# On Various aspects of ministry

# **Preface**

A minister is so important because they guide a group of Christians in a church.

If they get it wrong then everyone, they teach will get it wrong.

This book is designed to give guidance to minister on how to teach their church as well as challenge them to preach what Jesus taught and not what their denomination promotes.

Ministers are responsible for the decline in Christianity as they are the guides of the people they minister too and have not been teaching them what they need to know to maintain the Christian status quo except in their denomination and even then, these at times are no longer Godly in some of the things they believe in.

Pray that y0u are not one of these ministers when you face God and are judged for your role and achievements as a minister.

### What is ministry

**MIN'ISTRY**, n. [L. ministerium.] The office, duties or functions of a subordinate agent of any kind.

2. Ecclesiastical function; agency or service of a minister of the gospel or clergyman in the modern church, or of priests, apostles and evangelists in the ancient. Acts 1. Rom 12. 2 Tim (Webster's Dictionary)

Ministers are said to serve denominations or churches.

In reality we are all servants of Jesus and it is to Him they should be looking for what they do in a church and not a board of management of a denomination or similar.

Unfortunately, this is not taught so ministers serve denominations when they should be serving Jesus regardless of what the denomination says or teaches, they should be doing.

### **Preaching objectives**

Unless you have objectives for your preaching set by The Holy Spirit you will train people but it will not be what God wants you to tell them. So, following denominational preaching calendars will teach people somethings but it will not necessarily what they need to hear from God.

Some guidelines for objectives.

How does it promote what Jesus promoted?

Mat 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

<u>Joh 3:16</u> For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Joh 3:17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

How does it help us proclaim Jesus, His Kingdom and its vales?

Howe does it prepare us for Heaven?

How does it show His Love?

How does it help people to grow in the salivation relationship they have with Jesus?

These should be in everything we teach or preach in some way.

Do you consider them when preparing to teach or preach?

# The Purpose of Christian Ministry

The purpose of Christian ministry is to teach the truths of God so that people will know and understand them and apply them to their lives. Any other reason brings Glory to man and not God.

No Biblical writer was paid anything for the Bible books they wrote and Jesus ever had a fixed income or was paid for teaching and preaching. So, writing for the purposes of Christian ministry should promote the things of God and not man and as God has freely given it to you, you should not charge others for which is not your original work but transmitting what another has told you.

Christian ministry is done out of love for The Father and Jesus and is not for payment. But those who give their life to minister should be supported how God tells you to support them and not how man has organized their support. The idea of a fixed wage for ministering is not in The Bible and can lead to ministry become mere employment and is done to earn a wage and not out of Love for The Father and Jesus.

Jesus freely gave us His teachings and who are we to charge for what God has freely given us.

He asks you to serve Him out of love for Him and not for money and promises to provide all we need if we serve Him (Matt 6:33) and not what we think we need.

So, you do not write or preach to make money or royalties as that is to profit what God has freely given you. But you write to Glorify God out of love for Him and teach what He has shown us to teach these things to others.

You may need to be paid something for your ministry if only to cover expenses but money should not be the reason for ministering, writing or preaching.

God has freely given you gifts for ministry such as preaching, teaching, singing, writing and others gifts and expects them to use them for His service. You should not to charge for using what He has freely given you but you can accept what He tells others to give you as you will need it for some purpose.

In the New Testament payments for Christian service are never mentioned but free will offerings are as well as supporting those in ministry.

The emphasis is on serving out of Love for Jesus and The Father and in fact there were no paid ministry positions mentioned in The New Testament, at least not in the books scholarship attest as being written by The Apostles.

A person may show gratitude and give you a gift as a 'thank you' for what you did for them but it is not as agreed fee for service but an expression of gratitude for what you did for them for free.

# **Ministry Attitude**

A minister must remember that they and all other Christians are part of the family of God and all are equal. One is not superior to the other.

So, they are serving a family member and this should be done out of love for them.

Everything they do should have God's quality of love as the motive behind it or it is not of God who does everything for us out of His Love for us.

To do things because you are paid to do it has no element of Love so that ministers on a salary earn it if they do their work and there is no love behind it as it is work for money not a love activity.

You should be thankful God loves and thinks highly of you that He uses you to help others and not just to do some work for Him. The work He asks you to do is so vital that He rewards it handsomely.

He asks you to rescue souls from the kingdom of The Devil then train them to be good citizens of His Kingdom so that they will be together with Him for eternity having the same friendship with God that you have with Him.

### **Role of Ministers**

Act 6:1 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 ministration.

Act 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.

Act 6:3 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.

Act 6:4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

Act 6:5 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:

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

Act 6:7 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 church was in disorder (v1) so that the needs of all were not met.

They went to the spiritual leaders (v2) and asked them what to do.

They said to find seven trustworthy men to wait on the tables (v3)

The spiritual leaders would meet the spiritual needs of the church (v4)

The seven chosen men would meet the administrative needs of the church (v 5-6)

The church was in order again and able to do the work of The Lord in an ordered and efficient way and so expanded.

It can be seen that the ministers were to meet the spiritual needs of the people in the church and the deacons meet the administrative needs of people in the church if it is to run efficiently and do the work of Jesus.

Jesus never called any of His followers 'priests' or 'bishops' but servants and ministers. The titles of 'priests' or 'bishops' are taken from other religions and reinforced by The Catholic church which needed a hierarchy to run the Roman empire it had taken over. Because the structure needed greater levels of control, they also made cardinals and pope.

In the letters scholars ascribe to Paul these terms are never mentions. But in those written using his name, as a form of reverence they are mentioned.

In none of the other writings of the apostles are priests and bishops mentioned except in 1 Peter 2:25 but then only in refer to Jesus as the bishop of our souls.

The fivefold was not mentioned by Jesus or any of the apostles but is mentioned in Ephesians which many scholars believe was not written by Paul.

In reality all Christians should be able to do what they need to do to minister and not just specialize in one area.

Jesus never said that there were offices of service in the church. So, to make prophecy an office is to do something Jesus did not do and to elevate it to a higher level than it should be.

Of more use in the church are 'words of wisdom' and 'words of knowledge' but these are not promoted. These tell you what you need to know now and not at a future date.

By making a class of qualified people to minister in a church you stop the congregation from ministering the work Jesus said they should do and by this hinder the wore of Jesus by following the way Satan perverted the church structure so it would not run in the way God desires it to run.

You set up a two-tier system like the Nicolaitans had which Jesus condemned.

#### The Lord Jesus declared to Neville:

"My pastors and elders must learn to disciple the Christians I bring to them.

How can the needs of a person in the congregation be met by a one-hour general sermon a week or by a bible study on a topic unrelated to their need?

