'No one can have God for his Father, who has not the Church for his mother.' Cyprian

'But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is our mother'

The Church born in Jerusalem
Apostolic gospel
The foundation of belief.

The birth of the church brought a spiritual and social revolution to the world.

Faith in Jesus transcended cultural and social backgrounds (4:32-37).

Acts 4:32-34

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own... shared everything they had...there were no needy persons among them.

Fellowship with God (2 Cor 13:14)
Faith in Action (1 John 3:16-17)

Possessions are a gift from God.

Detach ourselves from selfish individualism and materialism.

Meeting needs combats greed.

Acts 4:34-35

For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet...was distributed to anyone who had need.

Gave their investment portfolio to God for the mission of God.

Earn all you can. Save all you can.

Give all you can.

(John Wesley)

Social concern and Evangelism 4:32 4:33

Joseph...a Levite from Cyprus the apostles called Barnabas (son of encouragement), sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet' (4:36-37)

Sold real estate – radical – biblical! Could you? Would you do this?

Barnabas is still giving.

The Barnabas Fund