

Eph 4 AMP

11 And His gifts were [varied; He Himself appointed and gave men to us] some to be apostles (special messengers), some prophets (inspired preachers and expounders), some evangelists (preachers of the Gospel, traveling missionaries), some pastors (shepherds of His flock) and teachers.

12 His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people), [that they should do] the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body (the church),

13 [That it might develop] until we all attain oneness in the faith and in the comprehension of the [[b]full and accurate] knowledge of the Son of God, that [we might arrive] at really mature manhood (the completeness of personality which is nothing less than the standard height of Christ's own perfection), the measure of the stature of the fullness of the Christ and the completeness found in Him.

14 So then, we may no longer be children, tossed [like ships] to and fro between chance gusts of teaching and wavering with every changing wind of doctrine, [the prey of] the cunning and cleverness of [c]unscrupulous men, [gamblers engaged] in every shifting form of trickery in inventing errors to mislead.

15 Rather, let our lives lovingly [d]express truth [in all things, speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly]. Enfolded in love, let us grow up in every way and in all things into Him Who is the Head, [even] Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

16 For because of Him the whole body (the church, in all its various parts), closely joined and firmly knit together by the joints and ligaments with which it is supplied, when each part [with power adapted to its need] is working properly [in all its functions], grows to full maturity, building itself up in love.

1 Timothy 3 Amplified Bible (AMP)

1 The saying is true and irrefutable: If any man [eagerly] seeks the office of bishop (superintendent, overseer), he desires an excellent task (work).

2 Now a bishop (superintendent, overseer) must give no grounds for accusation but must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, circumspect and temperate and self-controlled; [he must be] sensible and well behaved and dignified and lead an orderly (disciplined) life; [he must be] hospitable [showing love for and being a friend to the believers, especially strangers or foreigners, and be] a capable and qualified teacher,

3 Not given to wine, not combative but gentle and considerate, not quarrelsome but forbearing and peaceable, and not a lover of money [insatiable for wealth and ready to obtain it by questionable means].

4 He must rule his own household well, keeping his children under control, with true dignity, commanding their respect in every way and keeping them respectful.

5 For if a man does not know how to rule his own household, how is he to take care of the church of God?

6 He must not be a new convert, or he may [develop a beclouded and stupid state of mind] as the result of pride [be blinded by conceit, and] fall into the condemnation that the devil [once] did.

7 Furthermore, he must have a good reputation and be well thought of by those outside [the church], lest he become involved in slander and incur reproach and fall into the devil's trap.

8 In like manner the deacons [must be] worthy of respect, not shifty and double-talkers but sincere in what they say, not given to much wine, not greedy for base gain [craving wealth and resorting to ignoble and dishonest methods of getting it].

9 They must possess the mystic secret of the faith [Christian truth as hidden from ungodly men] with a clear conscience.

10 And let them also be tried and investigated and proved first; then, if they turn out to be above reproach, let them serve [as deacons].

1 Timothy 4 Amplified Bible (AMP)

1 But the [Holy] Spirit distinctly and expressly declares that in latter times some will turn away from the faith, giving attention to deluding and seducing spirits and doctrines that demons teach,

2 Through the hypocrisy and pretensions of liars whose consciences are seared (cauterized),

3 Who forbid people to marry and [teach them] to abstain from [certain kinds of] foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and have [an increasingly clear] knowledge of the truth.

4 For everything God has created is good, and nothing is to be thrown away or refused if it is received with thanksgiving.

5 For it is hallowed and consecrated by the Word of God and by prayer.

6 If you lay all these instructions before the brethren, you will be a worthy steward and a good minister of Christ Jesus, ever nourishing your own self on the truths of the faith and of the good [Christian] instruction which you have closely followed.

7 But refuse and avoid irreverent legends (profane and impure and godless fictions, mere grandmothers' tales) and silly myths, and express your disapproval of them. Train yourself toward godliness (piety), [keeping yourself spiritually fit].

8 For physical training is of some value (useful for a little), but godliness (spiritual training) is useful and of value in everything and in every way, for it holds promise for the present life and also for the life which is to come.

9 This saying is reliable and worthy of complete acceptance by everybody.

10 With a view to this we toil and strive, [yes and] [a]suffer reproach, because we have [fixed our] hope on the living God, Who is the Savior (Preserver, Maintainer, Deliverer) of all men, especially of those who believe (trust in, rely on, and adhere to Him).