When you disciple a person, you spend time with a person individually learning about them, discussing their problems and needs, encouraging them and supporting them by your words. The example of your life should an encouragement to them, meeting any needs they have and working with them to do what is best for them

You should be teaching them to be able to disciple others and not just deal with the problems of the Christian life.

Satan has trained the church not to disciple others so that the Minister is always important and the focus of the church.

He has also taught the church that knowledge is important so that a sermon provides knowledge but not a lot of practical application. A half hour sermon provides little application and mostly shows the knowledge and learning of the minister.

Until the church disciples those I tell it too it will only have a minister and a few people

trained by the congregation to do the work when I require all the congregation to be able to present the gospel and deal with the problems of the Christian life and disciple others as best, they can.

So, minister elders are you discipling or are you following the Nicolaitan system I hate Jesus

### **Accountability of ministers**

Eze 33:2 ... if the people of the land take a man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman:

Eze 33:3 If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people;

Eze 33:4 Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head.

Eze 33:5 He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul.

Eze 33:6 But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand.

People of the land you are in have made you a minister, a protector and watchman of a church.

God warns you of what He requires of you and His people so God will require your blood at His hands if you do not teach it to them.

You are the watchman for your church.

Have you warned them of what is to come and prepared them for it?

If not, their blood will be on your hands.

Things to teach:

How to defeat Satan

How to deliver people from his kingdom

How to deal with temptation

The Rapture

How to maintain the salvation relationship they have with The Father and Jesus

How to use the gifts of The Holy Spirit

How to hear The Holy Spirit

Minister, are you teaching your people for these things?

Do you know how to teach them for these?

If not, you had better learn as you have greater accountability for your life as you are a minister He has allowed to be for His purposes and teaching the church of these things is one of His purposes.

### **Questions for ministers**

Why do Christians worship on Sunday? The early church use to worship on the Sabbath (Saturday.) The Mosaic Law said we were to worship on the Sabbath. Jesus did not negate that so why do we worship on a Sunday

Why do we celebrate the man-made feasts of Christmas and Easter which were the same dates as major pagan festivals?

Communion in the early church was a joyful celebration remembering the completed work of Redemption accomplished by Jesus in which they gave thanks to The Father for what Jesus did. Why do we not do this at communion now?

Why do we have sacraments when Jesus did not institute any?

Why do we have special people promoted as great Christians almost like a saint everyone as a Saint and they take the focus off Jesus onto them

Tithing was not negated by Jesus so why do not churches teach tithing?

The church is one body united by the Holy Spirit organized according to God's principles. Why do we have denomination that divide their body?

When we become a Christian, we become a member of the Kingdom of God. Why is this never mentioned and we are asked to join a denomination instead of the body of Christ.

God removed the Temple because it was no longer necessary to meet with there with Him because His presence is in us. Why then do we have denominational Churches?

Why do denominations always talk about the denomination and never the role a person in The Kingdom of God,

The early church had no New Testament, no bible colleges or seminaries, no trained teachers or required qualifications and reached the then known world. We have all these things and Christianity is hardly making an impression in some places and is receding in other places. Why?

The early church never had churches. God said that you cannot build a place to contain Him so why do we have churches?

Why do we not have the communion gatherings they used to have in the early church but instead have a Nicolaitan type gathering where the majority a controlled by the few and The Father is hidden by this so the people do not relate to The Father?

Salvation is a relationship with The Father and Jesus said so why is this not preached in churches

People are taught to give to the church or denomination and not to God having been taught that giving to the church is the same thing as giving to God and by this people do not ask God what He wants the money given too.

The early church did not have ritualistic garments or specific dress for its minister but they dressed like everyone else so why do we have ministers dress differently to normal people.

Jesus said with two or three are gathered together in His name He is in there mist so why do ministers not acknowledge Him being in their midst when they meet

The Holy Spirit is given to guide us so why do not we acknowledge this and ask His guidance in church meetings

If you can't answer any of these questions then why are you doing thing Jesus did not institute or show the early church to do

#### Minister

When you face The Lord Jesus, He will ask:

What will you say to Jesus when He asks you why you did not join with Christians of other denominations to reach the lost in your area that are going to hell?

Why did you focus on your denomination and its preservation and not on reaching the lost going to hell?

What was so important that His work was not done and people were not trained to do it.

I have set my church as a watchman to warn the lost and give them the hope I have given you.

What will you say when I ask you what you did about it?

Did you live a comfortable life or a life seeking to save the Lost as I required you to do?

What will you say when I ask you if you promoted my Kingdom and not the denomination,

Determinations do not represent My Kingdom and have different values to it so by promoting denominations you are usually not serving Me or My purposes.

Time is short and there is not much time left to do My Work.

What will you say to me when I ask you to give an account of the life, I gave you and the ministry of calling the lost to repent and follow me?

Did you teach people to live in a personal relationship with Me so that they hear My Voice and do My Will.

What will you say because you denied me and my work if you deliberately did not do these things?

Jesus

# Warnings Ctd.

Jesus said to Neville:

Mar 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

### God also said:

Eze 33:6 But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand.

#### And:

Mat 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

Mat 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Mat 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

How many non-Christians know about the light you have and Glorify God because of what it has done for them?

God has warned people about Hell and told the church to go and warn them of this and so as a minister for Jesus this is part of your work. Do you do this?

So, when you face Jesus and He asks you what you did to spread the light of the Gospel and warn all those around you going to hell of their eternal fate, what will you say to Him?

And when He asks you what you did to encourage the people, He gave you to look after (disciple them) for Him to do His Will in this area. What will you say?

### **Should I be ministering to others?**

Questions to ask (God told me) are.

- 1. Can I preach deliverance to others when I cannot deliver my wife and son?
- 2. How can I lead (mentor) when my house is not in order?
- 3. How can I say I live the victorious Christian life when it is such a mess?
- 4. How can I preach healing when I am not healed?
- 5. Would I be a hypocrite if I preached what I was not able to live?
- 6. How can I write about marriage when I do not have one?
- 7. How can I write about things I am not living as I cannot live them?

#### The Good Minister

It is was Christmas day and the Minister and his family were having their Christmas lunch with all sorts of special food and other delicacies. The minister was happy as he had preached a good sermon and was complimented for it. Having done his Christmas Day duty, he was pleased with himself.

Soon after they too were open their Christmas presents and in great joy the children would play with them. No one would give a thought to what was happening outside of them or if any of the congregation were also having a good time as they were. No thought was given to the homeless, the hungry, those who could not have afforded Christmas presents, let alone a special Christmas lunch, as well as the lonely or those whom had any need.

After all he had done his duty and had met the needs of the congregation and his family as he saw their needs.

