Intro: The text for our study will be Heb. 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: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.” In Heb. 8:1-2 “Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; “A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.” Jesus Christ is presented as our high priest, and a minister of the true tabernacle which the Lord pitched. In speaking of the priest who served under the Old Testament we come to verse 5. We have before us the picture seen so often in Hebrews, that of type, anti-type; shadow and substance; the Old and inferior covenant, and the new and better covenant. In verse 5 we also have the idea, that has been presented down through the years, of a “pattern”. No plea can be uttered that would better call us back to abide by the will of God than, “See that thou make all things according to the pattern.”

I. A LOOK AT OUR TEXT.
   A. Jesus Christ is the subject under consideration.
      1. He is our high priest.
         a. The Scriptures affirm that He is our High Priest.
            (1) Heb. 3:1 “Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;”
            (2) Heb. 4:15-16 “For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”
            (3) Heb. 5:5-6 “So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. "As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.”
         b. He serves in this capacity in the true tabernacle, not the tabernacle of shadow.
         c. He would not be high priest if he were on earth.
            (1) To be a high priest on earth one must be from the tribe of Levi.
            (2) Heb. 7:14 “For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.”
      2. We are, therefore, subject to the new covenant.
         a. The old covenant with its priesthood is taken away.
         b. The Old Testament priests were serving within that which was example and shadow.
         c. These matters of Old Testament concern pointed to the “heavenly things” things of substance, the New Testament things.
   B. The idea of copy or example.
      1. It is “a sign suggestive of anything, representation, figure, copy.”
      2. By shadow is meant, with the things of the Old Testament being a shadow or shading of those things of greater importance and permanence brought through the New Testament.
3. In this we see:
   a. God was concerned with the things of shadow, copy, and example.
   b. In making the tabernacle, man was not left to his own devices, God gave the instructions.
   c. God called attention to the fact that he had established a pattern.
   d. His commandment was, “See that thou make all things according to the pattern.”

4. That which stands out is: If under the inferior covenant God wanted His instructions carried out with exactness; We cannot come to the superior covenant with a careless attitude.
   a. Heb. 10:28-29 “He that despised Moses’ law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: 29Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?”
   b. Heb. 12:25 “See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven:”

II. PATTERN CONCEPT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.
A. Building the tabernacle.
   1. In this is a beautiful pictorial outline of the Christian system.
   2. Exo. 25:9 “According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.”
   3. Exo. 25:40 “And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount.”

B. David’s preparations for the temple.
   1. 1 Chr. 28:11-12 “Then David gave to Solomon his son the pattern of the porch, and of the houses thereof, and of the treasuries thereof, and of the upper chambers thereof, and of the inner parlours thereof, and of the place of the mercy seat, 12And the pattern of all that he had by the spirit, of the courts of the house of the LORD, and of all the chambers round about, of the treasuries of the house of God, and of the treasuries of the dedicated things:”
   2. 1 Chr. 28:18-19 “And for the altar of incense refined gold by weight; and gold for the pattern of the chariot of the cherubims, that spread out their wings, and covered the ark of the covenant of the LORD, 19All this, said David, the LORD made me understand in writing by his hand upon me, even all the works of this pattern.”

C. In both Testaments the idea is that of a model.
   1. In the New Testament it seems to be: “A mark of impress made by a hard substance on a softer one; then, model, pattern, exemplar in its widest sense.”
   2. Men were to abide by it, and duplicate it, and could only be pleasing to God if they did so.

III. IT IS A MATTER OF AUTHORITY.
A. Mat. 21:23-27 “And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority? 24And Jesus answered and said unto them, I also will ask you one thing, which if ye tell me, I in like wise will tell you by what authority I do these
things. The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men? And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him? But if we shall say, Of men; we fear the people; for all hold John as a prophet. And they answered Jesus, and said, We cannot tell. And he said unto them, Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.”

1. Mat. 21:25 “The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men? And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him?”

2. In considering the patterns set forth by God, do we abide by the will of heaven or by our own will?

B. Col. 3:17 “And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.”

C. John 12:48 “He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.”

D. 2 John 9 “Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.”

IV. THE TENDENCY TO MOVE AWAY FROM THE PATTERN.

A. Some examples of moving away from the pattern.

1. The idea of a pattern is seen in all matters where God has spoken.
   a. By statement of law.
   b. God’s expectation that man will conform to that law.

2. Adam and Eve.
   a. God gave what behavior constitutes obedience; Gen. 2:16 “And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:”
   b. God gave what behavior constitutes disobedience; Gen. 2:17 “But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.”
   c. Their disobedience; Gen. 3:6 “And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.”

