

Christian Leadership



1 Pet 5:2-3

Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP

A Book for Leaders in the Body of Christ

BY TIMOTHY II

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INTRODUCTION:

There is much confusion today about “Christian Leadership” in Ministry. This is because there is much confusion about the “Five Fold Ministry”, and the ‘Leadership Ministry’ within the Church. This Book is meant to help those that are already in “Christian Leadership”, and those that are being ‘Called’ into Leadership, to better define their rolls.

There is a difference in ‘Church Leadership’, and Leadership within the “Body of Christ”.

The “Five Fold Ministry” is made up of Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers.

The Apostles and Prophets minister ‘between’ the churches, the Evangelists are sent out by the churches; and the Pastors and Teachers minister ‘within’ the churches.

These ‘Five Callings’ are the “Doma Gifts”, that Jesus Christ gave to men, when He left this earth. (Ephesians 4:8)

The Calling for Leadership ‘within’ the Church, such as Assistant or Associate Pastors, Elders, Deacons, etc., comes from the Holy Spirit. Although, these positions are usually chosen or appointed by the Church, it should be done through much prayer and fasting. (1 Corinthians 12:5, 6 Acts 6:6 Acts 14:23)

All “Christian Leaders” should be able to move in the “Charisma Gifts” of the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12:7-10)

Most “Christian Leaders” should also be moving in “Signs & Wonders”. (Mark 16:17 Romans 15:19)

In these last days, God is Calling all “Christian Leaders” to be “Filled with the Holy Ghost”, so that they will have the ‘Power’ to come against the works of the Devil. (Luke 10:19)

This generation is looking for more than just ‘rhetoric’; they want to see some ‘Power’, in order to believe that God is real; and we as “Christian Leaders” need to be able to display that ‘Power’. (Acts 1:8 Acts 8:13 Acts 15:12)

Our attitude as “Christian Leaders” should differ from the Leaders in the world, in that the higher we go up in Leadership, the more of a ‘Servant’ we must become. (Mark 9:35) Remember, it is not how high you attain; it is how low you remain!

We pray that as you read this Book, you will open up your hearts to the things that the Holy Spirit is saying about “Christian Leadership”, and let **Him** teach you.

Amen!

I. JESUS IS OUR EXAMPLE:

Jesus is our example of a “Christian Leader”.

In the following Scriptures He explains how Leaders in the world (those that have dominion over others), lord it over them, and yet they call them benefactors. But it isn't the same with us. In order to progress in “Christian Leadership”, the more we must humble ourselves and become obedient to God. Finally, we must become a ‘Servant’ to all.

Before Jesus began explaining about “Christian Leadership”, He first had to calm His troops down, because there was discord among them.

Then He called them to Him.

Mark 10:41

41 And when **the ten** heard it, they **began to be much displeased** with James and John.

Mark 10:42-45 (Matthew 20:25-28 Luke 22:25-28)

42 **But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule (dominion) over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them.**

43 **But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister (Diakonos):**

44 **And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant (Doulos) of all.**

45 **For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.**

As an example of a “Christian Leader”, Jesus became a ‘Servant’, with no reputation, and humbled Himself and became Obedient.

Phil 2:7-8

7 **But (Jesus) made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant,** and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, **he humbled himself, and became obedient** unto death, even the death of the cross.

We must do the same.

Matt 18:4

4 **Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.**

As Jesus was a ‘Servant’ to all, so are we to be a ‘Servant’ to all of the “Body of Christ”.

2 Tim 2:24-26

24 **And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men,** apt to teach, patient,

25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

II. PREPARATION FOR CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP:

In ‘Preparation’ for “Christian Leadership”, we must learn to suppress the following character traits, through God the Holy Spirit.

Let us not give into them, but let us become humble and meek, which is the ‘wisdom of God’.

Gal 5:26

26 **Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.**

Since our ‘spirit man’ actually ‘lusts to envy’, we must learn to resist it at all times. (James 4:5)

Phil 2:3

3 **Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.**

The Bible actually says to get rid of the people that cause strife. (Proverbs 22:10)

Who is a wise man among you?

James 3:13-18

13 **Who is a wise man** and endued with knowledge among you? **let him shew** out of a good conversation **his works with meekness of wisdom.**

We are not to brag as “Christian Leaders”, but spare our words. (Proverbs 17:27, 28)
A ‘Wise Leader’ will also accept reproof and instruction. (Proverbs 9:8, 9)

14 **But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts,** glory not, and lie not against the truth.

15 **This wisdom descendeth not from above,** but is earthly, sensual, devilish.

16 **For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.**

A person is considered ‘Carnal’, if they have envy and strife. (1 Corinthians 1-3)

17 **But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated** (reasonable), **full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.**

18 **And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.**

God makes even our enemies to be at peace with us when we please Him.
(Proverbs 16:7)

As “Christian Leaders”, to be pure in our religion, we need to be willing to do the following.

James 1:27

27 **Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless (orphans) and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.**

The following is what I call the ‘Potpourri of Commitment’ for “Christian Leadership”. This is the real test! It is a matter of priorities!

Luke 14:33

33 So likewise, **whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple** (a learner, follower, pupil).

Matt 19:29

29 **And every one that hath forsaken** houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, **shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.**

John 12:26

26 **If any man serve me, let him follow me;** and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

John 8:31

31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, **If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;**

John 13:35

35 **By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.**

Paul said he counted all the things that he lost or gave up as dung.

Phil 3:7-8

7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom **I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,**

III. THE CALLING OF GOD:

God is the one that ‘Calls’ us. It has nothing to do with our works; therefore, we can take no credit for our “Calling” into “Christian Leadership”. It is a ‘Holy Calling’.

2 Tim 1:9

9 **Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works,** but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

There may be an 'overlap' in our "Calling" in the "Five Fold Ministry".

2 Tim 1:11

11 Whereunto **I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.**

Notice, Paul was "Called" to the 'Gentiles' not the Jews. We need to go where God calls us to go. Every time Paul went to the Jews, he got in trouble.

We 'keep' our "Calling" by the Holy Ghost.

2 Tim 1:14

14 **That good thing** which was committed unto thee **keep by the Holy Ghost** which dwelleth in us.

Whenever you begin to get 'full of pride', think upon these Scriptures!

1 Cor 1:26-29

26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that **not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:**

27 **But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise;** and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

28 **And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen,** yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

29 **That no flesh should glory in his presence.**

We need to make sure that we fulfill our "Calling".

2 Pet 1:10

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, **give diligence to make your calling and election sure:** for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

We need to reach toward the mark for the prize of the "High Calling of God".

Phil 3:13-14

13 **Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do,** forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14 **I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**

We need to walk ‘worthy’ of this “Calling”.

Eph 4:1-4

- 1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, **beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation (Calling) wherewith ye are called,**
- 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;
- 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- 4 There is one body, and one Spirit, **even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;**

And we should pray always for each other, that God will count us worthy of this “Calling”!

II Th 1:11-12

- 11 **Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling,** and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power:
- 12 **That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him,** according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

IV. THE DOMA GIFTS:

“Doma” in the Greek is a present or a ‘Gift’. “The Doma Gifts” are the ‘Leadership Gifts’ given to the “Body of Christ”. These “Doma Gifts”, make up the “Five Fold Ministry”. Not everyone in the “Body of Christ”, receives these Gifts; only those that are ‘Called’. Part of the confusion that is in the church today, is that we do not recognize all the Leaders of the “Five Fold Ministry”. By not allowing the Leaders that Jesus Christ has ‘Called’ to the “Body of Christ”, we have thrust all the responsibility of the churches onto the Pastors. No wonder so many of them have become ‘burned out’.