Jesus looked down and pondered how His love was expressed by that Minister and his family and how the Minister could be so self-centered to ignore the needs of those whom he had been sent too. After all he was to minister where Jesus said to and not just to the congregation.

He puzzled how the Minister, when he faced Jesus, would justify his Christmas dinner and enjoy it while so many around him were in need both in and out of his congregation.

After all, the love of Jesus was to be shown all and Jesus had said you have something you do not need but others could use it and you don't give it to them when I tell you how can you say My love is in you?

That Jesus went away pondering why so many ministers at Christmas ignore those around them who they could Minister to in some way that would show God's love to them, meet their need and give them the joy the Minister had at Christmas.

This attitude should really have been with the minister all year and not just at Christmas. How could the church have gotten the love of Jesus so wrong?

So, Jesus asks the minister and the congregation:

"Are you like this Minister all year except for special days or do you show my love all year. Do you and your congregation have this attitude or do you show my love to all around not just to the members in the congregation.

You are my disciples if you show love to one another and show The Father's love to those that are around you but not just those in the congregation.

By the way you expressed your love you will be judged and it will be determined whether you spend eternity with Me or in hell."

### **The Family Business**

The Lord Jesus said to Neville:

"You have been adopted by The Father in heaven.

You are part of His family as is every other Christian who has been adopted by The Father.

All these Christians, are in a sense, relatives to be treated as such.

All are equal before God.

You also must look after the interests of this family as dictated by The Father of it in heaven.

If you love Him as a family member then your purposes will be His purposes and all you do will be an expression of the love relationship you have with Him.

This means the Christian life is an expression of this family relationship serving the family and its needs and purposes.

The purpose of this family business is the reconciliation of everyone with The Father and Jesus by rescuing them from the enemy and training them how to live as The Father desires His family members to live.

As a member of His family these too should be your purposes.

So, are they your purposes?

Do you live as part of God's family or do you ignore this fact?

The true Christian will be doing their part, whatever God has told them it is, for the work of the family head which is The Father, once they realise the relationship, they are in. If they do not do the Will (Work) of The Father, they do not acknowledge Him as head of the family so do not belong to it or His Kingdom.

So, are you part of God's family doing the type of family work which God has asked you to do?

Not all are called to be evangelists but all are called to demonstrate the Authority of Jesus over Satan and to be able to tell all who desire to know what Jesus and The Father has done for them, is doing for them now and will do for them.

The Christian life is the expression of the love relationship you have with The Father, Jesus and other members of this family."

Jesus

#### In their midst

Matthew 18:20 in various translations:

(BBE) For where two or three are come together in my name, there am I among them.

(CEV) Whenever two or three of you come together in my name, I am there with you.

(ISV) because where two or three have come together in my name, I am there among them."

(TPT) For wherever two or three come together in honor of my name, I am right there The word 'midst' means a physical presence amongst them with them!"

So where two or more are gathered together for the purposes of Jesus and His Kingdom He says He is there amongst them.

Is a denominational or other church service done for the purposes of The Kingdom? Usually not.

So, when do people meet for the purposes of The Kingdom?

When they meet to do the work of The Kingdom or as a body praise, worship or give glory to Jesus

When churches praise, He is in their praises but that does not mean He is physically in their midst as He can be in their praises because He is mentioned as being the object of them.

So, when is Jesus in your midst physically or spiritually?

And do you remind the people of this when He is there?

Ask The Holy Spirit. He will tell you.

## Personal guidance of The Holy Spirit

The Bible states that we need to be guided by The Holy Spirit to be s child of God doing what He desires us to do.

Rom 8:14 (CEV) Only those people who are led by God's Spirit are his children.

And that He would personally teach us what we need to know:

Joh 16:13 (CEV) The Spirit shows what is true and will come and guide you into the full truth. The Spirit doesn't speak on his own. He will tell you only what he has heard from me, and he will let you know what is going to happen.

So, to say The Holy Spirit does not personally interact with us is to say The Bible has error which means you do Not know what parts you can trust as you do not know what else is in error.

Pastors do not teach their congregation how to hear The Holy Spirit which means The Holy

Spirit cannot guide them to do what God desires them to do as Man's reasonings fall far short of what God plans for us to do.

# The Holy Spirit authorizes and empowers you

The Holy Spirit authorizes and empowers each one of us personally to minister on behalf of Jesus and His Kingdom.

Act 1:8 but you will receive power, the Holy Spirit coming upon you, and you will be witnesses of Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

If He was not a personal Holy Spirit, He would not be able to do this. It would also be wrong of God to say that each of us would receive The Holy Spirit individually and He would work with each of us individually. It also means that if we are not listening to Him, we are not being empowered by Him to do the work of Jesus. Then who is helping us? It can only be man or the devil or a combination of both.

If we do not have the empowerment, guidance and gifts of The Holy Spirit it means God is asking us to do His work without the tools He and the apostles had available. He cannot be a God of Love then if He asks this of us.

The Holy Spirit shows us what God wants us to pray, do or command. This guidance is especially important in intercession, spiritual warfare, deliverance and prayer. Which will only be successful if they are done in accordance with The Will of God.

We are part of the family of God and only as we hear The Holy Spirit can we know what our family head desires us to do for Him.

### Why do we need to hear The Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is our guide in all spiritual things. He was sent by Jesus to lead us into all truth, all the truth we need to know to do what God wants us to do. The Holy Spirit:

Reveals God's Will to us

Reveals how to interpret The Bible

Reveals what you need to learn and How to make it a part of your life

Reveals how to apply the teaching He has given you

It will be at a level you can understand

Will be at a level you can achieve

The teaching will be personalized for you and not part of a general teaching like you get in a sermon

As The Holy Spirit lives in us He can speak to us directly and teach us these things. We do not need to go to another for help as all The Holy Spirit does will be at a level we can understand but we must be open to The Holy Spirit and want to hear His Guidance and Instruction.

### **How to Hear he Holy Spirit**

This chapter gives guidance about hearing The Holy Spirit

We are told that to live the Christian life we need to be guided by The Holy Spirit.

Joh 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

Rom 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

So, it is important to be able to hear The Holy Spirit clearly whenever He speaks to you as He is your guide to live as Jesus desires you to live and to fight Satan in the way Jesus desires you to fight Satan. Remember that to be an adopted child of The Father you need to be guided by The Holy Spirit (Rom 8:14).

### **Preparatory Prayer**

Lord, I want to hear The Holy Spirit correctly so I can do Your Will and be guided to be your follower and live as an adopted child of The Father. I give this desire to you and am sorry for anything I have done wrong in this area or associated areas of hearing The Holy Spirit.

