Northwest Bible Church - July 1, 2018 - Book of Acts - Alan Conner

**Acts 2:44-45**

*All Things in Common*

Intro

**A. THE SHARING OF THE EARLY CHURCH (Acts 2:44-45).**

 1. “All things in common” - Cf. Acts 4:32-35.

 2. “Sold their property and possessions” -

 3. Should we be doing the same today? *Does apostolic practice mean apostolic precept?*

**B. THEORIES OF PRIVATE PROPERTY.**

 OWNS CONTROLS

 1. Communism/Marxism -

 2. Fascism -

 3. Socialism

 4. Capitalism

**C. THE FOUNDING FATHERS AND PROPERTY RIGHTS.**

 1. Declaration of Independence.

 a. “the pursuit of happiness”

 b. “liberty”

 c. The purpose of government

 d. “No taxation without representation”

 2. The right to vote.

**C. THE BIBLE AND PRIVATE PROPERTY.**

 1. “You shall not steal.” Ex. 20:15

 2. Is the practice in Acts 2 and 4 a model for all ages? Acts 2:45-46

 3. Peter affirms the right of believers to own private property. Acts 5:4

 4. “Sell all” in Lk. 18:22.

 5. The Bible does not forbid prosperity. Deut. 8:18; Prov. 10:4; 22:2

 6. The Bible exhorts us to generosity. Deut. 26:12; 1 Tim. 6:17-19; 2 Cor. 8:3; 9:6-7; Jas. 2:16; 1 Jn. 3:17-18; 2 Thess. 3:10

 7. The essence of life is not our property. Lk. 12:15; Acts 20:35.

Conclusion