I like to use the ‘cylinders’ of a car engine as an example of the “Five Fold Ministry”. If we ran a ‘five cylinder’ car engine on ‘2 1/2 cylinders’, it would barely run. I mention ‘2 1/2 cylinders’, because we recognize Pastors, Teachers and some Evangelists today. However, most do not recognize the Apostles, Prophets, and about half of the Evangelists.

This leaves the “Body of Christ” with about ‘half’ of its Leadership not functioning and running on ‘2 1/2 cylinders’! We need to restore all of the ‘five cylinders’ or the “Five Fold Ministry” to its proper place and function. The “Doma Gifts”, are the ‘Gifts’ given to man by Jesus Christ as He left the earth to be seated on the right hand of the Father. (Mark 16:19)

Ps 68:18

18 **Thou hast ascended on high**, thou hast led captivity captive: **thou hast received gifts for men**; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them.
Eph 4:8

8 Wherefore he saith, **When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave (Doma) gifts unto men.**

These “Doma Gifts” make up the “Five Fold Ministry”.

Eph 4:11

11 **And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;**

The “Five Fold Ministry” is given to perfect the Saints, for the work of the ministry, and for the edifying (instruction, enlightening, benefit of, uplifting) of all of the “Body of Christ”.

Eph 4:12-16

12 **For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:**

13 **Till** we all come in the unity of the faith, **and** of the knowledge of the Son of God, **unto** a perfect man, **unto** the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

14 **That** we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, **and** carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 **But** speaking the truth in love, **may** grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16 **From** whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

V. THE CHARISMA GIFTS:

“Charisma” in the Greek means: a divine gratuity, a deliverance from danger or passion; a spiritual endowment, a religious qualification, or miraculous faculty, or a free gift.

“The Charisma Gifts” are the ‘Gifts of the Holy Spirit’, given to all of the “Body of Christ”.

“The Charisma Gifts” of the Holy Spirit consist of the following:

1 Cor 12:8-10

8 **For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge** by the same Spirit;

9 To another **faith** by the same Spirit; to another **the gifts of healing** by the same Spirit;

10 To another **the working of miracles**; to another **prophecy**; to another **discerning of spirits**; to another **divers kinds of tongues**; to another **the interpretation of tongues**:

These “Charisma Gifts” are the ‘Manifestation’ of the Holy Spirit, and are available to all Christians.

1 Cor 12:7

7 **But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.**

All you have to do is ask!

Luke 11:13

13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: **how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?**

John 14:12-14

12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

13 **And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do**, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 **If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.**

In fact, we are to actually ‘covet’ (desire enviously what belongs to another) these “Charisma Gifts” (miraculous free gifts). This is one of the few times in the Bible, we are told to ‘covet’ anything.

1 Cor 12:31

31 **But covet earnestly the best gifts:**

1 Cor 14:1

1 Follow after charity, **and desire spiritual gifts,**

We do not receive all of the “Charisma Gifts” at one time, only those that the Holy Spirit gives us.

1 Cor 12:11

11 **But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.**

The “Charisma Gifts” are given to us to minister to one another and to edify the church.

1 Cor 14:12

12 **Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.**

1 Pet 4:10

10 **As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.**

“The Charisma Gifts” can be imparted to others through the ‘laying on of hands’.

Rom 1:11

11 **For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift,** to the end ye may be established;

2 Tim 1:6

6 Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou **stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.**

Once we receive these “Charisma Gifts”, we are not to ‘neglect’ them

1 Tim 4:14

14 **Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee** by prophecy, **with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.**

After we receive the “Charisma Gifts”, we never lose them, because they are ‘outside of our Repentance’. In other words, we don’t lose them when we are in sin, or else they would not be available for use to minister to others, unless we were in a perfect state. This wouldn’t be fair to those that need to receive the ministering of the Gifts.

Rom 11:29

29 **For the gifts and calling of God are without (outside of) repentance.**

Of course, there will always be the phonies! (Jude 4 & 12)

Prov 25:14

14 **Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift** is like clouds and wind without rain.

VI. A MIXTURE OF THE DOMA & CHARISMA GIFTS:

The following Scriptures mix the “Doma Gifts” with the “Charisma Gifts”, and they are not in any particular order.

These Scriptures do reveal that we all have ‘different Gifts’ according to the ‘grace’ that is given to us, and we are to use them according to the ‘proportion of faith’.

Rom 12:3-8

3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according **as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.**

4 For as we have many members in one body, **and all members have not the same office:**

5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

6 **Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us**, whether prophecy, let us prophesy **according to the proportion of faith;**

7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation (advise, urge, caution, warn, encourage, comfort console): he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

The following are questions that are asked, and the answers are obviously, NO!

1 Cor 12:28-30

28 **And God hath set some** in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

29 Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles?

30 Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?

VII. THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY GHOST:

The “Baptism with the Holy Ghost” is a different experience than when the Holy Ghost comes into us at the time of our ‘Salvation’.

The “Baptism” or ‘Filling’ of the Holy Ghost is when the Holy Spirit comes ‘upon’ us, ‘Filling’ us to overflowing.

Dr. Duplesis (Mr. Pentecost) used to say the ‘Filling’ of the Holy Ghost is like filling up a partially filled glass of water. When the glass is completely ‘Filled’, it begins to overflow, until it is totally immersed in water. (Acts 2:4)

For a more in-depth study : (Read the Study Guide “The Baptism with the Holy Ghost” by Timothy II).

Jesus is the “Baptizer”, although while here on earth, He Baptized no one.

Luke 3:16

16 John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: **he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:**

John 1:33

33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, **Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.**

John 4:2

2 (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,)

When we receive “The Baptism with the Holy Ghost”, we receive the ‘Power’ of God.

Luke 24:49

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but **tarry** ye in the city of Jerusalem, **until ye be endued with power from on high.**

Acts 1:5

5 For John truly baptized with water; **but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost** not many days hence.

Acts 1:8

8 **But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:** and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

When we are “Baptized with the Holy Ghost”, we receive the ‘Charisma Gifts’ that the Holy Ghost gives to us.

Acts 2:4

4 **And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.**

Acts 2:16-18

16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

17 **And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit** upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall **prophesy**, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens **I will pour out in those days of my Spirit;** and they shall **prophesy:**

“The Baptism with the Holy Ghost”, can be imparted by the ‘laying on of hands’.

Acts 19:6

6 **And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.**

Acts 8:17-19 (Peter and John)

17 **Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.**

18 And when Simon saw that **through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given**, he offered them money,

19 Saying, **Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.**

“The Baptism with the Holy Ghost” is for all Christians.

Acts 11:15-17 (Peter and the Gentiles)

15 And as I began to speak, **the Holy Ghost fell on them**, as on us at the beginning.

16 Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; **but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.**

17 **Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?**

Here is a case where Baptism in water followed “The Baptism with the Holy Ghost”.

This also confirms that there is ‘no formula’ or ‘set order’ to giving “The Baptism with the Holy Ghost”.