In Jesus' Name I command any demons that are blocking me from hearing and understanding the truths and guidance that The Father, Jesus and The Holy Spirit desires me to hear and understand, to go immediately in The Name of Jesus to The Throne of Judgment to be dealt with by Jesus and take with them all they have done to me.

I ask You, Holy Spirit, to take their place and fill my soul so they cannot come back in.

### **How You Hear Him**

Unless The Holy Spirit or Satan actually appear to you, they can only talk to you in your mind. When they are communicating with you it is as if they are your own thoughts or that you are talking to yourself. People often mistake this for a disorder as if there are apparently two personalities in them when demons are speaking audibly or placing thoughts in their mind. Also, when The Holy Spirit is speaking or placing thoughts in their mind, they usually think it is their own thoughts. So, you need to know who is interacting with you.

They both communicate through: thoughts, dreams, day dreams, emotions, sensations, feelings and similar.

You can actually hold a conversation with the Holy Spirit or the demons representing Satan and ask them questions and they will answer. Only answers from The Holy Spirit are 100% truthful. Demons will answer in a way that furthers their purposes for you.

You will need to silence your mind. You may have trouble hearing Him (The Holy Spirit) especially if you are in a place full of distractions or in a place where Satan rules. Remember, The Holy Spirit, has a still, small (quiet) voice.

He will place an impression, picture, or thought in your mind, give you an emotion or feeling, or even speak to you in an audible voice. You will know it is from Him as it will not cause you to fear. He may speak in other ways than these, but these are the normal ways. You may feel a check in your spirit which is a 'No'. If He does not answer it is also a 'No', so you ask Him the reason why He said 'No' as He may tell you and you may find out more by this than by the answer you wanted.

If He gives you an answer it will line up with The Bible, and you will have peace in your heart over it. Remember, God will not contradict His Bible.

Satan will try to cause you doubt about what you are hearing then cause you to reason that it is wrong or impossible so that you believe you are not hearing correctly. Satan will also at times place fear or other wrong emotions or feelings in you to cause you to doubt God's Love, Control, Plans or Purposes for you. Satan does this to take away your trust in God and His Love for you, your Joy in Him as well as rewards and the things God has for you.

Satan will also try to have you misinterpret or misapply The Bible in a way that suits his purposes. At times Satan will block you hearing The Holy Spirit so you need to cast him out and stop him doing this and ask the Holy Spirit again what you desired to know. If you do not hear from The Holy Spirit, ask the following:

Are you in a place in which Satan rules so that the spiritual atmosphere is blocking The Holy Spirit?

Are you in sin (especially unforgiveness) and do you need to deal with it using the five steps?

Are you to ask this particular question of The Holy Spirit? If you do not get an answer, it may not be the time to ask It may not be the time to receive the answer It may not be an appropriate question to ask. So, ask Him why He did not answer and this may be more important than the actual answer to the question you asked Him.

Jesus may not want you to have the answer so Satan will not know what Jesus is going to do and try to stop it or replace it with his version of what you are to do:

Are you to command demons to leave in Jesus' Name that are blocking you from hearing the Holy Spirit?

Do you really want to hear the answer?

Are you seriously listening or just going through the motions of listening?

You do not really need to know what God is doing as God will always do His best for you if you seek to know Him better and to do His Will. As long as you obey what you know He asks you to do, you will be on the path He has prepared from before creation on which are all the things, He needs you to do as well as all the promises and blessings He has given you (Matt 6:33, Eph 2:10).

A danger is to desire something so much you do not hear God's answer but one Satan is able to give because it is the one you want to accept. This is why it is good to have another witness like the Bible recommends whenever you have an answer or prophecy from The Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is your Companion in this life, so it is necessary to be in continual communication with Him as He helps you to navigate the traps of Satan and do the Will of God.

It is hard to be a child of The Father if you do not know what He desires you to do and The Holy Spirit has been given so you can hear what The Father desires you to do so you need to be able to clearly hear Him.

### The hindrance of denominations to Christianity

#### Part A

Unity of the spirit in the bond of peace' is what is expected of The Body of Christ but it is not happening.

Denominations divide the body and in the way they compete with each other because they believe they alone have all the truth so they divide The Kingdom of God in accordance with the plans Satan made in creating denominations.

Denominations were not made by God but by man unknowingly under the guidance of Satan who knew the damage they would eventually make to the unity of The Body. They are not mentioned in the New Testament and the first ones arose as heretical sects.

The early Christians gathered in local assemblies that were ruled by The Holy Spirit and not a centralized legal entity like a denomination. When denominations came into existence, they imposed their rules on the church and by this limited what The Holy Spirit could do in a Christian assembly.

### How is this dividing shown?

Rich churches do not help poor churches even in their own denominations

Denominations do not socialize with other churches very often and rarely fellowship with other churches and then it is usually considered a special event when it should be an everyday occurrence.

They do not do the work of The Kingdom as it should be done because Satan has managed to stop denominations working with each other so they do not promote The Kingdom but the denomination and the members have little idea about what they are to do as citizens of The Kingdom of God. They are taught to support the denomination and not The Kingdom of God.

When you become a Christian, you are invited to join the denomination and not The Kingdom of God.

Members of the congregations pay others to do the work they should be doing because they are not qualified by the denomination and few really know the gospel to be able to explain it to others yet that is one of the primary things required of a Christian.

They do not share with people the eternal life relationship Jesus offers people and so these people go to hell.

They also do not use the authority delegated to them by Jesus and by using this this show that Jesus and His Kingdom are real.

How can a denomination say that it has the 'Love of God' when it does not tell others about God's Love, heaven and what Jesus has done for them, is doing for them and will do for them and how to avoid going to hell to those in need around them?

It is hypocrisy to say they have God's Love and sing about it then do little to show it to the lost and hurting world around them.

When a person becomes a member of a church, He is welcomed into it and the denomination it belongs too. The Kingdom God is not mentioned yet that is what they really become when they become a true follower of Jesus.

They are taught the authority of the minister and denomination but not the Authority of Jesus

and His Kingdom in its truest and fullest sense.

#### Note:

Satan trained many modern theologians well. He does not have to have them teach error.

All he has to do is:

Cause people to doubt their faith and who God is

Doubt God's personal Love for each of them

Not realise salvation is an intimate, personal relationship with each member of The Trinity and not just an activity

Have ministers not preach about certain subjects but hide them or make them appear not necessary, such as:

Deliverance

Spiritual Warfare

Evangelism, a task every Christian should be able to do

Our intimate relationship with each member of The Trinity

Hell

Satan, his purposes and how to defeat Him

How to deliver people from the damage he has done to them

Prophecy

Spiritual gifts

How to demonstrate that Jesus and The Kingdom of God are real.

