

# The Doctrine of the Church



The Organization and Officers of the Church

# The Organization of the Church

GOD IS NOT  
THE AUTHOR  
OF CONFUSION  
BUT OF PEACE

1 CORINTHIANS 14:23

There have been groups and individuals who have taught that the Scriptures give no warrant for our present-day organized church. It is held that believers should get together, observe the Lord's Supper, study God's Word, and cooperate in Christian service without anything resembling a formal organization.



# The First Church at Jerusalem

- There was a simple form of organization in the Church at Jerusalem.
- This is clearly evident from a number of things.



- The believers adhered to a definite doctrinal standard (*Acts 2:42*)
- They met for teaching, spiritual fellowship and united in prayer (*Acts 2:42*)
- They practiced baptism (*Acts 2:41*)
- They observed the Lord's Supper (*Acts 2:42, 46*)
- They kept account of the membership (*Acts 2:14, 41; 4:4*)
- They met faithfully for public worship (*Acts 2:46*)
- They provided material help for the needy of their fellowship (*Acts 2:44-45*)

- The Apostles were the first ministers (Pastors) in this Church, and they soon added the seven men (Deacons) to take care of the physical needs of the church body (*Acts 6:1-7*)
- On the day of Pentecost they were assembled in 'the upper room' (*Acts 1:13; 2:1*)
- They first met in the temple for service until driven out (*Acts 2:46; 3:1*)
- They then met in homes of fellow Christians (*Acts 2:46*)
- All these factors indicate that even from the beginning the church had a form of organization.

# The New Testament Church had Officers



*(Philippians 1:1) "Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons."*



# The Role of the Pastor



# The Pastor as a Shepherd

*(Eph. 4:12; Jeremiah 3:15;  
Acts 20:28-31; I Pet. 5:1-4)*

- Jesus Christ is the “*Great Shepherd of the sheep*” and in *John 10:1-18* Jesus is called “*the good shepherd*” - The Pastor then is the “Under Shepherd” of Jesus Christ – Christ is the head of the church!
- Following the example of Jesus Christ in *John 10:1-18* a “good shepherd” has the following responsibility concerning his flock –

- 1. Know the sheep** – “...he calleth his own sheep by name...”
- 2. Lead the sheep** – “...he leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them...”
- 3. Train the sheep** – “...and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. A stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers...”
- 4. Feed the sheep** – “...and shall go in and out and find pasture...”

## ***5. Protect the sheep – John 10:8-13***

- Thieves and robbers (false teachers)
- Wolves (world, flesh and the devil)

## ***6. Love the sheep – “...the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep...”***

**Note:** The pastor is not to pastor out of - *compulsion but voluntarily* / He is not to pastor for - *filthy lucre sake but out of a ready mind* / He is not to - *Lord over the flock but lead by personal example* | Peter 5:2-4

# Speaking Ministry of the Pastor



[ 1 ] ADMONISH (NIYTGETEI) - *1 Thessalonians 5:12*

To warn or caution against specific faults; to inform or remind by way of warning; to reprove or counsel

[ 2 ] EDIFY (OIKODOMEO) - *1 Corinthians 14:3*

To build up; to instruct and improve morally or spiritually

[ 3 ] EXHORT (PARAKLALEO) - *1 Corinthians 14:3*

To urge or incite to good works; to encourage through advice or counsel that which is commendable

[ 4 ] COMFORT (PARAKLESIS) - *1 Corinthians 14:3*

To come along side of to help; to ease from worry or pain; to console

[ 5 ] PREACH (KATAGGELLO) - *Colossians 1:28*

To tell thoroughly; to cry or proclaim as a herald; to speak forcefully

[ 6 ] WARNING (NOU) - *Colossians 1:28*

To protest strongly; to testify against

[ 7 ] TEACHING (DIDASKO) - *Colossians 1:28*

To provide with knowledge; to give lessons or instruction; to explain how to do something

**[ 8 ] REPROVE (ELEGCHO) - *II Timothy 4:2***

To convict; to point out error; to find fault with; to condemn; to speak with disapproval

