

## Church Government

### 1. Five-Fold Ministry.

A. Apostle B. Prophet C. Evangelist D. Pastor E. Teacher 2. *Deacons* 3. *Elders* 4. *Bishops*

#### #1 Deacons

The word "*deacon*" is from the Greek word which means, " \_\_\_\_\_, *or table-waiter.*" They were chosen from \_\_\_\_\_ *the people* and designated as "*Super-servers*" amongst their peers.

**Def: Deacon-** NT:1247 *diakoneo* (dee-ak-on-eh'-o); from NT:1249; *to be an attendant*, i.e. *wait upon* (ad-) minister (unto), serve,

**1 Tim 3:10** *And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.*

**1 Tim 3:13** *For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

**\*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 ...\*ministration. ... (Greek word for deaconing or serving) **Def: \*ministration** NT:1248 *diakonia* (dee-ak-on-ee'-ah) attendance (as a *servant*, etc.); (ad-) *minister* office, *relief, service* (-ing) **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....* (Greek word for *deaconing*) **3** Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of (1) honest report, (2) full of the Holy Ghost and (3) wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. **4** But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the.... **\*ministry** of the word... (Greek word for *deaconing*) **\*Def:** Same Greek Word - NT:1248 *diakonia* (dee-ak-on-ee'-ah); **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: **6** Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them. **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.*

### Three qualifications

1) Honest \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Ghost 3) \_\_\_\_\_

### Deacons Ministry Implementation:

**1 Tim 3:8-13** *8 Likewise must the **deacons** be grave, not double tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; 9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. 10 And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. 11 Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. 12 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. 13 For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus. KJV*

### Spiritual Requirements:

Grave- serious, somber, silent, extremely quiet (not silly) adjective - giving one cause for alarm.

Not double-tongued (consistent in speech and actions) -having two different roles designed to deceive or confuse others

Not given to much wine- (only in moderation cannot ever be drunk)

Not greedy- (not interested in money)

Pure conscious- (does what is right regardless)

Proven- (history of stability)

Being found blameless (researched their past and found it clean)

### Qualified mates:

Wife must also be grave-

Wife's cannot be slanderers

Wife's must be sober

Wife's must be faithful in all things

Their Wives must also be grave- (not silly)

Not slanderers - (Cannot speak evil of others)

Sober - mature,

Faithful in all things- (honors their commitments)

Husband of One wife - (no Polygamy) Does not mean divorce

Ruling their children & houses well (understands how a healthy family works)

### **Natural Requirements:**

- Serve as a ministry \_\_\_\_\_ ie Departmental Head fulfilling administrative and leadership responsibilities or the spouse of Departmental Head and showing a high level of servant-hood in and to a ministry of the church.
- Graduate the third course of River of Life Bible School “ \_\_\_\_\_101”(\*Time)
- Read "The One Minute \_\_\_\_\_" by Ken Blanchard.
- Review the \_\_\_\_ Commandments of an Elders / Deacons with Pastor Timothy.
- \_\_\_\_\_Departmental Head Meetings with Pastor as scheduled -usually once a month.

### **Performance:**

- Establish written \_\_\_\_\_ for your ministry. (See Ministry Manual)
- Order \_\_\_\_\_ according to those goals and the 10 Commandments for Elders / Deacons
- Be \_\_\_\_\_ to the criteria agreed upon. (These are the requirements outlined in scripture)

### **Discussion Points:**

1. The Apostles were not saying they were above serving. They were pointing out the \_\_\_\_\_ of their service. (The ministry (deaconing) of the Word as opposed to (deaconing) tables.)
2. The Deacons chosen were men of \_\_\_\_\_ and character. They had evidently proven themselves as faithful. *I Tim 3 says, "...let them first be proven."*
3. These people were devoted to \_\_\_\_\_ the needs of the congregation.
4. The Deacons were brought before the Five-fold ministry for approval and ordination with laying on of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The Church had \_\_\_\_\_ because of their ministry. It's New Testament pattern.
6. The word used for deacon is feminine denoting that \_\_\_\_\_ould/would/did

## Discussion Points: Cont'

fulfill that office.

**Rom 16:1** *I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea:*

### #2 Elders

The New Testament designates different levels of elder.

The first class of Elder is one simply denoted, "\_\_\_\_\_".

Throughout the New Testament we see them set in the place of service and ministry by the Five-Fold ministry.

