane.

Local churches were founded on the
basis of duplicating the pattern of the
NT in organization, worship, and
conduct of life. Weekly observance of
the Lord's Super was stressed.



*"All Christians are bound to observe the
universal and approved practices of the first
churches recorded in Scripture. "*

Haldanes

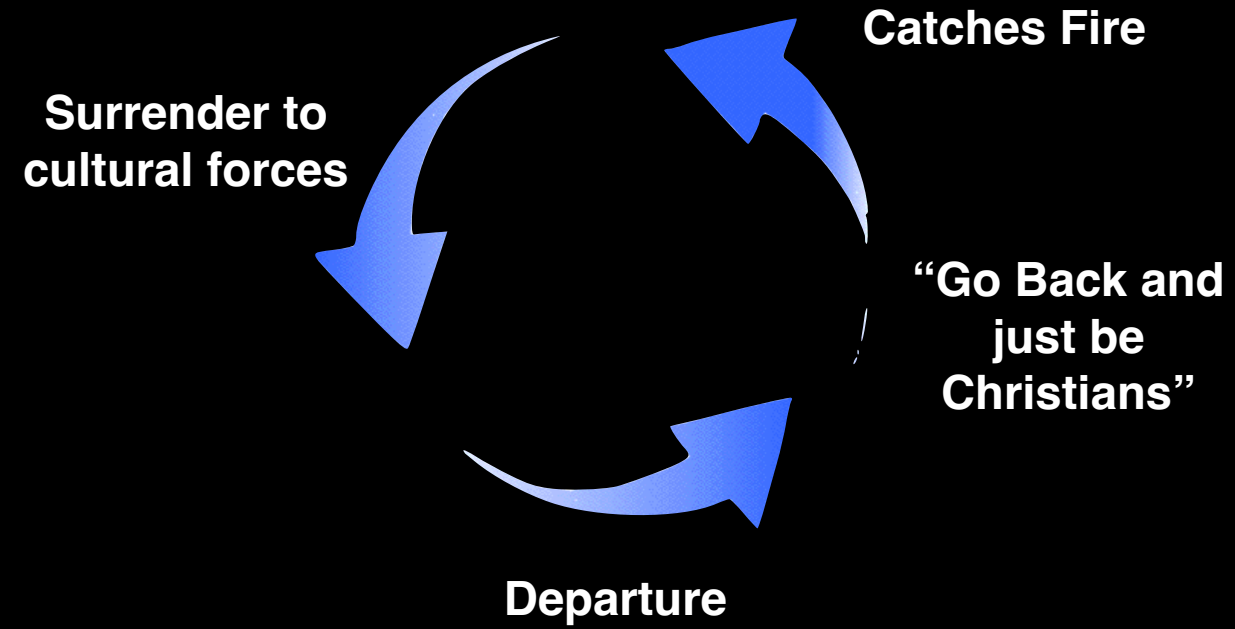
Greville Ewing and James and Robert Haldane.

Local churches were founded on the basis of duplicating the pattern of the NT in organization, worship, and conduct of life. Weekly observance of the Lord's Super was stressed.

There is reason to presume that the NT contains instructions concerning every part of the worship and conduct of Christian societies, as well as concerning the faith and practice of individuals.

All Christians are bound to observe the universal and approved practices of the first churches recorded in Scripture.

The Cycle



What Do We Observe?

**Renewed Interest in Following the Bible Rather
Than Fitting in With Culture**



What Do We Observe?

Took place at different times in different cultures.



What Do We Observe?

Took place independent of others.



Next Week



The Seeds of Restoration