11 Continue to command these things and to teach them.

12 Let no one despise or think less of you because of your youth, but be an example (pattern) for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity.

13 Till I come, devote yourself to [public and private] reading, to exhortation (preaching and personal appeals), and to teaching and instilling doctrine.

14 Do not neglect the gift which is in you, [that special inward endowment] which was directly imparted to you [by the Holy Spirit] by prophetic utterance when the elders laid their hands upon you [at your ordination].

15 Practice and cultivate and meditate upon these duties; throw yourself wholly into them [as your ministry], so that your progress may be evident to everybody.

16 Look well to yourself [to your own personality] and to [your] teaching; persevere in these things [hold to them], for by so doing you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

Titus 1 Amplified Bible (AMP)

4 To Titus, my true child according to a common (general) faith: Grace (favor and spiritual blessing) and [heart] peace from God the Father and the Lord Christ Jesus our Savior.

5 For this reason I left you [behind] in Crete, that you might set right what was defective and finish what was left undone, and that you might appoint elders and set them over the churches (assemblies) in every city as I directed you.

6 [These elders should be] men who are of unquestionable integrity and are irreproachable, the husband of [but] one wife, whose children are [well trained and are] believers, not open to the accusation of being loose in morals and conduct or unruly and disorderly.

7 For the bishop (an overseer) as God's steward must be blameless, not self-willed or arrogant or presumptuous; he must not be quick-tempered or given to drink or pugnacious (brawling, violent); he must not be grasping and greedy for filthy lucre (financial gain);

8 But he must be hospitable (loving and a friend to believers, especially to strangers and foreigners); [he must be] a lover of goodness [of good people and good things], sober-minded (sensible, discreet), upright and fair-minded, a devout man and religiously correct, temperate and keeping himself in hand.

9 He must hold fast to the sure and trustworthy Word of God as he was taught it, so that he may be able both to give stimulating instruction and encouragement in sound (wholesome) doctrine and to refute and convict those who contradict and oppose it [showing the wayward their error].

1 Peter 5 Amplified Bible (AMP)

1 I warn and counsel the elders among you (the pastors and spiritual guides of the church) as a fellow elder and as an eyewitness [called to testify] of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a sharer in the glory (the honor and splendor) that is to be revealed (disclosed, unfolded):

2 Tend (nurture, guard, guide, and fold) the flock of God that is [your responsibility], not by coercion or constraint, but willingly; not dishonorably motivated by the advantages and profits [belonging to the office], but eagerly and cheerfully;

3 Not domineering [as arrogant, dictatorial, and overbearing persons] over those in your charge, but being examples (patterns and models of Christian living) to the flock (the congregation).

4 And [then] when the Chief Shepherd is revealed, you will win the [a]conqueror's crown of glory.

5 Likewise, you who are younger and of lesser rank, be subject to the elders (the ministers and spiritual guides of the church)—[giving them due respect and yielding to their counsel]. Clothe (apron) yourselves, all of you, with humility [as the garb of a servant, [b]so that its covering cannot possibly be stripped from you, with freedom from pride and arrogance] toward one another. For God sets Himself against the proud (the insolent, the overbearing, the disdainful, the presumptuous, the boastful)—[and He opposes, frustrates, and defeats them], but gives grace (favor, blessing) to the humble.

6 Therefore humble yourselves [demote, lower yourselves in your own estimation] under the mighty hand of God, that in due time He may exalt you,
7 Casting the [c]whole of your care [all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, [d]once and for all] on Him, for He cares for you affectionately and cares about you [e]watchfully.
8 Be well balanced (temperate, sober of mind), be vigilant and cautious at all times; for that enemy of yours, the devil, roams around like a lion roaring [[f]in fierce hunger], seeking someone to seize upon and devour.
9 Withstand him; be firm in faith [against his onset—rooted, established, strong, immovable, and determined], knowing that the same ([g]identical) sufferings are appointed to your brotherhood (the whole body of Christians) throughout the world.
10 And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace [Who imparts all blessing and favor], Who has called you to His [own] eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will Himself complete and make you what you ought to be, establish and ground you securely, and strengthen, and settle you.
11 To Him be the dominion (power, authority, rule) forever and ever. Amen (so be it).