**Acts 14:23** *And when they (Paul and Barnabas) had ordained them **elders** in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.*

**Titus 1:5** *For this cause left I thee (Paul left Titus) in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and **ordain elders** in every city, as I had appointed thee:*

**James 5:14** *Is any sick among you? let him call for the **elders** of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:*

It would appear the Elder who is "mature" would have been valuable in leadership for the Church particularly in the area of \_\_\_\_\_.

In the Early church there was a great need for such people. Also, they would have been valuable for \_\_\_\_\_ and input for the Five-fold ministry gifts.

The next class of Elder is the "\_\_\_\_\_ " of an Elder.

The *difference* between one "mature" and the **Office** of an Elder is he/she.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

**1 Tim 5:17** *Let the **elders** that **rule** well be counted worthy of double honor, specially they who labour in the word and doctrine. (who teach)*

**Strong's Definition for "rule"**. *proistemi (pro-is'-tay-mee); from 4253 and 2476; to stand before, i.e. (in rank) to preside,*

**Heb 13:7** *Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.*

## #2 Elders Cont'

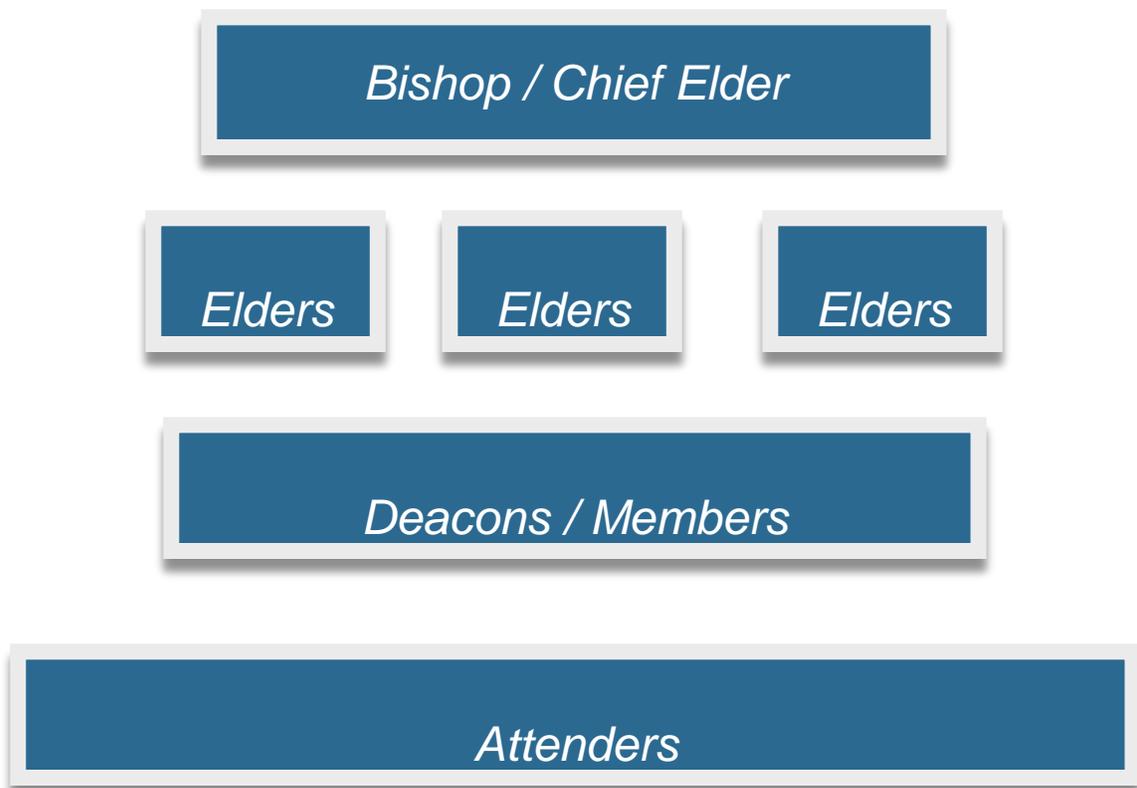
**1 Pet 5:1-2** *The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: 2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;*

### Elders Ministry Implementation:

#### Discussion Points:

1. As with Deacons, Elders fit into a chain of command or \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Pastor is the Chief Elder in the Local Church. (aka bishop, shepherd, pastor)
3. Although an Elder may fulfill the ministry of a \_\_\_\_\_ a Deacon does not necessarily fulfill the ministry of an \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The Office of Elder could be fulfilled in the Local Church as a Worship Pastor, Youth Pastor, Singles Pastor, Children's Pastor, Bible School Instructor, etc.
5. The Office of Elder will possess the functional gift of \_\_\_\_\_.