A more cunning stratagem of his is to teach about these things but only superficially so people never really do them as God desires them to be done or to have the need for people to be qualified by the denomination to able to do certain things.

### Part B

### What is not usually done by the denominational church

They do not demonstrate the authority and power of Jesus over His enemy

They do not destroy the works of the enemy, Satan

They do not publicly stand up for the values and purposes of the Kingdom of God

They do not worship in public

They do not take ground from the kingdom of the enemy so that the enemy takes ground from The Kingdom of God

They have given Satan the earth and all on it rather than fight Satan and increase the influence of the Kingdom of God on the earth, recapturing that which rightfully belongs to Jesus.

They tolerate the sins that resulted in so many dying in Israel and Judah and eventually resulted in the people being removed from the land!

They do not teach the true cost of what Jesus did on Calvary!

They do not teach personal holiness and sanctification and become compromised by the world!

Their worship has become fleshly and self-centered, no longer being led by The Holy Spirit but by denominational requirements

They enjoy the chief places at the feasts and the importance of having large churches.

Numbers and prosperity are more important that humility or holiness!

They do not use God's weapons of warfare and so are easy prey for His enemy!

They do not protect the people in the congregation adequately because they use their own weapons and defences and not God's!

They do not fulfil God's requirements for true religion... the loving of their neighbour as God loves them! Helping the widow, orphan the sick and the needy! And they pay others to do it for them through their giving to the denomination.

They do not grieve in their heart over the lost and the fallen in the church! They do not weep over them as Jesus does!

They are too busy building "organisations" and using the latest "approved" method to listen to The Holy Spirit's Leading!

They spent money on buildings and personal "junkets" and "necessary" luxuries, rather than on the lost and needy around them. Many of the ministers also have a lifestyle better than the people they are supposed to Love as themselves!

They are too busy playing "important pastor" of "prominent church" to develop intimacy with Jesus. Their activity on His "behalf" are no replacement for a vital, close, relationship with Him! Jesus has shown people who have gone to heaven that these pastors, if they make it to heaven, have little or no reward, having received their rewards on earth for the fleshly pursuits they chased. The rewards in heaven are for spiritual accomplishments and not fleshly ones.

They do not develop the gifts of the people under their authority or disciple them!

Unless they are "trained" or "officially" approved, people cannot minister in "their" church!

They condemn many to consider themselves inadequate for God's service because of this!

They do not teach "their" people to minister to those outside the church, but only "trained" people are allowed to minister "officially" in or outside the church and not allowed to minister in other denominations until approved by that denomination. This is one way Satan limits ministry.

They do not teach people what God's Love is so they can show it to those living around them, and by this, win many to Jesus!

They do not properly disciple new followers of Jesus but process them, so many do not mature, or fall away. Those that remain are churchified and fit in to what is required of them by the church and denomination.

They reject God's prophets who are calling them to repentance but listen to those who "tickle" their ears with prosperity and ease!

They do not learn or teach how to share in God's fellowship of suffering or teach others what it means!

They do not carry out the commission in Is 61:1-3, Math.28:18-20, or show they believe in who Jesus is Mark 16:17-18 or teach "their" church to do so!

They do not use God's gifts, or delegated authority, properly... but use them to build numbers... not heal or deliver people then train them and send them forth to a lost and hurting world!

### Part C

### Nine things that are wrong with Christianity

When the Kingdom of God is not demonstrated then Christianity is no different to any other religion or moral lifestyle.

When the Christians stopped meeting in public places and used special buildings, they became a closed society and no longer informally met people in the public places to discuss the Christian faith like the early church did.

When they stopped hearing The Holy Spirit or believed He was not personal or could be heard by people, they became like any other religion and had to use man's way of doing things.

When they stopped laying up treasure in heaven, they laid up treasure on earth and grew wealthy and worldly.

When they stopped showing God's Love and Mercy to people, they had to find a new direction and purpose for being a church and justifying their existence. Man's ways of doing things became the churches way of doing things so it grew less and less like The Kingdom of God and more like the world.

When they lost their personal relationship with God, they lost their identity of whom they were.

When they gave authority to a person (pastor apostle etc.), they placed themselves under man and not God and lost direction and purpose being guided and driven by man and their processes rather than God (Nicolaitan system).

When they paid others, who were "certified and trained" to do their social work and evangelism they lost their purpose for being a Christian.

When they became insular and self-orientated promoting their own church or denomination, they lost their focus on The unity of The Kingdom, their purpose in the world and God's heart for it.

### How to stifle a church

Do not make God a personal God

Do not make Him relevant for daily living - only for special occasions such as Easter and Christmas

Do not make His miracles or His Gifts to be for today, but only for the time of Jesus

Do not believe or teach the personal guidance and power of the Holy Spirit

Do not make The Words of The Bible more important than reason, tradition or denominational rules

Do not make the work of God personal - use agencies for charity and evangelism and not church members

Do not use the delegated authority Jesus has given you so that people will not see Jesus and His Kingdom is real.

#### Part D

### What is not preached

Satan, Hell and God's Judgment: We are not told what we are saved from so that salvation does not become imperative. Restoration and deliverance do not mean anything as there is nothing to be delivered from. We do not realize our potential as we are not told we need to be delivered from the effects of the fall on the 'flesh'.

The Victory we have over demons and temptation, won by Jesus at Calvary or even the fact they attack us.

The rewards of the Kingdom of Heaven: so, we do not know how much better they are so that we do not realize that the pleasures of earth are not worth holding onto because they pale in comparison to what is going to be given to us in heaven. It is the rewards in heaven, that make suffering worthwhile. If there were no rewards there would be no reason to suffer. The true Christian does not suffer for reward but out of love for Jesus.

The Love of God expressed towards us: so, we don't know how special we are to God or what He does for us each moment of the day. We are not taught the extent of God's Love towards us!

Salvation as a personal relationship: so, God becomes impersonal to us and the depth and quality of the relationship with Him is not realized. Thus, we do not serve Him out of love but of necessity for the purposes of self-esteem or avoiding going to hell.

The Grace of God is not taught. How much God gives us and gently deals with us out of no benefit to Him. That it is God's unmerited favour towards us.

Who Jesus is and what He gave up for us: so, we don't appreciate His Love for us and what He gave up to help us. Thus, we do not realize any sacrifice we make pales in significance when compared to what He gave up for us!

What it means to be a citizen of God's Kingdom: so, we do not realize what it means to be a citizen of God's Kingdom and all it requires of us and as well as the rewards offered toward us for service in this kingdom!

That we are part of the family of The Father with all the benefits and relationships of that spiritual family.