**[ 9 ] REBUKE (EPITIMAO) - *II Timothy 4:2***

To set a weight upon; to chide with; to strike blame upon; to convince of wrong doing; to address in sharp and severe disapproval; to force back; to beat down; to bruise

**[10] CHARGE (PARAGGELLO) - *I Timothy 1:3***

To tell apart; to bear down upon; to give a command



**[11] COUNSEL (Hebrew - TACHBULOTH) -**  
Proverbs 11:14

To give wise advice; to exhort, warn, admonish,  
or instruct

**[12] DOCTRINE (DIDASKALIA) - Titus 1:9**

The act of teaching or instruction

**[13] CORRECTION (EPANORIHASIS) - II Timothy 3:16**

To set aright according to just standards of truth;  
to point out error

**[14] INSTRUCTION (PAIDEIA) - II Timothy 3:16**

To nourish (feed) with knowledge

# The Pastor must Preach in order to (Heb. 13:20-21)

- > *Perfect the sheep* – “make you perfect in every good work...”
- > *Exhort the sheep* -
  - *Be obedient to the Lord* – “...to do his will...”
  - *Sensitive to the Holy Spirit* – “...working in you...”
  - *Live a life well pleasing to God* – “...that which is well pleasing in his sight...”
  - *Glorify God* – “...to whom be glory forever and ever...”

# The Pastor as a Teacher

*(Eph. 4:11-12)*



- The qualifications of a pastor – *Read (I Tim. 3:1-7) “...apt to teach...” (see II Tim. 2:24)*
- It is imperative that a pastor not only be able to “preach” - (motivational)
- *Hebrews 13:20-21 Exhorting his people to –*
  - 1. Be obedient to the Lord*
  - 2. Sensitive to the Holy Spirit*
  - 3. Live a life well pleasing to God*
  - 4. Glorify God in their lives*
- He must also be able to “teach” (instructional)  
– *Acts 15:35 speaks of “Preaching and Teaching the Word of God...”*



## Paul told young Pastor Timothy

*“Give attendance to  
reading, to exhortation,  
to doctrine...take heed  
unto thyself and unto  
the doctrine; continue in  
them: for in doing this  
thou shalt both save  
thyself and them that  
hear thee...”*



*“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...”*

# The Pastor as an Elder

*(1 Tim. 5:17, Titus 1:5)*

The word “elder” refers to the “maturity required to hold the office of a pastor” - “...*Not a novice...*”

- a. Pastors are to have the conduct of elders –  
*Titus. 1:5-9, 1 Tim. 3:1-6 read*
- b. Pastors are to have the conviction of elders –  
*“Holding fast the faithful word...”*
- c. Pastors are to have the compassion of elders –  
*“...comforting every one of you as a father doth his children...”*
- d. Pastors are to have the courage of elders – *“...they spoke the word of God with boldness...”*

# The Pastor as a Bishop

## *(Phil. 1:1)*

Bishop means “overseer” = The pastor is to have the oversight of every aspect of the ministry – *“Let the elders that rule...”*

- *The word rule means “one set or place over” as the one place in authority he is to – Titus 1:5 “set things in order...”*
- *In most of our evangelical churches it is not the “Pastor” the is the “ruling bishop” it is – a board / committee / or some headstrong individual that is running the church.*



# Three things you will not find in the Bible that you will find in most Baptist Churches

- Deacon or elder boards
- Business meetings
- Majority rule
- (God never ruled through a majority vote)



- Pastor/Shepherd = Design of the office
- Teacher = Duty of the office
- Elder = Dignity of the office
- Bishop = Demand of the office

# Your Responsibility towards your Pastor



# 1. Treat him as your Shepherd (Pastor) – *Ephesians 4:12; Jeremiah 3:15*

- Listen to his voice (teachings) – *John 10:1-18; Hebrews 2:1-4*
- Follow his leadership – *Hebrews 13:7*