**1Thes 5:12** *And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;*



### #3 Bishops

Bishop is a term in the New Testament, basically a synonym with the Office of Elder.

*A Bishop is an Elder with greater responsibility.*

The Greek word used for Bishop means, "*superintendent*".

*Def:* NT:1984 *episkope* (ep-is-kop-ay'); from NT:1980; inspection (for relief); by implication, *superintendence*; specially, the Christian "episcopate": KJV - the office of a "bishop", bishoprick, visitation

**1 Tim 3:1-2** *This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach;*

**Titus 1:7** *For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;*

#### Bishops Ministry Implementation:

This office is most widely known and accepted as the Pastorate. A shepherd of the sheep, the chief overseer.

#### Discussion Points:

Note a couple of points: **I Timothy 3:1** says, "*If a man desire the office of a bishop. . .*"

Although, as we'll see in a moment, the word Bishop or overseer means Pastor--here I believe it does not. **Why?** Because this office can be fulfilled with one who has "desire". They are choosing the office. Not Jesus Choosing or selecting them.

On the other hand, five-fold ministry is something ordained by God's sovereignty, not simply because one would desire to fulfill a certain ministry gift.

Secondly, notice **Titus 1:7** emphasizes the character of a person. Character comes first to qualify. In the next verse, overseer is the same word translated *Bishop*.

The reference to Bishop here, would denote *Chief Elder or Pastor*.

**Why? Notice the Holy Ghost set this person in office (not a man not themselves)**

denoting Five-fold ministry, and to further show this point notice the person has the responsibility of feeding the flock also. **Acts 20:28** *Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.*

Continuing to recognize the chain of command, a Bishop will fulfill both the ministry of Deacon and Elder, although the Deacon and the Elder may not fulfill the ministry of Bishop. (To illustrate what I'm saying: Because you've graduated from 4th grade would denote you're a graduate of 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade--but because you've graduated from 1st grade does not denote you're a graduate of 2nd, 3rd or 4th grade.)

## #4 Five-Fold Ministry

*The Five-fold ministry is listed in Ephesians 4.*

**Eph 4:7- 8, 11** *7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. 8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and (He) gave gifts unto men. 11 And he gave some, **apostles**; and some, **prophets**; and some, **evangelists**; and some, **pastors and teachers**;*

### Kenneth S. Wuest, Commenting on Ephesians 4:8, 11

"From the subject of the general enabling grace of God given to all saints for service, Paul turns to gifts which He gives to men. The word here is not charisma, referring to special gifts such as the gifts noted in I Cor. 12:4-11, but *dōma*, a general term for that which is given. These gifts are the gifts men mentioned in 4:11. **Christ gave these gifts** to the Church when He ascended to Heaven. In verse 11, Paul identifies the gifts spoken of in verse 7.

They are gifted men, given to the Church. There is an intensive pronoun in the Greek text. "He Himself gave," and no other. He gave same saints as Apostles. These gifted men are given the Church "for the perfecting of the saints." They are to specialize in equipping the saints "for the work of the ministry," that is, for ministering work, in short, Christian service."

In Church government we see a pattern. There is the "**Called**" and the one who did the "**Calling**". The chain of command always begins with the one who calls.

In previous Scripture we see the Five-fold ministry choosing the Elders, Deacons, etc.

In the Local Church setting, the Pastor has the prerogative to select and set in office certain men and women of God as the Spirit of God leads. The Pastor acts as the Set Man with the ultimate authority as God raises up men and women to join with the Pastor in fulfilling the vision and taking responsibility and ministry positions of the Local Church. In the following Scriptures we see the Caller (God) and the Callee (Five-fold ministry). The chain of command always starts with Christ. He is the head of the Church. And progresses through His selection and then their selection.

**1 Cor 12:28** *And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.*

**Acts 20:28** *Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the **which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers**, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.*

This is a Ministry gift that holds a ministry "Office". This office cannot be given by man through the laying on of hands. This gift can only come from Jesus personally who He has given to a specific gifting to that person to fill that specific office. **Gal 1:1** *Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)* KJV

### Five Fold Ministry Implementation: ("Under Construction")

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## Five-Fold Ministry Gifts

**Eph 4:11-16** *And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 **For the perfecting** of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the **edifying** of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a **perfect man**, unto the measure of the stature of the **fulness of Christ**: 14 That we henceforth be **no more children, tossed to and fro**, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, **may grow up into him** in all things, which is the head, even Christ:*

- A. The New Testament talks about giving gifts to men. (You are gifted people.)
- B. Ephesians 4 talks about giving men as gifts.
  - 1. Called “dona” gifts, translated “presents”.
  - 2. Five-fold ministry gifts. Or "presents" given to the body of Christ.
  - 3. Apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher.
    - a. Apostle - foundation layer.
    - b. Pastor-teacher - raises the walls.
    - c. Evangelist - gathers materials.
    - d. Prophet - building inspector.
- C. Result of receiving from their ministry is that the believer is matured to greatest measure.