The gifts of The Holy Spirit and the delegated authority of Jesus so that the church is sick, without power and has nothing spiritual of The Kingdom with which to do the work of Jesus.

The second coming and the return of Jesus when all will be restored on earth and things will be as they should have been.

The complete work of Jesus at Calvary so that people are emotionally crippled by guilt,

shame and condemnation instead of being released from these.

The roles The Father, The Holy Spirit and Jesus have in the life of believer so people do not relate or approach them as they should.

### Part E

### Does it Matter?

Does it matter how good your theology is if there is one person going to hell because of it?

Does it matter how wealthy and prosperous your church is if there is one person who is hungry that you are able to help but do not help?

Does it matter how good your facilities are if there is a child sleeping in the streets you can help?

Does it matter that the needs of the congregation are met but the wounded spirit and the broken hearted outside the church are ignored?

Does it matter how well your church is run if those outside it are not ministered to as they need it?

Does it matter?

Will it matter when you face Jesus?

### Glossary

#### **Definitions**

**Christian:** A follower of Jesus and citizen of The kingdom of God

The Body of Christ: The citizens of the Kingdom of God on earth and in heaven

**Assembly:** Christians gathered together for worship or other purposes of The Kingdom. Also called a fellowship.

**Congregation:** A group of people that meet in a church or similar building that may include non-Christian or lukewarm Christians.

**Denomination:** a collection of congregations which segregate their congregations from congregations of other denominations and by this divide The Body of Christ. There is only one true denomination and that is The Body of Christ. All others are manmade for the purposes of man as a result of the reasonings of man. Jesus does not recognise denominations. He only recognises The Body (of His followers).

**Independent Church:** A church that does not belong to a denomination or similar. These form associations of independent churches and negate their name and purpose for being independent from a denomination through doing this.

**Social Gathering**: A group of Christians who are gathered together for purposes other than those of The Kingdom of God.

## **Organisation**

In heaven there are:

No Denominations

No Churches

No Clergy

No Church Organizations

And as heaven is model for how things are in The Kingdom of God why are they on earth where Satan rules and not in heaven where God rules?

#

### The Purpose of the Church

The true church is the body of believers who are citizens of The Kingdom of God. The denomination is a manmade organization for the purposes of beliefs or practices that is not in the early Church which they believe should be part of the true church. So, while they may have the correct doctrine, they believe the true church is not doing the correct thing in an area. So, they look down on churches that do not have their additional beliefs or practices. And so, the new denomination believes the original one is not doing something it should in an area and the cycle continues.

This leads to the absurdity that the last denomination formed is believed by its members to be the true Christian church even though it is far removed at times in doctrine and/or practice from what Jesus taught the early church.

The church is the representative of God on Earth and everything it does is towards this purpose of telling other what God desires them to know, helping them understand it and live the life they need too. The denomination may use worldly things to do this but they are only vehicles and not an end in themselves.

The true church does not promote the denomination, people or activities but Jesus and His teaching.

It demonstrates what it means to be a Citizen of The Kingdom of God and shows God's quality of love in all it does.

If Jesus and his purposes are not Central to all they do then the church is not a Christian church but a look alike the give the impression of one but does not do the work of one

The purpose of the true Christian church is to:

Evangelise – proclaim who Jesus is and what He has done for them

Discipling:

Nurturing people in their Christian life

Training them to do the work of Jesus

Demonstrating that Jesus and The Kingdom of God are real by their authority over Satan and Nature.

Living the Christian life to show it is worthwhile living.

Any church not doing these things is not a Christian church as it is not following Jesus as it should unless it does not know how to because the members have not been taught these things.

Having said that, God judges you on what you do with what you know and not on what you are supposed to know as He looks at the heart attitude towards Him and not its results.

#

### Denominationalism and unity

- 1. Denominations are not in The Bible or authorized by Jesus
- 2. Everyone in a denomination is a spiritual step-brother or step-sister to people in all other Christian denominations, but this is not promoted in the denomination which looks only at its members.
- 3. The true church is the assembly of Christians gathered together for the purposes of The Kingdom of God (evangelism, deliverance, healing). Denominations do not gather for these purposes usually.
- 4. Denominations divide the Body and hide the true Kingdom of God.
- 5. Denomination do not share their giftings and assets with other denominations so show they are not part of the true church which shares all it has to help other members.
- 6. Satan knew that dividing the church into denominations would make Christianity less effective.

- 7. Denominations use Knowledge and learning as a criterion for advancement. They promote man and not the relationship a person has with Jesus. The Kingdom has no advancement by earthly means but rewards are spiritual, even if it is only a closer relationship with Jesus.
- 8. The denominations measure success by numbers and the size of its churches and learning institutions. The Kingdom does not measure success as it leaves it to Jesus but seeks only to bring people into the Kingdom of God and looks for rewards in heaven and not on earth like the denomination does.
- 9. The denomination promotes itself and Christianity. The true church promotes Jesus and The Kingdom of God.
- 10. When you become a follower of Christ you become a citizen of The Kingdom of God. Instead, they ask you to join the denomination,
- 11. Churches do not disciple their members. They only teach them and replace personal help with public bible study and sermons.
- 12. The church does not encourage its members to do the work of The Kingdom but has the congregation pay denominationally 'approved' people to minister.

Revival occurs when the denomination is no longer important but all gather as an assembly of The Kingdom guided by The Holy Spirit.

#

2

# **Hypocrisy in the Church**

### hypocrisy hĭ-pŏk'rĭ-sē

- n. The practice of professing beliefs, feelings, or virtues that one does not hold or possess; falseness.
- n. An act or instance of such falseness.
- n. Dissimulation of one's real character or belief; especially, a false assumption of piety or virtue; a feigning to be better than one is; the action or character of a hypocrite.

### Is a Christian a hypocrite?

Who say they follow Jesus but do not warn others about hell and how to avoid going there when they have the chance to do so?

Or preach The Kingdom and what God has done for them to be able to be its Citizen as well as what happens when you are a Citizen of it?

Or if they do not tell others of His Love for them and what He has done for them as a

result of it?

These were a major part of the teachings of Jesus.

His last words when summarised point to that as being very important.

This is what Jesus preached:

Mat 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

### A Summary of the last commands of Jesus are as follows:

"All power (authority) is given unto me in heaven and in earth:

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations,

Baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you

And preach repentance and remission of sins in My name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; But he that believeth not shall be damned.

And these signs shall follow them that believe;

(In otherwords, if you believe in who Jesus is, you will do the following as a natural part of your life.)