3. Nadab and Abihu; Lev. 10:1-2 “And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not. And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.”
   a. What behavior was according to the pattern in several areas.
      (1) They were sons of Aaron
          (a) Thus, they were priests.
          (b) They were to offer sacrifices.
      (2) They were to take their censors, put fire in them, and incense on it; Num. 16:16-18 “And Moses said unto Korah, Be thou and all thy company before the LORD, thou, and they, and Aaron, to morrow: And take every man his censer, and put incense in them, and bring ye before the LORD every man his censer, two hundred and fifty censers; thou also, and Aaron, each of you his censer. And they took every man his censer, and put fire in them, and laid incense thereon, and stood in the door of the tabernacle of the congregation with Moses and Aaron.”
b. What was not according to the pattern?

(1) They used strange or unauthorized fire.

(2) Lev. 10:12-13 “And Moses spake unto Aaron, and unto Eleazar and unto Ithamar, his sons that were left, Take the meat offering that remaineth of the offerings of the LORD made by fire, and eat it without leaven beside the altar: for it **is** most holy: **13**And ye shall eat it in the holy place, because it **is** thy due, and thy sons’ due, of the sacrifices of the LORD made by fire: for so I am commanded.”

(3) They were to get the fire from off the altar; they must have gotten it from some other place; Lev. 16:12-13 “And he shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from off the altar before the LORD, and his hands full of sweet incense beaten small, and bring it within the vail: **13**And he shall put the incense upon the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy seat that **is** upon the testimony, that he die not:”

4. Saul; 1 Sam. 15:

a. God’s command; 1 Sam. 15:3 “Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.”

b. Saul’s action is not according to that command; 1 Sam. 15:9 “But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all **that was** good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing **that was** vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.”

B. Some Examples of keeping the pattern.

1. Noah; Gen. 6:

a. God commanded Noah to build an ark.

(1) Gen. 6:14-21 “Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. **15**And this is the fashion which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits. **16**A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; **with** lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it. **17**And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; **and** every thing that is in the earth shall die. **18**But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons’ wives with thee. **19**And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female. **20**Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive. **21**And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them.”

(2) God gave instructions concerning:

(a) the type of vessel
(b) the type of wood
(c) the type of sealant
(d) the dimensions
(e) the openings
(f) the animals to be gathered
(g) the food to be taken.

b. Noah was obedient to the pattern; Gen. 6:22 “Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.”
c. As a result of his obedience salvation was his; 1 Pet. 3:20 “Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.”

2. Abraham
   a. God set forth a pattern for Abraham; Gen. 12:1 “Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father’s house, unto a land that I will shew thee;”
   b. Abraham obeyed the command.
      (1) Gen. 12:4 “So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.”
      (2) Heb. 11:8 “By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.”
      (3) He becomes the father of the faithful.
         (a) Gen. 17:4 “As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.”
         (b) Rom. 4:11 “And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also.”

C. Denominationalism.
   1. Their thrust has been to reject the idea of a pattern, thus the authority of God.
   2. They teach man to do their own thing or pleasure in religious matter.
   3. Creed books have been produced so that man-made systems can be directed away from the New Testament pattern.
   4. Sad to say this rejection of the pattern concept is being seen in the church today.

V. CHALLENGES TO THE PATTERN IN THE CHURCH.
   A. Sound Words.
      1. 2 Tim. 1:13 “Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.”
         a. “Form” is Greek ὑποτύπωσις (hypotuposis) means an outline, sketch, to delineate; thus a pattern, example, or form.
         b. Thus, we have a pattern of sound words.
      2. God gives us His words.
         a. Mark 13:11 “But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost.”
b. 1 Cor. 2:13 “Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”

c. Eph. 3:3-4 “How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, ‘Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ’)

3. We need to express ourselves in the language that God has used. (Some examples of departure from sound words).
a. “Other denominations” thus speaking of the church as a denomination.
b. “Witnessing for Christ” and “giving testimony.”
c. “An umbrella of grace” or “salvation by grace only.”
d. “The miracle of baptism” or the miracle of anything.
e. “Directed by the Spirit” praying for an “infusion of the Spirit.”
f. Speaking of the preacher as “pastor” or “reverend” cf. Mat. 23:7-10 “And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi. 8But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren. 9And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven. 10Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ.”
g. Saying we cannot be perfect; Mat. 5:48 “Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.”

4. Neh. 13:24 “And their children spake half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews’ language, but according to the language of each people.”

B. The Distinguishing features of the church that Jesus built.

1. Jesus promised to build His church.
a. Mat. 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.”
b. All others would be rooted up. Mat. 15:13 “But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.”
c. There is only one church.
   (1) Eph. 1:22-23 “And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.”
   (2) Eph. 4:4 “There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;”

2. Plainly identify the Lord’s body by its distinguishing features.
a. The time and place of establishment.
b. The names given the church in scripture.
c. The name “Christian” for individual members.
d. The items of worship.
e. The church’s organization.
f. The plan of salvation.
g. The absence of human creeds and doctrines of men.
3. We declare that in the Bible we find a pattern whereby any person can be guided in a fruitful search for the church Jesus built.
   a. Liberalism seeks to remove all such ideas of a pattern and render all men as *seekers* with some a little further down the road than others—thus the idea of “brothers in prospect.”
   b. Here is their “umbrella of grace” where error is not that bad, and room is then made for fellowship of all denominations.
   c. It is a rejection of God, His authority, and His word.
4. The absence of these distinguishing marks renders man denominational.