Acts 10:44-48

44 While Peter yet spake these words, **the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.**

45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that **on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.**

46 **For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.** Then answered Peter,

47 **Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?**

48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

Some may never receive “The Baptism with the Holy Ghost”!

Some times the hindrance is a ‘generational curse’ that needs to be broken.

Acts 7:51

51 **Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.**

VIII. SIGNS & WONDERS:

“Signs & Wonders” are for today and are being seen by many in the “Body of Christ” throughout the world. Many ‘Believers’ are experiencing them, such as casting out devils, laying hands on the sick and they are healed, etc.

“Signs & Wonders” are not the ‘Charisma Gifts’ of the Holy Spirit, but may overlap them, especially ‘Miracles’. (Hebrews 2:4)

There are also “Signs & Wonders” that God is doing sovereignly. (Luke 21:11 Acts 2:19)

For an in-depth study of Signs & Wonders: (Read the Study Guide on “Signs & Wonders” by Timothy II)

When we come under the ‘Anointing’ to do “Signs & Wonders”, we should do as the Holy Spirit directs, no matter how odd it may seem.

1 Sam 10:6-7

6 **And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man.**

7 **And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as occasion serve thee; for God is with thee.**

“Signs & Wonders” are done by the ‘Power’ of the Holy Spirit according to His own Will. In order to ‘Fully’ preach the Gospel, there needs to be “Signs & Wonders”.

Rom 15:19

19 **Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God;** so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, **I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.**

Heb 2:4

4 **God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders,** and with divers miracles, and gifts (Merismos) of the Holy Ghost, **according to his own will?**

When “Signs & Wonders” follow the preaching, it ‘confirms’ the word.

Mark 16:20

20 **And they went forth, and preached every where,** the Lord working with them, and **confirming the word with signs following.** Amen.

“Signs & Wonders” and ‘Miracles’ were done by Jesus.

Acts 2:22

22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; **Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him** in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

“Signs & Wonders” and ‘Miracles’ are done by Apostles.

Acts 2:43

43 And fear came upon every soul: **and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.**

Acts 4:16

16 Saying, What shall we do to these men? for that indeed **a notable miracle hath been done by them** is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it.

Acts 19:11-12

11 **And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:**

12 So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

“Signs & Wonders” are done by Evangelists.

Acts 6:8

8 And **Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.**

Acts 8:6-7

6 And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which **Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.**

7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.

Acts 8:13

13 Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, **he continued with Philip**, and wondered, **beholding the miracles and signs which were done.**

Actually “Signs & Wonders” should follow ‘all believers’.
True “Signs & Wonders, are always done in the ‘Name of Jesus’.

Mark 16:17-18

17 **And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name** shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

“Signs & Wonders” may be done by the ‘Laying on of hands’.

Acts 4:30

30 **By stretching forth thine hand to heal;** and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

Acts 5:12

12 **And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people;** (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch.

Acts 14:3

3 Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, **and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.**

Acts 28:8

8 And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom **Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.**

“Signs & Wonders” need to be taken out of the Church and into the streets and throughout the world.

Acts 15:12

12 Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring **what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.**

IX. EXOUSIA POWER OVER THE ENEMY:

“Exousia Power” in the Greek is ‘Delegated Authority’!

For a more in-depth study: (Read the Study Guide “The Power of God” by Timothy II)

All “Exousia Power” or ‘Delegated Authority’ has been given by God.

Rom 13:1

1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. **For there is no (Exousia) power but of God: the (Exousia) powers that be are ordained of God.**

All the “Exousia Power” of God was given to Jesus:

Matt 28:18

18 And **Jesus** came and spake unto them, saying, **All (Exousia) power is given unto me** in heaven and in earth.

This same “Exousia Power” is given to us Christians to overcome the Devil. The Devil does have ‘Dunamis’ or ‘miraculous’ power, but we do not need to be afraid of him, because we have ‘Delegated Authority’ over him.

Luke 10:19

19 **Behold, I give unto you (Exousia) power** to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the (Dunamis) power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Eph 6:12

12 **For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against (Exousia) powers,** against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

This “Exousia Power” is given to us to cast out devils, and to heal all manner of sickness and disease

Matt 10:1 (Mark 3:14, 15 Mark 6:7 Luke 9:1)

1 And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, **he gave them (Exousia) power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.**

When the ‘seventy’ Disciples returned to Jesus, they bragged about this “Exousia Power” they had over the demons, and Jesus rebuked them.

Luke 10:17

17 **And the seventy returned** again with joy, saying, **Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.**

Luke 10:20

20 **Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.**

X. WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP:

I believe the reason the Devil has been pushing women into Leadership in the world today, is because he knows that God is Calling more women into “Christian Leadership” in the “Body of Christ”, and he is copying it.

The Devil wants them to become involved in the world and not in “Christian Leadership”, in order to keep them from fulfilling what God has planned for them. I also believe that the lack of women in “Christian Leadership” is mostly because of a misunderstanding of the Scriptures by the men in the “Body of Christ”.

It says in Galatians that there is no ‘male nor female’ in those that have been ‘Baptized into Christ’. This means that in those that are ‘Saved’, there is no sexual difference! (Romans 6:3)

It also says there is no difference in ‘Jew nor Greek’. We would be called racist if we said that those with different skin colors could not be in “Christian Leadership”.

That would be true. Think about it!

It also says in Galatians that there is neither ‘bond nor free’. This means no matter what our station in life, we can be in “Christian Leadership” in the Body of Christ”.

God is no respecter of persons. (Acts 10:34)

Thus, why shouldn’t women be in “Christian Leadership”, if there is NO Difference?

Gal 3:26-28

26 **For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.**

27 **For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.**

28 **There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.**

Some of the ‘negative’ Scriptures that are used by church Leaders to stop women from becoming “Christian Leaders” are:

1 Cor 14:34-35

34 **Let your women** keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law.

35 And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame **for women** to speak in the church.

I believe these Scriptures refer to the Jewish women (wives) that were seated in the Synagogues that were separated from the men (husbands). This is still the ‘custom’ today.

These Jewish women were talking to each other; hence they were advised to be quiet in the Church and to ask their husbands at home about any questions that they had.

I also believe that Paul is speaking about those same women, when he speaks about their dress and how they should act in religious assemblies.

These are obviously not women that are ‘Leaders in the Church’. Some of these women may not even be Saved.

1 Tim 2:9-15

9 In like manner also, **that women adorn** themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;

10 But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.

11 **Let the woman learn** in silence with all subjection.

12 But **I suffer not a woman** to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve.

14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

15 Notwithstanding **she shall be saved in childbearing**, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

EXAMPLES OF WOMEN IN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP:

The following are examples of women in “Christian Leadership” in the “Body of Christ”.

Lydia:

Paul and Timothy met Lydia, probably a self-employed single woman in Thyatira. She was Saved through their ministry, and provided free room and board for them.

Acts 16:14-15

14 **And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira,** which worshipped God, heard us: **whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.**

15 And when **she was baptized, and her household**, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, **come into my house, and abide there.** And she constrained (persuaded) us.

Acts 16:40

40 And they went out of the prison, **and entered into the house of Lydia:** and when they had seen the brethren, they comforted them, and departed.

Phebe:

Paul sent Phebe a “Christian Leader”, on a journey to do work for him. He sent his letter to the Romans by her.