Jesus said you would In His Name that you would cast out devils;

You will speak with new tongues;

You will take up serpents;

And if you drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them;

You shall lay hands on the sick, and they will recover

And His promise is

And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

Jesus said that if we loved Him, we would do these things and serve Him by doing these things. So, if you know how to do these things and He gives you the chance to do them for Him and you are not doing them you need to find out why and deal with it so that when you face Jesus and are judged for your life you will be declared by Him to be a good and faithful servant of His and not a hypocrite, which means you do not enter heaven.

It also means you are not a follower of Him and so are not really a Christian!

Every Christian who says they follow Christ, who knows about these commands and does not do them is a hypocrite if they are given a chance by Jesus to do them and do not do them.

Jesus will never ask you to do more than you are able to so you will really have no excuse for not trying to do them.

The above actions will be observable in the life of a follower of Jesus as an expression of God's quality of Love in them working through them to others trying to guide them away from hell to heaven. They are only expected to be expressed according to the degree you know how to express them.

Do you grieve over your relatives going to hell and what will happen to them?

Do you cry to God for their salvation?

Does the fate of lost souls drive your purposes and actions?

Many Christians are hypocrites saying they follow Jesus but ignore what His mission was:

To tell people about how to live to avoid going to hell

That Jesus died and redeemed them so they could approach The Father and have a continuous, intimate, personal relationship with Him.

When they have a chance to tell people of these things, they do not even think about it because it is of so little importance to them.

My fear is going to heaven and being told by Jesus I did not do enough to help people avoid going to hell.

The same applies to the matters mentioned below.

# The New command He gave was to Love others in the same way He loves you!

It was this Love that drove Him to help the sinner, the widow and orphan, to associate with those the 'elites' do not socialize with and to help the poor and the needy and those that needed support in their life.

The church pays people to do this for them and so they do not do what Jesus desires them to do so its members do not show His Love to others or His Authority over Satan and Nature and by showing this Authority prove He and His Kingdom are real and that His and their enemy is Satan, who also is real.

Jesus is your spiritual step brother whom you should love which means you do these things because you love Him and want to help Him expand His Kingdom and do not do this out of fear of punishment.

If you love Him, you will do these things as an expression of your love for Him.

If you do not love Jesus sufficiently to do these things you do not have the salvation relationship needed to get to heaven because you do not love Him like the Spiritual stepbrother and family member He is.

If you do not know how to do these things then you have the responsibility to learn how to do them otherwise you do not love Him.

He asks you to do out of His Love for Him.

#

### **Hypocrisy in the Church Part 2**

People sing 'we are a people of power' but do not use the name of Jesus to fight Satan or heal people and demonstrate the Authority of Jesus and that He and His Kingdom are real!

They sing. 'I love to tell the story of unseen things above' and their neighbours do not even know they are Christians or hear about heaven and hell!

They sing: I will follow Jesus" then go home and do not ask Him what He desires them to do but just do what they would normally do.

You may have not sung the above but you have sung many times saying you will do something then gone home and ignored what you sang or have done something when you have not!

Mat 12:36 But I say unto you, That every idle word those men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

Mat 12:37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

You will have to give and account of these lies to Jesus when you face Him.

They are hypocrites and a hypocrite will not go to heaven.

The above would also apply to promises made to Jesus like saying He is Lord and that you will do what He asks then not doing it.

People go to church supposedly to worship Jesus but do not bother to acknowledge His presence or even talk to Him.

They go to learn about Jesus but do not develop the relationship they are supposed to have with Him so do not go to spend time with Him.

They say they are Christians but represent the denomination and not the Kingdom of God. In fact, many have no Idea what it means to be a citizen of the Kingdom of God.

They say Jesus is their Lord but do not do what He commanded them to do paying others to do it for them - and the denomination encourages this by its structure and requirements for service.

They do not obey His command to love others as He Loves them and do not even love members of their own congregation so that many go poor or suffer hardship and the people in the church, they belong to do not even know that others have problems or as if people need help in any way and do not even care sufficiently to find out.

#

### **Hypocrisy Conclusion**

All this hypocrisy happen in the church and ministers do not recognize and actually lead it in many ways.

They do it unknowingly having been trained to enjoy singing these songs in their youth or by the denomination they joined.

Hod can God bless a church where people do not do what they declare they have done or will do for Him.

They are not doing the activity for God to be able to bless them for doing it.

It is not a sin as they do not realise they are being hypocrites in their worship. But once they

realise this then they will be sinning because they will be lying to God.

#

#### The Lost Vision

Satan played a master-stroke on the church. He did not remove things but gradually altered them or managed to make the church believe they were no longer relevant.

He hid his demons and hell so that they were no longer preached and through the media promoted that there were good and bad demons and that they could reform and be good.

He brought in new age cartoons so that the reality of heaven, hell, angels and demons was hidden from children

He hid the heart of God for the lost

He hid the Great Commission by watering it down so that people do not think much about it and had only qualified people preach in public so that most people in the congregations do not give it a thought as they have people to preach it on their behalf.

By having qualified people do the work of God most Christians do not think about it or even desire to do it or think they cannot as they are not qualified by a denomination.

He made preaching not teach the gospels properly so that most people do not really understand what they believe.

He hid that salvation was an intimate, personal, relationship and not just obedience. The demons obey Jesus but they do not have salvation because they have no intimate relationship with God.

He hid the fact that we serve out of love and not compulsion to avoid hell. Because we are the family of God we serve out of love for our Father and step brother.

He hid the delegated authority Jesus gave the church so that it did not demonstrate it and show Jesus and The Kingdom were real as were an evil Satan, his demons and his kingdom on earth.

#### What is needed to counteract this:

People need to have a vision of the heart of God for the lost

They need to realise they belong to God's family who work is rescuing people from Satan's kingdom and training them to be a disciple for The Father and Jesus.

The fate in hell of the lost and the attacks of demons needs to be preached as well as how to fight them, which even most preachers do not really know or even think it is necessary.

They need to be able to be able to recognize the work of Satan against them as he seeks to destroy them, The Kingdom of God and its citizens, needs to be preached as is Satan's strategies and how to defeat them as well as how to handle his attacks on them.

That they need to be doing the work of The Father and not pay others to do it for

them. They only need to do what they understand and not what others say they should be doing.

The realization they will have to face God and give an answer for how they dealt with these things needs to be taught.

The need to show the delegated authority of Jesus over demons and Nature and by this evidence the reality that Jesus, The Kingdom of God and that Satan and his demons are real as is the war we are in against Satan.

They need to show that Christianity is an intimate relationship with a real God who is personally interested in them.

Pro 29:18 Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

The church has lost its vision of what Christianity is all about and so the church is a shadow of what it should be.

The church needs to recapture its vision for the lost and the heart of Jesus if it is to be restored.