Acts 20 Amplified Bible (AMP)

28 Take care and be on guard for yourselves and the whole flock over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you bishops and guardians, to shepherd (tend and feed and guide) the church of the Lord or [d]of God which He obtained for Himself [buying it and saving it for Himself] with His own blood.

Jeremiah 10 Amplified Bible (AMP)

21 For the shepherds [of the people] have become like brutes, irrational and stupid, and have not sought the Lord or inquired of Him or required Him [by necessity and by right of His word]. Therefore they have not dealt prudently and have not prospered, and all their flocks are scattered.

Jeremiah 23 Amplified Bible (AMP)

1 Woe to the shepherds (the civil leaders) who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasturing! says the Lord.
2 Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for and feed My people: You have scattered My flock and driven them away and have not visited and attended to them; behold, I will visit and attend to you for the evil of your doings, says the Lord.
3 And I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all the countries to which I have driven them and will bring them again to their folds and pastures; and they will be fruitful and multiply.
4 And I will set up shepherds over them who will feed them. And they will fear no more nor be dismayed, neither will any be missing or lost, says the Lord.

Ezekiel 34 Amplified Bible (AMP)

1 And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

2 Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy and say to them, even to the [spiritual] shepherds, Thus says the Lord God: Woe to the [spiritual] shepherds of Israel who feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the sheep?

3 You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you kill the fatlings, but you do not feed the sheep.

4 The diseased and weak you have not strengthened, the sick you have not healed, the hurt and crippled you have not bandaged, those gone astray you have not brought back, the lost you have not sought to find, but with force and hardhearted harshness you have ruled them.

General Ministry

Romans 10 AMP

15 And how can men [be expected to] preach unless they are sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings! [How welcome is the coming of those who preach the good news of His good things!]

Three Things A Minister Has To Watch

And I'd promised the Lord if He ever failed me... When I started on the field, I know there's two or three things that a minister has to watch, and one of them is money. So money, popularity, women and so forth... So I'd made a pledge to God. I found out that Samson fell because of Delilah, the—the woman. And I found out that Saul fell because of pride. And Balaam fell because of money. And all those things are written for our examples, said the book of Hebrews. And we watch those things and keep the Blood cover between us and those things. And as went along, I said, "Now, Lord, I know there'll be a lot of money mixed up in this, but naked came I into the world and naked shall I return (See?), and You help me." And by God's grace, it's been wonderful. And so I said, "If You ever go to failing me where you have to beg for money or put strain on offerings, I—I come in off the field." And I did when I—I failed six thousand dollars, or fifteen thousand dollars, rather, in California.

56-0403 - Shepherd Of The Sheepfold

Preaching Of The Word - Million Miles Beyond Visions

25 And, oh, my, I love to see God heal His children, certainly. Don't get me wrong. But one reason I been noticing, if you notice lately, I been trying everywhere I go, when I get an invitation, is press in to preach just a little bit. I've let down on my preaching, and it's putting too much on just the anointing and working on the—the eternal part of the supernatural, rather, that, when, to see visions. And they're wonderful, and I thank God for it; but yet the preaching of the Word is a million miles beyond that, when I see the lame walk, and the blind see.

56-0617 - Revelation, Book Of Symbols

God Trained Men - Rugged Men Of Faith

And so, we tonight, want to think on that, and remember that in the midst of all this cry, God cannot send a revival until He's got man in shape to take it. We cannot have a revival until we get men—God-called men, God-trained men, that's not trained up in the schools of theology and of education, but rugged men of faith that God has brought up in the school of His rugged training, men who are not afraid to face the fire, men who has come in the Presence of God and knows His power, and knows His omnipotence, and knows His healing power, some men that's trained to know the living God. It's all right to train them by the Word, but the letter killeth; the Spirit giveth Life. 31 And before we can have this revival, God has to call out and train men (God-trained men) to carry this Message. And they don't care what the opposition is. They are willing to go to the fiery furnace in defeat, or to the lions' den, or wherever it may be; they're ready to go, because they've been in the Presence of God and know that He is. Whether it's to victory or defeat, they still stand the same. That's the kind of training God does to man. And it's very strange to think that God would do that—that God trains His men like that, but He does.