‘She is called a ‘Servant’, which in the Greek is ‘Diakonos’: This is a Minister, Pastor, Teacher and/or a Deaconess.

Rom 16:1-2

1 **I commend unto you Phebe** our sister, **which is a ‘servant’ of the church** which is at Cenchrea:

2 **That ye receive her in the Lord,** as becometh saints, **and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer (strived together with) of many, and of myself also.**

Priscilla:

In the following Scriptures, Priscilla’s name is mentioned before Aquila. This is unusual for those days. This would mean that she actually was the Leader of the Church in their home. ‘Helpers’ in the Greek is ‘sunergos’ which means: Co-laborer, workfellow, labor together.

Rom 16:3

3 **Greet Priscilla and Aquila my ‘helpers’ in Christ Jesus:**

Rom 16:5

5 **Likewise greet the church that is in their house.** Salute my wellbeloved Epaphroditus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia unto Christ.

Other Scriptures about Priscilla and Aquila are in: (Acts 18:1-3 Acts 18:18, 26)

Mary:

Mary labored with Paul. ‘Labour’ here in the Greek is ‘kopiro’ which means: hard work, toil.

Rom 16:6

6 **Greet Mary, who bestowed much labour on us.**

Junia:

Junia which is feminine, is sometimes said to be a man (Junias).

I believe Junia was indeed a woman and an Apostle. Since there were Prophetesses in the Old Testament, why wouldn’t there be women Apostles in the New Testament?

Rom 16:7

7 Salute Andronicus and **Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellowprisoners, who are of note among the apostles,** who also were in Christ before me.

Nymphas:

Nymphas, which means in the Greek: engaged, or young married girl. She had a Church in her house.

Col 4:15

15 **Salute the brethren** which are in Laodicea, and **Nymphas, and the church which is in his (her) house.**

Women in General:

In our travels to the Philippines and other parts of Asia, we have found that there are many women Pastors, and they have few problems with them.

Here Paul talks about those women which ‘labored’ with him in the Gospel.

‘Labor’ in the Greek is Sunathleo: which means ‘to strive together’.

So these women ‘strove together’ in the Gospel with Paul.

Phil 4:3

3 And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, **help those women which laboured with me in the gospel,** with Clement also, **and with other my fellowlabourers,** whose names are in the book of life.

XI. APOSTLES:

In the Dictionary an “Apostle” is: One of the twelve expressly commissioned by Christ to preach the Gospel. One sent on or dedicated to some high mission; an early or first missionary; a messenger.

In the Bible in the Greek, it states: An ambassador of the gospel; officially a commissioner of Christ (Apostle) (With miraculous powers): Apostle, messenger, he that is sent. For a more in-depth study on Apostles: (Read the Book “Apostle” by Timothy II)

JESUS THE APOSTLE:

Jesus is our example of an “Apostle”, as He is an example in all areas of “Christian Leadership”.

Heb 3:1

1 Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, **consider the Apostle** and High Priest of our profession, **Christ Jesus;**

Jesus was ‘sent’ by God the Father.

John 17:3

3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and **Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.**

He came to minister and to be a ‘Servant’ to all.

Matt 20:26-28

26 But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;

27 And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:

28 **Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister,** and to give his life a ransom for many.

Phil 2:5-8

5 **Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:**

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 **But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant,** and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, **he humbled himself, and became obedient** unto death, even the death of the cross.

THE TWELVE APOSTLES OF THE LAMB:

Some people believe that there are no “Apostles” today. The confusion lies in the fact that they believe that there were only the ‘twelve’ “Apostles”. What they don’t realize, is that in order to be an ‘Apostle of the Lamb’ (the twelve), you had to have walked with Jesus and witness His resurrection.

Luke 6:13

13 And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: **and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;**

When Judas betrayed Jesus he was replaced by Matthias; who although chosen by lot, still had to meet the ‘requirements’ as mentioned. In (Revelation 21:14), it mentions that there are ‘twelve’ names that will be in the ‘twelve foundations’ of the wall of the New Jerusalem. Those ‘twelve’ names will include the original ‘eleven’ and Matthias.

It is obvious, that if there is one more “Apostle” mentioned after the ‘twelve’, then there is a continuous procession of “Apostles” through today. Actually, there are many that are mentioned after the original ‘twelve’.

Another proof that there are “Apostles” today is that Jesus gave the ‘Doma Gift’ of ‘Apostleship’ upon His leaving this earth, and that Gift is to the Church. (Eph. 4:8, 11)

Acts 1:15-26

15 And in those days **Peter stood up** in the midst of the disciples, **and said**, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,)

16 **Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled**, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before **concerning Judas**, which was guide to them that took Jesus.

17 **For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry.**

18 Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out.

19 And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aeldama, that is to say, The field of blood.

20 For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: **and his bishoprick let another take.**

21 **Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,**

22 **Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.**

23 **And they appointed two**, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, **and Matthias.**

24 **And they prayed, and said**, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, **shew whether of these two thou hast chosen,**

25 **That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship**, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.

26 **And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.**

Rev 21:10

10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me **that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,**

Rev 21:14

14 **And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve “Apostles of the Lamb”.**

THE APOSTLES OF TODAY:

The Bible teaches that there are two kinds of “Apostles” (messengers) today. There are those that are ‘Called of God’ to the Churches, and those that are ‘Sent by the Churches’. The “Apostles/Messengers” ‘Called of God’ are called by a ‘Special Revelation’ or ‘Vision’ from God. Without this you cannot be an “Apostle/Messenger of God”.

Apostles/Messengers Called of God:

Paul’s testimony is our example:

Acts 9:1-20

1 **And Saul**, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

3 **And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:**

4 **And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice** saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

5 **And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus** whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

6 **And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.**

7 And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.

8 **And Saul arose from the earth;** and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.

9 **And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.**

10 **And there was a certain disciple** at Damascus, **named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias.** And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

11 And the Lord said unto him, **Arise, and go** into the street which is called Straight, **and inquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,**

12 **And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias** coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

13 Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:

14 And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

15 But the Lord said unto him, **Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:**

16 **For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.**

17 **And Ananias** went his way, and entered into the house; and **putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.**

18 **And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight** forthwith, and arose, **and was baptized.**

19 And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

20 **And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues,** that he is the Son of God.

Apostles Sent by the Churches:

“Apostles” that are Called by the Churches to be ‘sent out’, do not have to have a ‘revelation’ or ‘vision’ from God.

Notice, Judas and Silas were chosen by the Church to accompany Paul and Barnabas who were “Apostles/Messengers of God”.

Acts 15:22

22 **Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas,** chief men among the brethren:

Acts 15:25

25 **It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,**

Acts 15:27

27 **We have sent therefore Judas and Silas,** who shall also tell you the same things by mouth.

2 Cor 8:19

19 And not that only, but who was also **chosen of the churches to travel with us** with this grace, which is administered by us to the glory of the same Lord, and declaration of your ready mind:

2 Cor 8:23-24

23 Whether any do inquire of Titus, he is my partner and fellowhelper concerning you: or our brethren be inquired of, **they are the messengers of the churches,** and the glory of Christ.

24 Wherefore **shew ye to them, and before the churches,** the proof of your love, and of our boasting on your behalf.

“Apostles/Messengers of God” today are part of the “Five Fold Ministry”. They are chosen by Jesus to minister ‘between’ the churches and are sent to help perfect the saints, to do the work of the ministry and to edify the “Body of Christ” (not a church).