12 **For the perfecting** of the saints...for the **edifying** of the body of Christ:

13 ...unto a **perfect man**, unto the measure of the stature of the **fulness of Christ**:

14 That we henceforth be **no more children, tossed to and fro**...

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

### **Take A Look At What Constitutes True Or False Minister**

(Help you in the tell-tale signs of a fake, and knowing the Real McCoy.)

(We don't need to be critical people. Yet, we are called to be people of discernment.)

Satan, chief counterfeit, will try to lure people with the false minister.

- a. Shows the power a godly minister has to affect you for the good!
  - b. (But so and so said they were o.k., they're on the radio?)
  - c. Imitation vanilla, imitation, leather, and imitation minister.
- I “hate” imitations – Imitation sugar, imitation chocolate etc..

**Matt 24:4-5** *4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.*

A. Many of Paul's epistles were written to deal with these

**Acts 20:17-38**

### **#1 Others Will Confirm His Calling**

*17 From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church.*

True Minister: Gifting will be confirmed.

False Minister: Tell you his gifts, always pumping himself, offended if you don't agree.

A. A spiritual father is someone you look up to-not over to.

B. I look up to my Pastor. Not because he's perfect in the flesh, not because I see everything eye to eye with him. Not because I agree with every last thing he preaches.

But because he's been faithful to the Lord, because he's preached the Word,

Because I've seen him labor to love people and make Jesus known. Because he's consistent in his life. He's mentored me, helped me, complimented me and corrected me.

C. Too many times churches are started by #2 men, who don't have leadership ability

### **#2 Lives The Truth In Front Of You**

*18 And when they had come to him, he said to them: "You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you,*

A. **1Thes 5:12- 13** *And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;*

1. \*New people at church: READY TO GO. (Slow it down a little: watch you for a while: watch your home life, see your marriage, money, give you a chance to get offended--then I'll really get to know you.)(...**know them which labour among you**)

2. New people at the church who feel a need to watch me for a while.

\*Example Robert Lewis \*(...**know them which labour among you**)

3. \*Traveling -Pastor would say, come on in!\*(...**know them which labour...**)

4. There are times when it comes to relationships, I have just known it was right.

**True Minister:** Lives out his convictions.

**False Minister:** Portray his life as a mystery, pretends to bask in a super-elevated anointing, he has gifts that are far out in front of anyone else's, he claims to have a revelation that is deeper than anything you've heard before. He's deeper than the Word He's all about the "Spirit" - the Word and Spirit agree!

**#3 Stays With You Through Difficult Times** (His and yours.)

*19 "serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials which happened to me by the plotting of the Jews; 20 "how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house,*

- A. Difference between a Father and Instructor in the Lord.  
You can't follow the intimate living of an instructor.

**1 Cor 4:15** *For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers:*

- B. You can influence people at a distance, you can only impact them up close.

**True Minister:** Will have a shepherd's heart. (Doesn't matter if he Pastors or not.)

**False Minister:** Will care only about himself.

**John 10:13** *The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.*

**#4 Magnifies The Name Of Jesus**

*21 "testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**True Minister:** Magnifies the Name of Jesus.

**False Minister:** Preach alternatives to the blood, the cross, the Name of Jesus.

**I Jn 4:1-3** *1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. 2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.*

**Gal 1:6-8** *6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and*

would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

### **#5 Pays The Price**

22 "And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, 23 "except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me. 24 "But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

- A. If you could do anything else, you're not called to five-fold ministry.
- B. Every Father of the faith has paid the price to get where he is.
  - 1. We always hear so much glit and glitter, (so many almost have a romantic, jet set mentality of ministry, glamour, and prestige.)
  - 2. A wise father will make his children mature and not give them too much. The process of apprenticeship is totally necessary.
  - 3. I appreciate where I am today. Because I had to learn it, pay for it, do it.
  - 4. Pastor in Tulsa who took a very young man and put him up in front of the church and told all the great things that God had for him, etc. (It was true.) The man wasn't allowed the time to be mentored, submit, mature emotionally, Out ministering prematurely, eventually got off into error because of immaturity.