58-1005E - God-Called Man

A Minister Must Never Glorify Himself

21 Just take the minister today: if he has the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and he knows that if he preaches that Word, it's going to cut his fame down; it's going to put him in a little bitty church somewhere, or maybe out on the street. But he knows that something in his heart is burning. He sees the coming of the Lord. He doesn't care whether that he has a big church or a little church. He doesn't care whether he has today's food or not no food. He doesn't care whether he has good clothes or doesn't have good clothes, He's only mindful of one thing, and that's the very Life within him crying out. He's trying to achieve something for the glory of God, and that man, in doing so, will act the very Life of the Spirit that's in him. Do you follow me? He'll act it out.

60-0308 - Discernment Of Spirit

34 Neither would any servant of God take glory. Neither would any servant of God take a gift of God and try to glorify himself, or anything else, but his right achievement is to do something to the glory of God. That's why you see the same thing today. We must have discernment of spirit to see a person what they're trying to do. Are they trying to glorify God? Are they trying to glorify themselves?

60-0308 - Discernment Of Spirit

A Preacher Has To Master Human Ability

56 The important thing, one of the important things that we must master... Now, remember this, and especially you young preachers, and lay members alike. There's one thing that we've got to master if we expect to fulfill God's desire in our life; that is, we have to master the thought of human ability. If we ever get to a spot where we think that we can do it with our own intelligence and our own abilities, we've got to master that in such a way that we can get rid of the thing and lay it aside so that God can use us. That's right.

57 And make a complete surrender. We cannot use one ability. We've got to make a complete surrender. And to come to God, you've got to surrender to Him both soul, body, and spirit. Everything that you are has to be surrendered to God in order that He can work His will in you and in me.

61-1119 - Perfect Strength By Perfect Weakness

Feed Sheep Food - The Truth

82 He loves His sheep. He said, "Feed them." And sheep must have sheep Food. And He never said, "Educate My sheep." He said, "Feed them," not educate them. "Feed them. Give them, give them sheep Food." 83 What is sheep Food? The Bread of Life. Jesus is the Bread of Life, Gospel, Truth. Preach It without compromising. Then you know that when you have to answer at the Day of the Judgment for their soul, as a minister of the Gospel, you can stand and say, "That's what was wrote in the Word." "Feed them the Truth. Feed My sheep."

62-0610E - Convinced Then Concerned

Stay In Your Calling

You say, "I'm a minister, anointed." Then stay a minister, don't try to be a prophet. See? If you're evangelist, stay evangelist.

65-1127B - Trying To Do God A Service Without It Being God's Will

237 And you pastors shouldn't never tell a prophet what to do, or you evangelists tell a pastor. See, each one has his office if it is perfectly identified.

65-1127B - Trying To Do God A Service Without It Being God's Will

One Wife

80 286. Brother Branham, is it (Let's see)... for a person who has a—who has a living, divorced mate who remarry before coming unto the Message to minister? Well, in First Timothy 3:2, if you want to put that down, and Titus 1 to 6 (I wrote that one down.), I want you to read that for this question. See? If a man—if a man desires the office of a bishop or a preacher (something another in church), he's got to have just one wife. That's right. A minister... Now, that's First Timothy 3:2, and Titus 1 to 6. Now, Titus 1 to 6, yeah. All right. Now, notice that the Bible said that that man that's a minister in the house of God will have one wife.

64-0823E - Questions And Answers #2

Not Spare Feelings

52 The same applies by choosing a church. Now, you must pray over the church that you are fellowshiping in. Remember, churches carry a spirit.

53 Now, I don't want to be critical. But I realize that I'm an old man, and I got to leave here, one of these days. I've got to answer at the Day of the Judgment for what I say tonight or any other time. And I, therefore, I got to be dead earnest and truly convicted.

54 But, you go into a church, and if you'll watch the behavior of that church, you just watch the pastor awhile, and you'll usually find that the church acts like the pastor. Sometime, I wonder if we just don't get one another's spirit in the stead of the Holy Spirit. You get to a place where a pastor is real radical and carrying on, you'll find out the congregation is the same way. I'll bring you to a church where I see the pastor stand, jerk their heads back and forth. You watch the congregation, they do the same thing. You take a pastor, just gulp down anything, usually the church will do the same thing. So, if I was choosing a church, I'd choose a genuine, fundamental, Full Gospel, Bible church, I was choosing one to put my family in. Choose.