Eph 4:8

8 Wherefore he saith, **When he (Jesus) ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.**

Eph 4:11-12

11 **And he gave some, apostles;** and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 **For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:**

This ‘Apostleship’ is not given by man, nor taught by man, therefore, to have a ‘school’ of “Apostles” is a waste of time.

Gal 1:1

1 **Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)**

Gal 1:10-12

10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

11 But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.

12 **For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.**

The ‘Sign’ of an “Apostle” is in all Patience, and ‘Signs and Wonders’. He will do many (Dunamis) Miracles.

2 Cor 12:12

12 **Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.**

The ‘Seal’ of an “Apostle” is the people he is working with and ministering to, not all of the “Body of Christ”.

1 Cor 9:2

2 If I be not an apostle unto others, yet doubtless I am to you: for **the seal of mine apostleship are ye in the Lord.**

THE APOSTLE’S COMPANY:

The “Apostle/Messenger of God” is surrounded with a ‘Company’ of dedicated men and women of God to help with all the Work of the Ministry. (Romans 16)

There is a great need for ‘responsible’ Servants in this Work. Finding those people that will see the ‘Vision’ of the “Apostle/Messenger” and are willing to submit and to pay the price to help achieve that ‘Vision’, are hard to find.

It is important to realize that this ‘Work’ of the “Apostle’s Company”, doesn’t substitute for the work of the Church nor interferes with it; but is an integral part of the Church that has been missing.

Acts 21:8

8 And the next day **we that were of Paul’s company** departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him.

Phil 4:3

3 And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help **those women which laboured with me in the gospel**, with Clement also, **and with other my fellowlabourers**, whose names are in the book of life.

JESUS - also had His 'Company' of disciples.

Luke 6:17

17 And he came down with them, and stood in the plain, **and the company of his disciples**, and a great multitude of people out of all Judaea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases;

NOT IN CHURCH LEADERSHIP:

The "Apostle/Messenger of God" and those in his immediate 'Company' will not be involved in their local church Leadership. The main reason is that the "Apostle/Messenger" and his 'Company' will travel to different churches throughout the world, and it is better that they do not represent any particular church or denomination as 'Leaders'. Being a Leader in a church can cause dissension, because some people may think you are going to spread your church doctrine, recruit their members, etc.

An "Apostle/Messenger" cannot afford to get caught up in these situations.

(2 Timothy 2:16)

Attending a certain church or denomination is O.K., because everyone realizes that we all need to be 'plugged into' a local church. In fact it is good if members of the 'Company' attend different churches. That way they will come from more diverse backgrounds. 'Time' is another important factor on why an "Apostle/Messenger" and his 'Company' cannot be involved in church Leadership. "Apostolic Work" involves lots of travel and is very time consuming.

Num 18:20

20 And the Lord spake unto Aaron, Thou shalt have no inheritance in their land, **neither shalt thou have any part among them: I am thy part** and thine inheritance among the children of Israel.

THE APOSTLE'S WORK:

Part of the "Apostles/Messengers" roll is that of being a 'Servant'.

2 Tim 2:24-26

24 **And the servant of the Lord must not strive;** but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,

25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

The "Apostle/Messenger" will engage in 'intercessory prayer' and 'preach the word'.

Acts 6:4

4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

They will preach and teach.

Acts 14:21-23

21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,

The “Apostle/Messenger” will help to ‘confirm the souls’ of “Christian Leaders”. That is: to establish the truth, genuineness, validity, make certain, strengthen, further support, to re-establish them.

They will also remind them that we will go through much tribulation (not the Tribulation) in the ministry.

22 **Confirming the souls of the disciples**, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must **through much tribulation** enter into the kingdom of God.

They will ordain elders in every church.

The “Apostle/Messenger” will ‘Ordain Elders’ in the churches. Today, this could mean to ‘Confirm’ them.

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.

They will also ‘Confirm the churches’, to prove if they are of God.

Acts 15:40-41

40 And Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God.

41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, **confirming the churches.**

They will ‘impart’ the Holy Ghost by the ‘laying on of hands’.

Acts 8:18

18 And when Simon saw that **through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given**, he offered them money,

The “Apostles/Messengers” will have ‘seen’ Jesus through a Vision, ‘know’ the Will of God, and ‘hear’ His voice! They will also give their testimony of what they have ‘seen and heard’.

This will be a ‘continuous’ process, as they will keep on ‘hearing’ and ‘seeing’ Jesus.

Acts 22:14-15

14 And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest **know his will**, and **see that Just One**, and shouldest **hear the voice of his mouth.**

15 **For thou shalt be his witness** unto all men **of what thou hast seen and heard.**

Acts 26:16

16 But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for **I have appeared unto thee** for this purpose, **to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee;**

They will ‘coach’ by example the faithful in the “Body of Christ” (Christian Leaders), so that they may teach others.

2 Tim 2:2

2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same **commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.**

XII. PROPHETS:

The Dictionary says: A “Prophet”: Is one who foretells future events. One who is under divine inspiration as a teacher of God’s Will to the people.

The Bible in the Greek says:

Prophetes - A foreteller, an inspired speaker, a prophet.

Prophetis - A female foreteller, an inspired woman, a prophetess.

PROPHETESS:

In the Old Testament, there were many ‘female’ “Prophets” as well as male. (Exodus 15:20 Judges 4:4 2 Kings 22:14 Nehemiah 6:14 Isaiah 8:3)

There is also a “Prophetess” mentioned in the New Testament: (Luke 2:36)

There is also a ‘False’ “Prophetess” mentioned in the New Testament, which means there must be the ‘real ones’ for Satan to imitate. (Revelation 2:20)

PROPHETS OF GOD:

The “Prophet of God”, who ministers between the churches is Called by Jesus Christ and is part of the “Five Fold Ministry”.

Eph 4:11

11 **And he gave some**, apostles; and some, **prophets**; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

As the early Church was built upon the ‘foundation’ of the “Apostles” and “Prophets”, so today we need them to continue to ‘build and rebuild’ the ‘foundations’ of the Church.

The ‘Pastors/Priests’ have been trying to do this work, and the Church has become divided, because each one thinks that their way is the right way.

As in football, ‘foundations and fundamentals’ are a ‘continuous’ process; they are not concluded after the beginning stages. This is because the ‘foundation and fundamentals’ soon get lost if they are not continually taught.

Obviously this has not happened in our churches, or there would not be so many wrong ‘foundations’ in the churches today. The only True ‘foundation’ is **Jesus Christ** and **Him** only!! It is ‘not’ faith, love, hope, gifts, prosperity, etc.!

Eph 2:19-20

19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of **the household of God;**

20 **And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;**

Many think there are no “Prophets” today, because they believe they stopped in the Old Testament. This is not true, because in the Old Testament there was the ‘Law and the Prophets’.

Then in the New Testament came John the Baptist, a “Prophet” who prepared the way for Jesus. (Luke 3:2-4)

Then when Jesus left this world, He gave the ‘Doma Gift’ of the “Prophet” to the “Body of Christ”.

Matt 11:13

13 **For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John.**

Luke 16:16

16 **The law and the prophets were until John:** since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

If there are any “Prophets” mentioned after John, then there has to be “Prophets” today! And here they are:

Acts 15:32

32 **And Judas and Silas, being prophets** also themselves, exhorted the brethren with many words, and confirmed them.

