

# CERTIFICATE COURSE ON APOSTOLIC DECREES

## Introduction

The "Apostolic Decrees" course is designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the power and purpose of apostolic decrees within the Christian faith. Over three months, students will explore the biblical foundations, historical context, and practical applications of making apostolic decrees. This course will empower participants to exercise their apostolic authority effectively in various aspects of life and ministry.

## Month 1: Foundations of Apostolic Decrees

### Week 1: Introduction to Apostolic Decrees

- **Lecture:** Understanding Apostolic Decrees
  - Definition and significance of apostolic decrees
  - The role of apostles in the New Testament
  - Key Scriptures: Acts 15:22-29, Matthew 16:19
- **Reading:** "Apostolic Decrees" by John Eckhardt (Chapters 1-2)
- **Assignment:** Write a reflection on the difference between an apostolic decree and a prophetic word.

### Week 2: Biblical Foundations of Apostolic Authority

- **Lecture:** Authority of the Apostles
  - Jesus' delegation of authority to His apostles
  - Key Scriptures: Matthew 10:1-8, John 20:21-23

- **Reading:** Selected passages from the Gospels and Acts
- **Assignment:** Research an apostle from the New Testament and analyze their use of authority.

### **Week 3: Old Testament Precedents**

- **Lecture:** Decrees and Commands in the Old Testament
  - Examples of decrees by kings and prophets
  - Key Scriptures: 1 Kings 17:1, Esther 8:8
- **Reading:** "Apostolic Decrees" by John Eckhardt (Chapters 3-4)
- **Assignment:** Compare and contrast an Old Testament decree with a New Testament apostolic decree.

### **Week 4: The Power of the Spoken Word**

- **Lecture:** The Creative Power of Decrees
  - The significance of speaking with authority
  - Key Scriptures: Proverbs 18:21, Job 22:28
- **Reading:** "Decree Your Day" by Patricia King (Chapters 1-2)
- **Assignment:** Reflect on a personal experience where speaking with authority brought change.

### **Month 2: Historical and Contemporary Context**

#### **Week 5: Early Church Decrees**

- **Lecture:** Apostolic Decrees in the Early Church

- Key decrees made by the early apostles
- Key Scriptures: Acts 2:14-41, Acts 15:22-29
- **Reading:** "Apostolic Decrees" by John Eckhardt (Chapters 5-6)
- **Assignment:** Analyze the Jerusalem Council decree and its impact on the early church.

## **Week 6: Apostolic Decrees through Church History**

- **Lecture:** Historical Examples of Apostolic Decrees
  - Influence of apostolic authority in church history
  - Key Scriptures: Acts 19:11-20, Revelation 1:1-3
- **Reading:** Selected passages from church history texts
- **Assignment:** Research a significant apostolic figure from church history and their decrees.

## **Week 7: Modern Apostolic Movements**

- **Lecture:** Apostolic Decrees in the Modern Church
  - Identifying contemporary apostles and their influence
  - Key Scriptures: Ephesians 4:11-13, 1 Corinthians 12:28
- **Reading:** "Apostolic Decrees" by John Eckhardt (Chapters 7-8)

- **Assignment:** Interview a contemporary apostolic leader and present your findings.

## **Week 8: Apostolic Decrees in Practice**

- **Lecture:** Practical Application of Apostolic Decrees
  - How to formulate and issue decrees effectively
  - Key Scriptures: Romans 4:17, Isaiah 55:11
- **Reading:** "Decree Your Day" by Patricia King (Chapters 3-4)
- **Assignment:** Create and present an apostolic decree for a specific situation or challenge.

## **Month 3: Practical Application and Spiritual Development**

### **Week 9: Developing Apostolic Authority**

- **Lecture:** Growing in Apostolic Authority
  - Spiritual disciplines for enhancing authority
  - Key Scriptures: Matthew 28:18-20, 2 Corinthians 10:8
- **Reading:** "The Apostolic Ministry" by Rick Joyner (Chapters 1-2)
- **Assignment:** Develop a personal growth plan to enhance your apostolic authority.

### **Week 10: Decrees and Spiritual Warfare**

- **Lecture:** Using Decrees in Spiritual Warfare

- Strategies for spiritual warfare through decrees
- Key Scriptures: Ephesians 6:10-18, 2 Corinthians 10:3-5
- **Reading:** "The Rules of Engagement" by Cindy Trimm (Chapters 1-2)
- **Assignment:** Conduct a spiritual warfare assessment and develop a plan using apostolic decrees.

### **Week 11: Ethical and Responsible Decrees**

- **Lecture:** Ethical Considerations in Making Decrees
  - Ensuring integrity and accountability
  - Key Scriptures: Micah 6:8, Galatians 5:22-23
- **Reading:** "Apostolic Decrees" by John Eckhardt (Chapters 9-10)
- **Assignment:** Write an essay on the ethical responsibilities involved in issuing apostolic decrees.

### **Week 12: Final Project and Course Review**

- **Lecture:** Synthesizing Knowledge and Practice
  - Review of key concepts and principles
- **Assignment:** Present a comprehensive project that includes an apostolic decree, its biblical basis, and its application in a real-world scenario.