# 2. Treat him as an Elder – *1 Timothy 5:17*

- Honor him – “*Double honor*”
- Do not rebuke him – *1 Timothy 5:1*
- Do not speak evil against him – *Exodus 22:28*

# 3. Treat him as an Overseer – *Acts 20:28*

- Submit to his authority – *Hebrews 13:17*

- Keep him informed – *1 Timothy 3:1*

- Ask his permission – *1 Timothy 3:5*

#### 4. Treat him very highly in love – *1 Thessalonians 5:12-13*

- Respect his work – *1 Thessalonians 5:13*

- Love him – *1 Corinthians 13:1-8*

- Love his wife – *Ephesians 5:28*

- Love his children – *Titus 1:6*

- Support him financially – *1 Corinthians 9:7-14*

- Avoid a challenging spirit towards him – *1 Peter 2:13-18*

- Pray for him – *Ephesians 6:18-19*

- Work with him – *1 Corinthians 3:9*

# The Office of a Deacon



Deacon Ministry



# THE MINISTRY OF DEACONS

*(Acts 6:1-7)*

*“And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministrations. 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. Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.*”

*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: Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.”*



- The meaning of the word **DIAKONOS** = servant (Vine's - one who renders free service)
- Pastors are to be paid by the Church if possible - *1 Corinthians 9:9-14; 1 Timothy 5:17-18.*
- Deacons however are unpaid willing servants, serving only for eternal reward.
- These men are to have four character qualities -
  1. Honest men
  2. Spirit filled men (humble)
  3. Wise men
  4. Serving men - The word **DIAKONOS** (deacon) is only found three times in scripture. The words **DIAKONIA** (serve) and **DIAKONEO** (servant) appear 103 times and always refer to the physical service.

# Qualifications of a Pastor

*(1 Tim. 3:1-7)*

- He must be a male
- Blameless = without reproach; unrebukeable
- Husband of one wife = not divorced and remarried
- Vigilant = watchful; alert (spiritual danger and temptations)
- Sober = sound-minded
- Good Behavior = orderly
- Given to Hospitality = friendly

- Able to Teach = capable teacher
- Not Given to Wine = not beside wine
- Not a Striker = not violent
- Not Greedily of Money = not temporal valued
- Patient = enduring
- Not a Brawler = not a fighter
- Not Covetous = does not seek worldly pleasures, possessions, power or recognition
- Not Self-willed = not stubborn; not arrogant
- Not Easily Angered = not quick tempered; not hotheaded
- Lover of Good Men = godly friendships

- Just = honest; upright; fair
- Holy = morally pure
- Rule His Own House = manages his household well
- Children must be in Subjection = yielded to the father's headship
- Not a Novice = spiritually mature
- Not Lifted up with Pride = humble
- Good Report
- Without Reproach



# Deacons



# Qualifications of a Deacon

*(1 Timothy 3:8-13; Acts 6:1-6)*

- Grave = respect; dignified
- Not Doubled-tongued = truthful
- Not Given to Much Wine = not addicted
- Not Greedy of Filthy Lucre = not temporal valued
- Blameless = without reproach
- Servants Spirit - *Acts 6:2-3*
- Grave = respect; dignified
- Not Slandorous = "not an accuser"; false witness; malicious gossip - *James 3:2-12*

- Sober = sound-minded; spiritually alert
- Faithful in all Things = dependable; servant to her husband, children, and church
- Husband of one wife = "one woman man. . ."; (not divorced and remarried)
- Control of His Family = ". . . *ruling [his] children and [his] own houses well.*" (children under subjection)
- Firm in Biblical Convictions - "*Holding the mystery of the faith. . .*"
- Full of the Holy Spirit = spirit-filled
- Wisdom = ability to see life from God's perspective (men strong in the Word - *1 John 2:13-14*)

A green chalkboard with a wooden frame is centered on a black background. The text "Are you qualified?" is written on the board in a white, sans-serif font, arranged in two lines. The first line contains "Are you" and the second line contains "qualified?".

**Are you  
qualified?**