Acts 11:27

27 **And in these days came prophets** from Jerusalem unto Antioch.

These “Prophets of God” still foretell world events and events within the “Body of Christ”.

Acts 11:28

28 **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.

Acts 21:10-11

10 And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judaea **a certain prophet, named Agabus.**

11 And when he was come unto us, **he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.**

The “Prophet of God” today, just like the “Apostle”, is Called by God through an ‘unusual circumstance’.

Amos 7:14-15

14 **Then answered Amos, and said to Amaziah, I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son; but I was an herdman, and a gatherer of sycomore fruit:**

15 **And the LORD took me as I followed the flock, and the LORD said unto me, Go, prophesy unto my people Israel.**

A “Prophet of God” is not recognized nor honored in their home, family, community or country. That is why they can do little work in these areas.

Mark 6:4-5

4 But Jesus said unto them, **A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house.**

5 **And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them.**

But we in the “Body of Christ” are to honor them.

Matt 10:41

41 **He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward;** and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.

PROPHETS IN THE CHURCH:

‘Prophets in the church’ are not the same as the “Prophets of God”. They do not have to have a ‘special circumstance’ or Vision happen to them to be a ‘Prophet in the church’. These are people who have the ‘Charisma Gift’ of ‘Prophecy’.

1 Cor 12:8

8 **For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;**

1 Cor 12:10

10 **To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy;** to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

1 Cor 14:1

1 **Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.**

There are many ‘Prophets in the church’ with this ‘Charisma Gift’. They are there for edification, exhortation, and comfort to the church.

1 Cor 14:3-4

3 **But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.**

4 **He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.**

Because there are so many of these ‘church Prophets’, there needs to be order in the church on when and how they ‘Prophecy’.

1 Cor 14:29-33

- 29 **Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge.**
 30 **If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace.**
 31 **For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted.**

They can control their ‘words of Prophecy’.

- 32 **And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.**
 33 **For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.**

1 Cor 14:36-40

- 36 **What? came the word of God out from you? or came it unto you only?**
 37 **If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.**
 38 But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant.
 39 **Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues.**
 40 **Let all things be done decently and in order.**

XIII. EVANGELISTS - PREACHERS:

“Evangelists” have a love for people. They have an “Evangelistic Heart”, which makes them want to ‘go out’ and get as many people ‘Saved’ as possible. However, they do not have a desire to stay and take care of the people. That is because they do not have a ‘Pastor’s Heart’.

“Evangelists” are ‘Preachers of the Gospel’ that are Called out, and Sent by Jesus as part of the “Five Fold Ministry”.

Eph 4:11

- 11 **And he (Jesus) gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;**

Rom 10:14-15

- 14 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?**
 15 **And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!**

“Evangelists” should be ‘Sent Out’ from the churches and ‘financed’ by them. The church should pay the Evangelist’s salary.

One of the problems in the past is that “Evangelists” have gone from church to church. The reason given for this was that they were holding ‘Revivals’. Actually, however, many times the reason was for finances. The churches paid the visiting “Evangelist” which gave them a comfortable living.

Although there is nothing wrong with a church having guest speakers, churches should hold their own ‘Revivals’.

“Evangelists” are meant to ‘go out’ and lead people to the Lord. Common sense will tell us that there are more ‘unsaved people’ outside the church than inside.

Many young “Evangelists” are just waiting for someone to give them a chance to go out to the streets and into all the world.

Wake-up Pastors/Priests and send out your young people Today!! (Acts 2:17, 18)

The following Scriptures mention financing those that are sent out.

Deut 25:4

4 **Thou shalt not muzzle the ox** when he treadeth out the corn.

1 Cor 9:9

9 For it is written in the law of Moses, **Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox** that treadeth out the corn. **Doth God take care for oxen?**

1 Tim 5:18

18 For the scripture saith, **Thou shalt not muzzle the ox** that treadeth out the corn. And, **The labourer is worthy of his reward.**

Timothy, who we could classify as an “Apostle”, was told by Paul to do the ‘work’ of an “Evangelist”, thus, part of an “Apostle’s” work is “Evangelistic”.

2 Tim 4:2

2 **Preach the word;** be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

2 Tim 4:5

5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, **do the work of an evangelist,** make full proof of thy ministry.

Philip is a good example of an “Evangelist”. He was ‘Filled with the Holy Ghost’, which is a must! He was also one of the first Deacons chosen in the church.

This is proof that an “Evangelist” can hold an office in the church.

This is because unlike “Apostles” and “Prophets”, who minister between the churches, the “Evangelist” works out of the church.

Acts 6:5

5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: **and they chose** Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and **Philip**, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:

Acts 21:8

8 And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of **Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven**; and abode with him.

Just as Philip did, “Evangelists” today should be able to move in the ‘Charisma Gifts’ of the Holy Spirit, and in “Signs & Wonders”; however, this does not make them “Apostles” or “Prophets”.

Acts 8:4-7

4 **Therefore they** that were scattered abroad **went every where preaching the word.**

5 **Then Philip went** down to the city of Samaria, **and preached Christ unto them.**

6 **And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.**

7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.

Acts 8:12-13

12 But when **they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ**, they were baptized, both men and women.

13 Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, **and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.**

The following story about Philip gives us some keen insight into the works of an “Evangelist”:

Acts 8:26-40

26 **And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go** toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert.

27 **And he arose and went:** and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship,

28 Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet.

29 **Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself** to this chariot.

30 **And Philip ran thither to him**, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?

31 And he said, How can I, **except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.**

32 The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth:

33 In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth.

34 **And the eunuch answered Philip**, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?

35 **Then Philip opened his mouth**, and began at the same scripture, **and preached unto him Jesus.**

36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, **here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?**

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.

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both **Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.**

39 And when they were come up out of the water, **the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more:** and he went on his way rejoicing.

40 **But Philip was found at Azotus: and passing through he preached in all the cities,** till he came to Caesarea.

- He was lead of an angel.
- He arose and went.
- The Holy Spirit told him what to do.
- He ran to do what He said.
- The Eunuch asked for guidance.
- Philip preached Jesus.
- The Eunuch asked to be baptized.
- Philip said yes, if he believed in his heart. (Romans 10:9, 10)
- Philip baptized him.
- Philip was ‘transported’ by the Holy Spirit.
- He preached in all the cities.

XIV. PASTORS/PRIESTS:

The “Pastors/Priests” are responsible solely for their individual churches. This means that the “Pastors/Priests”, and not a ‘Board of Elders’ have this responsibility. That is why they are called ‘Angels’ (Aggelos) to their churches in Revelation 2 and 3. They alone will appear before the ‘judgment seat’ of Christ and be judged for their church. (2 Corinthians 5:10)

The “Pastors/Priests” must have a ‘Pastor’s Heart’, that can only be given by God. Their Heart is a ‘Heart of putty’, that melts very easily.

They enjoy taking care of people and will do almost anything for their flock.

They have a ‘compassion’ for all peoples no matter what the circumstances.

They have ‘unconditional’ love.

As the Heads of the churches, we have taken the liberty to combine the names of “Pastors/Priests” with the names of a Shepherd, Minister and Angel.