**True Minister:** Dig in.

**False Minister:** Get out.

### **#6 Consistent Deposits Into Your Life**

25 "And indeed, now I know that you all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, will see my face no more. 36 And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. 37 Then they all wept freely, and fell on Paul's neck and kissed him, 38 sorrowing most of all for the words which he spoke, that they would see his face no more. And they accompanied him to the ship.

### **#7 Give You The Whole Counsel Of The Word**

27 "For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God.

**True Minister:** Give you the whole counsel of the Word of God.

**False Minister:** Tell you what you want to hear, or what is popular to gain your approval.

**2 Tim 4:1-4** *1 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; 2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 3 For the time will come when **they will not endure sound doctrine**; but after their own lusts shall they **heap** to themselves teachers, having **itching ears**; (to tickle) 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto **fables**. (fiction)*

D. Sad to have false ministers? Sad that the sheep want them? Even sadder still when they keep them.

**#8 Protection Vs Defection** (In military, there seems to be nothing more despised than this.)  
28 *"Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. 29 "For I know this, that after my departure **savage wolves will come in among you**, not sparing the flock. 30 "Also **from among yourselves** men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. 31 "Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.*

Two variations of false ministries:

1. Those from without. Sent by Satan, not saved, evil. (\*David Koresh)
2. Those from within. Probably saved, but twisted in their ambition, self-promoting.
  - A. They rise up...they're not raised up.  
...among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers
  - B. Speak perverse things: bad mouth anyone above them, or in authority.
  - C. Draw men after themselves: don't support the vision of the church.

### **#9 Proper Perspective Of Money**

33 *"I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel.*

A. Paul said this because undoubtedly he was blessed with it.

**True Minister:** Blessed.

**False Minister:** Hired.

### **#10 Transparency of the gift.**

35 *I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to*

*remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.*  
KJV

1. "I have showed you all things"
  - a. Not just spiritual things but he labored with own hands and supported the weak, and gave, he was generous.
  - b. More blessed to give than to receive. True ministers love to be "spent" their lives poured out for the sake of the Call.

**True Minister:** open, clear, you can see his heart. Transparent, concrete.

**False Minister:** closed, distant, can't see what he is truly about. (It's a mystery) their preference.

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**Discussion Points:**

1. The Pastor is the *only* Five-fold gift given to a specific Local Church.
2. The other Five-fold gifts are given to the *entire* Body of Christ.
3. There is a chain of command in the Local Church as there is in the Universal Church. (In the universal church, Jesus is the head.) Just as in a marriage relationship with husband and wife. Eph 5.

In an effort to help explain this further here is what this would look like.

4. Jesus is Lord and He is a Pastor, Bishop, Elder and Deacon.
  - The Pastor is a Bishop, Elder and Deacon.
  - The Bishop is an Elder and Deacon.
  - The Elder is a Deacon.
  - The Deacon is a serving member of Christ's Body.

It is of my opinion that a woman can participate in every office of Church Government **\*except that of \*Senior Pastor.** Historically, a woman has fulfilled the other offices including: Prophet, Apostle, Teacher, Evangelist, Elder and Deacon in Scripture but not the "Office" of Pastor.

**I Timothy 2:12** *I suffer not a woman to teach, not to usurp authority, but to be in silence.*

**(Message) 1 Timothy 2:** <sup>8-10</sup>*Since prayer is at the bottom of all this, what I want mostly is for men to pray—not shaking angry fists at enemies but raising holy hands to God. And I want*

women to get in there with the men in humility before God, not primping before a mirror or chasing the latest fashions but doing something beautiful for God and becoming beautiful doing it. <sup>11-15</sup>I don't let women take over and tell the men what to do. They should study to be quiet and obedient along with everyone else. Adam was made first, then Eve; woman was deceived first—our pioneer in sin!—with Adam right on her heels. On the other hand, her childbearing brought about salvation, reversing Eve. But this salvation only comes to those who continue in faith, love, and holiness, gathering it all into maturity. You can depend on this.

I have extended teaching regarding women in the church and their ability to fill leadership positions in the Church. Gender is not the issue qualifications are. However, in the Spirit there is neither male nor female. But Pastors do not operate "only" in the spiritual realm but also in the natural realm and thereby gender does come in to consideration by Biblical distinction. Nowhere in the Bible do we have a female serving as a pastor of a congregation. Phrases found in the Word such as "husband of one wife" speaks to gender regarding the office of Pastorate and so on.. (See-The Women Question Outline or book)