

## **A PASTOR'S JOB**

### **MISUNDERSTANDING THE OFFICE OF A BISHOP**

*"This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop,  
he desireth a good work.*

~ 1 Timothy 3:1

#### **1. Misunderstanding a Pastor's Job**

- a. Most are not pastors. This lesson is not directed toward pastors, but every member.
- b. You should know if the job is being done, or if you are being duped.
- c. Ministry is so confused that a pastor's real job has been lost.
  - i. A pastor's job is not to do ministry for you, the sole "man of God".
  - ii. It is not to be Christ to you, your Lord/Head, your source of truth, love, wisdom.
  - iii. It is not to divine God's will for you, tell you what to do, to have all the answers.
  - iv. It is not to be super saint, hearing every sin, solving every problem.

#### **2. The Office of a Bishop**

- a. 1 Tim 3:1 is not about titles: bishop, overseer, guide, ruler, pastor (pasture, shepherd)
  - i. All ought to grow to elder, but this office must be desired b/c it is undesirable.
  - ii. This office is not being "in charge" or giving orders (e.g. roads, lines, guards)
  - iii. Not doing ministry, but makes growth and ministry easier (w/o obstruction)
- b. 1 Tim 3:4-5 - A major qualification for this office is (a husband/father's job ∴ man)
  - i. 1 Tim 4:1-6 – Some depart, he reminds/warns you of danger, error, trouble.
  - ii. A superintendent/overseer is added responsibility to common work of ministry
  - iii. Anyone can do this, but he desires to take responsibility (lifeguard, babysitter)
- c. They fail by not giving understanding to avoid wandering - Jer 3:15, 10:21
- d. Many people want to be the pastor, but nobody wants to do hard work – Acts 20:28-35

#### **3. Strong Character, Dirty Work**

- a. Titus 1:5-8 - Most attention on the character traits, but not the dirty work involved.
- b. Titus 1:9-13 - Hold fast, able to exhort and convince gainsayers, stop mouths, rebuke.
- c. 2 Tim 2:1-6 – The work requires strength, hardness, war, husbandry (farming)
- d. It takes character/desire to pull weeds after work, shoot the wolf, put self in harms way
  - i. (Not all responsibility and public exposure is good: you get attacked first)
- e. 2 Tim 4:2-5 – If a pastor is not heeding/doing this, he is not doing his job.
  - i. When you see a doctrinal cockroach, a pastor's job is to stomp it out.
  - ii. When a bunch of rats encroaching the house of God, he must remove them.
  - iii. When the spider spins his deceptive web, he must destroy the web.
  - iv. In weddings, the officiant defended the bride against unlawful forced marriages.

#### **4. A Husband and Father's Responsibility**

- a. The husband's duty requires filtering the filth - Eph 5:25-28
  - i. (Do you know how hard it is to get water? Clean water? Many don't have it.)
  - ii. A good barrier to filth is one that endures filth, and maintains integrity.
- b. A father's responsibility to exhort, comfort (strengthen), and charge - 1 Thess 2:11
  - i. Not many who will do the job of a father to others – 1 Cor 4:11-16, Phi 3:17
- c. If you're not being warned, exhorted, given courage to stand against error, he is failing.
- d. If errors are not being identified, corrected, removed, your pastor is failing.

## **5. The Last Man Standing**

- a. Not the main ministry, but the first and last line of defense of the gospel – Phi 1:7
- b. This is why a church can exist without this office, if the members are faithful – Phi 1:28
- c. If members are not faithful, they need one who will stand for truth when they flee.
- d. If the church/ministry is failing – who will be the last man standing?
- e. What will they stand for? They better be willing to sacrifice it all for the truth in others.