These “Pastors/Priests” ‘must’ be Called by Jesus Christ, just as the Priests in the Old Testament had to be of the Tribe of Levi. (Numbers 18)

PASTORS:

Jer 3:15

15 **And I will give you pastors according to mine heart,** which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

Eph 4:11

11 **And he gave some**, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, **pastors** and teachers;

Today's "Pastors/Priests" are somewhat confused because they feel a Call to 'go out'. Some think they are changing into an "Evangelist". Instead, God is giving the "Pastors/Priests" an 'Evangelistic Heart', so that they will send their flock out to the streets, cities, and into the mission fields.

In these last days, God is telling "The Body of Christ" to Go Out!

Num 27:16-17

16 **Let the LORD**, the God of the spirits of all flesh, **set a man over the congregation**,

17 **Which may go out before them, and which may go in before them, and which may lead them out, and which may bring them in; that the congregation of the LORD be not as sheep which have no shepherd.**

Notice, that the "Pastor/Priest" may 'go out' and lead his flock out, but he must 'always' return. He cannot 'remain' out or they will be as a flock without a Shepherd.

PRIESTS:

The "Priest" is a messenger (angel) of the Lord sent to lead the church.

Isa 61:6

6 **But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD: men shall call you the Ministers of our God:** ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.

Mal 2:7

7 **For the priest's lips should keep knowledge**, and they should seek the law at his mouth: **for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.**

Ps 132:9

9 **Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness;** and let thy saints shout for joy.

SHEPHERDS:

Jesus 'Calls' those who are "Shepherds", and He is our example of a Shepherd.

1 Pet 2:25

25 For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto **the Shepherd** and Bishop **of your souls.**

1 Pet 5:4

4 And when **the chief Shepherd shall appear**, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

Jer 23:4

4 **And I will set up shepherds over them** which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD.

MINISTERS:

As “Ministers” of the New Testament, they are ‘laborers’ with God, and they must be counted faithful, giving no offence in anything.

1 Tim 1:12

12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, **for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;**

1 Tim 4:6

6 If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, **thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ**, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.

2 Cor 3:6

6 **Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament;** not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

Eph 3:7

7 **Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God** given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

1 Cor 3:5-9

5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, **but ministers by whom ye believed**, even as the Lord gave to every man?

6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but **God gave the increase.**

7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but **God that giveth the increase.**

8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and **every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.**

9 **For we are labourers together with God:** ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

1 Cor 4:1-2

1 **Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ**, and stewards of the mysteries of God.

2 Moreover it is required in stewards, **that a man be found faithful.**

2 Cor 6:3-10

3 **Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed:**

4 **But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God**, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses,

5 In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings;

6 By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, **by the Holy Ghost**, by love unfeigned,

7 By the word of truth, **by the power of God**, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

8 By honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true;

9 As unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed;

10 As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

ANGELS:

The “Angels” (aggelos) OF the churches are the messengers (or Pastors/Priests) OF the churches sent by Jesus Christ. (Revelation 2:1, 8, 12, 18 3:1, 7, 14)

They are in His right hand and close enough to the ‘Two-edged sword’ in His mouth, that the “Pastors/Priests” need to ‘Fear the Lord’ (Proverbs 8:13) and to do His work Faithfully (Jeremiah 48:10).

Rev 1:13

13 And **in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man**, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

Rev 1:16

16 **And he had in his right hand seven stars:** and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

Rev 1:20

20 **The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand**, and the seven golden candlesticks. **The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches:** and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

Rev 2:1

1 **Unto the angel** of the church of Ephesus write; **These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand**, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

XV. TEACHERS:

“Teachers” in the “Five Fold Ministry”, are ‘Called’ by Jesus. They are “Teachers” in the church. They can be Pastors, Evangelists, Bishops, etc., but they should be ‘Called’ to “Teach”.

All of us as Christians are to teach the younger people, but this is not the same as a “Teacher” in the “Five Fold Ministry”.

1 Cor 12:28-29

28 **And God hath set some in the church**, first apostles, secondarily prophets, **thirdly teachers**, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

29 Are all apostles? are all prophets? **are all teachers?** are all workers of miracles?

Eph 4:11

11 **And he (Jesus) gave some**, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and **teachers**;

Acts 13:1

1 **Now there were in the church** that was at Antioch **certain** prophets and **teachers**; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

These “Teachers”, can Teach publicly and house to house, as well as in the church.

Acts 20:20

20 And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, **and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,**

As “Teachers”, they must Teach by example.

Rom 2:21-22

21 **Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself?** thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?

22 Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege?

2 Tim 4:3

3 **For the time will come** when they will not endure sound doctrine; but **after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;**

“Teachers”, must not be novices!

Heb 5:12

12 **For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again** which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

XVI. BISHOPS:

The Dictionary says a “Bishop” is a Church Officer having charge of a Diocese or other Church District. The Bible says in the Greek ‘episkopos’ means: a superintendent, a Christian officer in charge of a (or the) church (literally or figuratively): bishop, overseer. For a more in-depth study of “Bishops”: (Read the Study Guide on “The Bishop Ministry” by Timothy II).

The following are the ‘qualifications’ of a “Bishop”.

Titus 1:7-9

7 **For a bishop must be** blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;

8 But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;

9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

A “Bishop” is a desirable office; one in which you cannot be a novice.

A “Bishop” helps to take care of the church of God.

1 Tim 3:1-7

- 1 This is a true saying, **If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.**
- 2 **A bishop then must be** blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;
- 3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;
- 4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;
- 5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, **how shall he take care of the church of God?**)
- 6 **Not a novice**, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

A “Bishop” must also have a good report with those ‘outside’ the church. This is because he will be working with the community.

- 7 **Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without;** lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.
The Holy Ghost is the one who ‘Calls’ the “Bishops”.

Acts 20:28

28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which **the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers (episkopos)**, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

XVII. ELDERS:

“Elders” in the Greek, ‘presbuteros’, has basically two meanings. It can mean an older person (a senior), or a member of the church ‘presbytery’ who is an ‘experienced’ Christian.

As ‘older’ Christians, we should maintain a certain respect in the church. All Senior Christians are ‘Called’ to teach the younger women and men how to act.

1 Tim 5:1-2

- 1 **Rebuke not an elder, but intreat him** as a father; and the younger men as brethren;
- 2 **The elder women** as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity.

Titus 2:1-8

- 1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:
- 2 **That the aged men be** sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.
- 3 **The aged women likewise**, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, **teachers of good things;**

- 4 **That they may teach the young women** to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,
 5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.
 6 **Young men likewise exhort** to be sober minded.
 7 In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,
 8 Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.

As “Elders” of the church who hold the ‘Office of an Elder’, the following are the ‘qualifications’ and ‘duties’:

1 Pet 5:1-4

- 1 **The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder**, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:
 2 **Feed the flock of God** which is among you, **taking the oversight thereof**, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, **but being ensamples to the flock.**
 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

Titus 1:5-6

- 5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and **ordain elders in every city**, as I had appointed thee:
 6 If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.

1 Tim 5:17-20

- 17 **Let the elders that rule well** be counted worthy of double honour, **especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.**
 18 For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.
 19 **Against an elder receive not an accusation**, but before two or three witnesses.
 20 **Them that sin rebuke before all**, that others also may fear.