While revival will restore a church, until it has the vision that God desires it to have it will not be doing His work.

Heb 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

Rom 14:12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

There is no escaping this and ministers will be called to account by God for how they prepared their congregation for this time of judgment.

#

#### **And Denominations Church – The Lost Vision**

Pro 29:18 Where there is no vision, the people perish...

The church has lost its vision of:

Whom The Father, The Lord Jesus and The Holy Spirit are

What role each of them plays

The relationship they have with each of the above.

Adopted child of The Father

Jesus is their stepbrother

Relationship to Jesus as their Lord because they are a citizen of His Kingdom

The Holy Spirit guides like a wise uncle

They also need to have a true understanding of:

Why God made them

How The Gospel really is God's Plan for them

What He has done for this for it to be a part of their life.

The purpose of it in their life (prepare them for heaven)

They need to understand what:

Faith

Lordship

Holiness

Stewardship

Really are and their relationship to each other.

As well as how to express these in God's quality of Love!

The Christian life is a correct expression of your relationship with God which will evidence all of the above correctly.

# The Progression

Faith is a belief in something we cannot see but obtain from external evidence such as The Bible and our life experience which is why we need to study The Bible to increase our faith and learn from our life experiences.

The Bible tells us who God is, what He has done for us as and will do for us as well as His now and after our death and of His desire to have a personal, intimate relationship with each one of us.

As a result of seeing who God is we make Him our Lord

Holiness maintains our relationship with each member of The Trinity and keeps Jesus Lord of our life

Because they are our God we look after what they give us to look after on their behalf (stewardship).

It must all be done with the same quality of Love God has for us which we follow because of our love for Him.

When these are in place the Christian life then becomes a witness to all of these things as well as an expression of the love relationship we have with The Father, Jesus and The Holy Spirit.

# We need to show Jesus and His kingdom are real.

The early church was visible because of two things:

The application of the delegated authority Jesus gave to show He and His Kingdom were real

His quality of love expressed in all we do which is so different to the love that the world offers.

### **Every Christian should be able to:**

Evangelize – telling others about God's love for them and what He has done for them and will do for them now and after death

Spiritual warfare – fighting Satan and his plans and delivering people from what He

has done and is doing to them - deliverance ministry

Stewardship – looking after everything God has given you to be a steward of and using it properly for His Kingdom.

Demonstrating God's Quality of Love in all you do.

Try wholeheartedly to do these things and you will be a good citizen of The Kingdom of God.

Remember, God does not look at your results but at your heart attitude as you do these things.

In the eyes of the world, it the result may be failure but if it is done wholeheartedly to Jesus, He considers it a success.

#

# **Christian Writing and ministry**

Why did God, write the Bible?

God said in 2 Timothy 3:16

(BBE) Every holy Writing which comes from God is of profit for teaching, for training, for guiding, for education in righteousness

(ERV) All Scripture is given by God. And all Scripture is useful for teaching and for showing people what is wrong in their lives. It is useful for correcting faults and teaching the right way to live.

(KJV) All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

# Why?

(BBE) So that the man of God may be complete, trained and made ready for every good work.

(BBE) So that the man of God may be complete, trained and made ready for every good work.

(KJV-BRG) That the man of God may be perfect (mature), throughly furnished unto all good works.

This should be out purpose in writing, ministry and prophecy – the helping of Christians become more God-like and also draw closer to God in the intimate, interpersonal relationship they have with Him.

No one in the Bible was paid to write or prophesy. or did this for gain or recognition. They were more concerned with what God told them to write and realized the honour they had been given by God to write for Him and tell others about what He had given them to write or prophecy.

God had given it to them freely (at no cost to them) so they did not charge for telling others about what God had shown them.

When you write or prophesy, God is asking you to do it to tell others what He desires them to know and it is an honour and a privilege.

In a sense, you are on holy ground and it should be approached that way.

Do not ask for money or for anything else. You are charging for what God has freely given you and show you do not believe Matt 6:33.

Royalties or payments or other benefits may result but you should you not write for these purposes or you might end up like the servant of Namaan (2 Kings 5) who wanted to profit from what God gave for free.

Making money or obtaining other benefits is not necessary because we write or prophecy out of love for our spiritual step-brother, Jesus, to promote Him, whom we love, and his purposes. The relationship we have with Him is reward enough to write or prophecy for Him.

Telling others what God says is a gift and a privilege and should be approached as such. The God of this universe has chosen you to represent Him in some way! We should feel humbled for having been chosen and should joy and delight in the relationship with Jesus that has allowed this to happen.

So, examine your purpose for writing as God will determine your rewards by this. If you write for earthly rewards or gain then you have your reward on earth. If you write out of love without a desire for gain or reward then great will be your rewards in heaven.

Also, whenever you write or prophecy, if they see you instead of Jesus you have failed.

#### Note:

The labourer is worthy of His pay so a fee for services is acceptable but the service must be out of Love for the people and not just because you are after the money or an employee of the church or it is not employment as God would like it done.

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# **Tests of Doctrine and practice**

### **Definition of what Doctrine is**

You need to define what a doctrine is before you can identify whether or not what you are testing is a doctrine and whether or not it is compulsory to obey.

A doctrine is a belief that is fundamental to your life style which you believe in and live by.

Biblical Doctrine are statements that God has made that you must believe in and live by. In a sense they are like laws. Obey them or suffer the consequences.

How important is Christian Doctrine?

Christian Doctrine are the basic beliefs of the Christian

This talk discusses how to determine if something is a doctrine and whether it is a Christian or denominational doctrine. The tests can also be used to determine if a practice is Christian or not so that it can be determined if it should be used in churches or other Christian organisations.

The Christian doctrines must be obeyed. Those of the denomination are not necessary to be obeyed except for the purposes of the denomination.

### The tests

Is it in The Bible?

**If Yes:** Then it must obey or agree with what The Bible says it is or it is error and possibly heretical.

**If No:** Then it must pass all of the following tests. It cannot be doctrine or enforceable on anyone but may be a denominational or church requirement if it does not fail any of the following tests.

The following tests are used when the belief or practice is not mentioned in The Bible

Does the Bible infer it is allowable? If it infers it is allowable you still cannot make doctrine about it but only say it is a possibility and even then, it must pass all the other tests below.

Does it express God's Quality of Love and build up a person spiritually

Does it give God's Glory to another? God said He will not give His Glory to another.

Does it promote The Father, The Holy Spirit, Jesus or His Kingdom or someone or something else?

Does it make something into an idol?

Is it good stewardship?

Other sources that may help:

What does the Old Testament say about it or its practice?

What do the early church documents say about it or its practice?

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