

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

A Controversial Newsletter "The Printed Voice of Summit Theological Seminary"

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Vol. 21 No. 3 July 2008 George L. Faull, Editor



Dear Brother Faull,

Isn't it true, if an Evangelist has done his work right, and ordained good elders in the Church that he works himself out of a job, and is no longer

needed? In other words, does a local Church need an Evangelist if you have a qualified Eldership?

Answer:

In years past, I thought that an Evangelist was unneeded in the local Church if a qualified Eldership was functioning correctly. In the past few years, I have come to see how wrong that concept is.

The apostles and prophets were the revealers of God's Truth. The Evangelist and pastor-teachers are the teachers of that body of truth that the apostles and prophets revealed in the Word. **Ephesians 4:11**

In light of **Ephesians 4:12ff**, the Evangelist and Elders have a mutual ministry, namely:

- Both are teachers of the saints to perfect them to the work of the ministry.
- Both are to mature the saints to unity.
- Both are ones who equip the body to edify itself to love.

How can an Evangelist do his share of these things if he is not in the local Church?

We have made a great error in calling the Books of I and II Timothy and Titus, "Pastoral Epistles". These men were Evangelists, not Pastors!

Let's see what an Evangelist is told to do in I Timothy:

HE IS TO: Protect the Doctrine of the Church

I Timothy 1:3, "As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine,"

Teach Believers How to Pray

I **Timothy 2:1-2**, "1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men; 2 For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty."

Teach Women How to Dress

I Timothy 2:9-10, "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."

Administrate as to Those Who Can Teach

I Timothy 2:11-15, "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."

Set Elders and Deacons in Office I Timothy Chapter 3

Warn of False Teachers and Remind the Brethren of Them

I Timothy 4:1-6, "1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; 3 Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. 4 For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: 5 For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. 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."

Teach How to Treat Old Men, Young Men, Old Women, and Young Women

I Timothy 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."

Administrate the Support of the Eligible Widows

I Timothy 5:3-10, "3 Honour widows that are widows indeed. 4 But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God. 5 Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day. 6 But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth. 7 And these things give in charge, that they may be blameless. 8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel. 9 Let not a widow be taken into the number under threescore years old, having been the wife of one man, 10 Well reported of for good works; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work."

Teach About the Young Widows

I Timothy 5:11, "But the younger widows refuse: for when they have begun to wax wanton against Christ, they will marry;"

See That Elders are Paid

I Timothy 5:17-18, "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."

Receive Accusations Against the Elders and Handle Sinning Elders

I Timothy 5:19-21, "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. 21 I charge *thee* before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality."

Ordain Men to the Eldership

I Timothy 5:22, "Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure."

Teach Servants and Masters How to Behave

I Timothy 6:1-2, "1 Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and *his* doctrine be not blasphemed. 2 And they that have believing masters, let

them not despise *them*, because they are brethren; but rather do *them* service, because they are faithful and beloved, partakers of the benefit. These things teach and exhort."

Warn Those Who Want to Be Rich

I Timothy 6:9, "But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition."

Charge Those Who are Rich

I Timothy 6:17, "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;"

In light of this, several modern misconceptions about Evangelists are here disproven. Learn that:

An Evangelist is Not a Preacher With a Fast Car and Seven Sermons.

An Evangelist is Not Ever Going to Work Himself Out of a Job by Training an Eldership.

There are always new converts he is to equip to the ministry and to help mature to the statue of Christ and help perfect them to be edifiers of each other.

Many Who are Calling Themselves "Pastors" Because They Feed the Flock:

Have failed to realize that this is as much the ministry of an Evangelist as it is the Elders, and they are not doing a "Pastor's" work when they counsel, teach and administrate (set things in order) and Evangelize the lost.

An Evangelist is Not the "Flunky" of the Elders.

He sets them in office and sees to it that they are paid if they labor in the Word. He is the one who receives accusations against elders, and publicly rebukes those who sin.

An Evangelist Does Some Administration.

He protects against false doctrine, insists that women cannot teach men or have authority over men, sets the Elders and Deacons in the Church, sees that the widows are widows indeed, sees that the Elders are paid, and rebukes leaders who are out of order.

An Evangelist is Not Just a Church Planter.

He may stay for several years, as Timothy did. His work is both within and without the Church. The Elder's responsibility is with the flock, not the lost.

Those Who Say, "There is No Such Thing as an Evangelist Teaching an Assembly of Christians", are in Great Error.

It is obvious that he is a teacher of the sound Word and doctrine. He charges, teaches, rebukes, reproves, exhorts, reminds, commands, and preaches the Word to the Saints, as well as evangelizing the lost.

Alexander Campbell's Philosophy of the Ministry has Greatly Hurt our Churches.

He hated anything that smelled of "clergy" or a located minister. In my judgement, he ran so far from Rome that he passed by Jerusalem.

God in His Wisdom, left Elders to oversee the flock, and He left Evangelists to be a checkmate and helpmate to the Elders in the local Church. A Church after the New Testament order has an Evangelist, Elders, and Deacons.

The Church's work, message, and motivation will suffer without a capable Evangelist to set the Church in order.

This is a trust given and should be earnestly kept!

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