James 5:14

- 14 Is any sick among you? **let him call for the elders of the church**; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

XVIII. DEACONS:

“Deacons” are the ‘working servants’ of the church. Although they are appointed to this position, they should be “Filled with the Holy Ghost”!
 They may also be a “Christian Leader” in other areas of church ministry, such as an “Evangelist”.

Acts 6:2-6

2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and **serve tables**.

3 Wherefore, brethren, **look ye out** (pick out) among you **seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business**.

4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and **they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip**, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:

After the “Deacons” have been chosen, they should be ‘prayed over’ and have ‘hands laid on them’.

6 Whom they set before the apostles: **and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them**.

The following are the ‘qualifications’ of the “Deacons”:

1 Tim 3:8-13

8 **Likewise must the deacons** be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;

9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.

10 **And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon**, being found blameless.

11 Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.

12 **Let the deacons be** the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

13 **For they that have used the office of a deacon well** purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

XIX. A VISION:

According to the Dictionary, a Vision is: An act of seeing; an apparition; dream; understanding and insight; an inspired appearance.

In the Bible in the Greek ‘horama’ is: something gazed at, a spectacle (especially supernatural); sight, vision.

FOR CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP:

In order for “Christian Leadership” to function properly, there must be a “Vision”.

God does not start a work without a “Vision”.

Unfortunately many works are started by the ‘flesh’. They may sound like a ‘good’ idea, but they may not be a “God” idea!

They may be a work of our ‘emotions’, but they are not necessarily of God.

Whenever we get a “Vision” from God, it is important to ‘write it down’.

There are many reasons for this; one is because God doesn't give us all of the "Vision" at one time. He usually adds to it as time goes on, because He often waits to see whether we will start moving on the "Vision". (Zechariah 4:10) Also, we may not be able to handle all of the "Vision" at one time because of its enormity.

Another reason for 'writing the "Vision" down' is so that the people that are going to help us can see it in writing in order to understand it.

Hab 2:2-3

2 And the LORD answered me, and said, **Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.**

3 **For the vision is yet for an appointed time,** but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

No matter what the 'work of the ministry' is, without a "Vision" from God, it won't last. Both the people and the work will dry up!

Prov 29:18

18 **Where there is no vision, the people perish:** but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

Acts 5:38-39

38 And now I say unto you, Refrain from these men, and let them alone: for **if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought:**

39 **But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it;** lest haply ye be found even to fight against God.

XX. ASSISTANTS IN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP:

There are 'two kinds' of "Assistants" in "Christian Leadership". They are, the ones who will always remain as "Assistants", and those who eventually will become 'Leaders' themselves. It is very important to identify the difference.

Those that will always be "Assistants" are happy doing what they are doing as long as you give them responsibility. You should make them responsible for a particular work and then let them do it without any interference.

They do not need to know all that the 'Leader' is doing in the work, nor be a part of everything.

Those "Assistants" that are going to become 'Leaders' themselves, need to follow the 'Leader' in everything that they are doing. They need to learn 'all aspects' of the ministry work, because they will eventually be doing the same work.

They do not need as much responsibility, but they do need to be 'exposed' to all facets of the ministry work.

Jesus told His "Assistants" to follow Him! He knew they were going to do the same work as Him. (John 14:12)

Mark 1:17

17 **And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me,** and I will make you to become fishers of men.

Mark 8:34

34 And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, **Whosoever will come after me,** let him deny himself, and **take up his cross, and follow me.**

It is important that as an “Assistant” you remain ‘loyal’ to the ‘Head Leader’. It doesn’t matter whether you always agree with them or not, you must ‘respect’ them and their decisions. When you become the ‘Head Leader’, you will expect ‘loyalty’ from your “Assistants” too.

Don’t expect God to give you a work if you are not ‘loyal’ and ‘faithful’.

Luke 16:10

10 **He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much:** and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

Luke 16:12

12 **And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?**

XXI. WHAT CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP SHOULD DO:

“Christian Leaders” in general, should ‘preach the Gospel’ and tell the world that the ‘Kingdom of God’ is come unto them.

Mark 16:15

15 And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.**

Acts 28:31

31 **Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ,** with all confidence, no man forbidding him.

Because the Gospel is the ‘Power of God’ unto Salvation.

Rom 1:16

16 **For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation** to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

If we preach the Gospel, then we can live from the ‘tithes and offerings’ donated to the work.

1 Cor 9:14

14 Even so hath the Lord ordained that **they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.**

However, our ‘true reward’ is when we get to give it away for free, because then we truly are the ‘Servants to all’!

We also preach the Gospel because we must!

1 Cor 9:16-19

16 For though **I preach the gospel**, I have nothing to glory of: **for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!**

17 **For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward:** but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me.

18 **What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge,** that I abuse not my power in the gospel.

19 For though I be free from all men, yet have **I made myself servant unto all**, that I might gain the more.

The Gospel we preach must be in the ‘Power’ of the Holy Ghost.

1Thes 1:5

5 **For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost,** and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.

We must continually ‘study’ the Word to be approved by God.

2 Tim 2:15

15 **Study to shew thyself approved unto God,** a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth.**

And ‘Preach the Word’ in ‘meekness and in truth’, regardless of the circumstances.

2 Tim 2:25

25 **In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves;** if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the **truth;**

2 Tim 4:2

2 **Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.**

XXII. HOW CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP SHOULD ACT:

As a “Christian Leader”, who do you say hello to, or who do you acknowledge in your assemblies? (James 2:1-4)

It is important that “Christian Leaders” truly love one another as well as the **whole** “Body of Christ”. People can spot a ‘phony’ right away!

Rom 12:10-16

- 10 **Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;**
- 11 Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; **servicing the Lord;**
- 12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; **continuing instant in prayer;**
- 13 **Distributing to the necessity of saints;** given to hospitality.
- 14 Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.
- 15 **Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.**
- 16 Be of the same mind one toward another. **Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate.** Be not wise in your own conceits.

Remember, God is ‘no respecter of persons’. (James 2:9)

We should ‘suffer and rejoice’ with **all** members of the “Body of Christ”.

1 Cor 12:25-26

- 25 **That there should be no schism in the body;** but that the members should have the same care one for another.
- 26 **And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.**

We should bear each other’s burdens.

Gal 6:2

- 2 **Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.**

As “Christians Leaders”, we should be in the business of ‘restoration’ of those that have fallen.

Gal 6:1

- 1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, **ye which are spiritual, restore such an one** in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

CONCLUSION:

A good “Christian Leader” realizes that even though they have a responsibility to God for answering their Call, they must not ‘rule’ over the “Body of Christ” as the heathen would do. Each person will stand before the ‘judgment seat’ of Christ and will be ‘accountable’ for his own actions.

2 Cor 1:24

- 24 **Not for that we have dominion over your faith,** but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand.

Rom 14:10

10 But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother?
for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

Rom 14:12

12 **So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.**

POST CONCLUSION:

As “Christian Leaders” and ‘Servants to all’, we can take no pride in what we have done!

Luke 17:10

10 **So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are
commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was
our duty to do.**

**AMEN!
TIMOTHY II**

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

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The Holy Bible
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Comments:

This text has been used as the source for all scriptures.
 Some verses of scripture have been shortened or used in partial form.
 This is to strengthen their importance to the subject matter; not to change their meaning nor meant to be taken out of the context in which they are written.

Text:

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Comments:

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