C. **That the church is a spiritual institution.**
1. John 18:36 “Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.”
2. The church has word to do in three scriptural areas.
   a. Preaching to the lost
      (1) Mark 16:15-16 “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. And he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
      (2) Luke 24:46-47 “And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”
   b. Edifying the saved.
      (1) Acts 20:32 “And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.”
      (2) Eph. 4:11-12 “And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.”
   c. Benevolence, aid to those in need.
      (1) Acts 11:27-30 “And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea: Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.”
      (2) Eph. 4:28 “Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.”

3. The church recently has been delving into and promoting that which is of a non-spiritual nature.
   a. In many places the church is nothing more than a social club or a community service organization.
   b. Some try to provide entertainment.
c. Some have made the church a fitness center, cf. 1 Tim. 4:8 “For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.”

4. The church is a spiritual institution armed with the gospel of Christ and is to make it known to all men.


1. Study of the word.
   a. Acts 2:42 “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”
   b. Acts 20:7 “And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.”

2. Prayer to the Father
   a. Acts 2:42 “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”
   b. 1 Cor. 14:15 “What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.”

3. Giving of our means to God.
   a. 1 Cor. 16:1-2 “Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.”
   b. 2 Cor. 8:1-5 “Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia; How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.”

4. Partaking of the Lord’s Supper.
   a. Acts 2:42 “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”
   b. Acts 20:7 “And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.”
   c. This is to be done on the first day of the week (Sunday).

5. Sing praises to God.
   a. 1 Cor. 14:15 “What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.”
   b. Eph. 5:19 “Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;”
   c. Col. 3:16 “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”
   d. The scriptures are thunderously silent regarding the playing of any mechanical instruments of music.
6. **John 4:23-24** “But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.  
6:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”

a. Directed to the Father  
b. With the proper attitude  
c. According to the scriptures.

**E. The organization Set forth in the Scriptures for the church.**

1. God has authorized elders and deacons in each congregation.
   a. Phi. 1:1 “Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:”
   b. Acts 14:23 “And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.”
   c. There is no organization above the local congregational level.

2. The pattern is that the elders have authority in the local church.
   a. Acts 20:28 “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”
   b. Heb. 13:7, 17 “Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation... 17Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.”

**F. The Pattern of God’s Plan of Salvation.**

1. One of the first attacks of liberalism is in regard to a plan of salvation. Often those affirming a plan are mocked as “five-steppers”.

2. God’s plan.
   a. **Hear the Word**
      (1) Luke 8:18 “Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have.”
      (2) Rom. 10:14, 17 “How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?... 17So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
   
   b. **Believe**
      (1) God  
         (a) Heb. 11:6 “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”
         (b) John 14:1 “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.”
      (2) Christ  
         (a) John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”
         (b) John 8:24 “I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.”
c. Repent
(1) Luke 13:3 “I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.”
(2) Acts 17:30-31 “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 31Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.”

d. Confess
(1) Rom. 10:10 “For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”
(2) Acts 8:37 “And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”

e. Be baptized for the remission of sins.
(1) Mark 16:15-16 “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
(2) Acts 2:38 “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

3. Those who have not done these things are not God’s children.

G. The Pattern of Fellowship
1. Coming to God
a. We become new creatures
(1) When we submit ourselves to the new birth we become new creatures, John 3:3 “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”
(2) 2 Cor. 5:17 “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

b. This brings a renewal of mind
(1) Rom. 12:2 “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”
(2) Eph. 4:23-24 “And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.”
(3) Col. 3:1-2 “If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.”

c. We belong to God
(1) 1 Cor. 6:19-20 “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”
(2) 1 Cor. 7:23 “Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.”

d. We are, thus, to be totally dedicated to God and His truth in every way.
e. Set apart for service to God.
f. We have our fellowship with God.
   (1) Fellowship means to have joint participation, or sharing together.
   (2) 1 John 1:3, 7 “That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ....7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”

2. Forsaking the world
   a. 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1 “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? 15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. 7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”
   b. Eph. 5:11 “And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.”
   c. Jam. 4:4 “Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.”
   d. 1 John 2:15-17 “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”
   e. So many times we try to get over to the world’s side and fellowship them, cf. Mat. 6:24 “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”

3. 2 John 9-11 “Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. 10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: 11 For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.”
   a. To those who teach false doctrine we are not to fellowship.
   b. We are not to give them a greeting, if we do we are a partaker of their evil.
   c. Rom. 16:17 “Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.”

Conclusion: If we, as God’s children, are to be faithful in His sight, we must note the pattern of God’s things, and we must abide by that pattern. Our salvation depends on it.