65-0429E - The Choosing Of A Bride

226 Ministers, think the same. Do you cut corners here, to save somebody's feelings over yonder? Would you do this if it wasn't... and they'll put you out of the church? If you are feeling that way, my dear brother, let me warn you, in the Name of Jesus Christ, flee from that right now.

65-0429E - The Choosing Of A Bride

Speak Only What The Messenger Has Spoken

They say, "Never mind what God's Word says. You can't understand it. We have to interpret it for you. Furthermore the Bible is not finished. It has to change with the times and we will tell you what the changes are." How contrary that is to the Word of God that emphatically states, "Let God be true, but every man a liar," whenever there is a conflict with the truth.

An Exposition Of The Seven Church Ages - Chapter Three - The Ephesian Church Age

Instead of the straight Word of God, instead of the Spirit-filled men in the church who were led by Spirit-given revelation, there are now creeds, and by-laws, and the educated guesses of educated men. Learning has taken the place of revelation. Reason has replaced faith. Program has replaced spontaneous praise in the Holy Ghost. It wasn't so from the beginning. The whole specie has changed. It has become a hybrid church.

An Exposition Of The Seven Church Ages - Chapter Four - The Smyrnaean Church Age

The minute the church moved toward form and ceremony, and toward priesthood by organizing the ministers into a group that decided leadership apart from the Holy Spirit and His Word, that very moment death entered and she started to get sick, and as she got sick she changed to a powerless group of people whose only weapon was argument. She could produce nothing in the Spirit, for her hopes were built on program and not on faith in His Word. They sowed program so they reaped program. They sowed perversion so they reaped perverted children.

An Exposition Of The Seven Church Ages - Chapter Four - The Smyrnaean Church Age

In every age we have exactly the same pattern. That is why the light comes through some God-given messenger in a certain area, and then from that messenger there spreads the light through the ministry of others who have been faithfully taught. But of course all those who go out don't always learn how necessary it is to speak ONLY what the messenger has spoken. (Remember, Paul warned the people to say only what he said, I Corinthians 14:37, "If any man think himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the COMMANDMENTS OF THE LORD. What? came the Word of God out from you? or came it unto you only?") They add here, or take away there, and soon the message is no longer pure, and the revival dies down. How careful we must be to hear ONE voice, for the Spirit has but one voice which is the voice of God. Paul warned them to say what he said, even as Peter did likewise. He warned them that EVEN HE (PAUL) could not change one word of what he had given by revelation. Oh, how important it is to hear the voice of God by way of His messengers, and then say what has been given them to say to the churches.

An Exposition Of The Seven Church Ages - Chapter Four - The Smyrnaean Church Age

Gifted Men Will Keep The Church In Order

Now I want to say that I believe in leadership. But it is not the leadership of men I believe in. I believe in the leadership of the Holy Ghost coming through the Word. I believe also, that God has set men in the church, men who are gifted by the Spirit; and they will keep the church in order. I believe that. I believe also that the church is ruled over by men that God sends to take charge. But that rule is BY THE WORD, so that it is not men really ruling but the SPIRIT OF GOD, for the Word and Spirit are ONE. Hebrews 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."

An Exposition Of The Seven Church Ages - Chapter Three - The Ephesian Church Age

Selected By God Alone

So there's apostles, prophets, teachers, evangelist, and so forth. They are selected by God alone. No matter how much you go to school, how well you're educated, how well — what you want to preach, if God hasn't called you to be a preacher, you'll never make it. That's right. You'll just be a stumbling block in a real preacher's way. That's exactly. "Gifts and callings are without repentance." Correctly. I'd rather my boy be a preacher than anything I know of, but God will have to do that. I—no one else can do it. That's right, God will have to do it.

56-0225 - Jesus Christ The Same Yesterday, Today, And Forever

Do Not Mix Ministries

How many remembers my commission when we built the Tabernacle here? Said, "Do the work of an evangelist." Didn't say I was an evangelist. Said, "Do the work of an

evangelist," see, "for the hour will come when that's to be changed." That hour is arriving. All right. Now, in this, He...

142 You can't mix two or three different ministries together, pastor and evangelize, the same time. You can't be a—a prophet and maybe a pastor, at the same time, see, 'cause you have different works, different ministry.

143 But the Lord gave me what I should do in my Message. But then He said, "Do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of your ministry, for the hour will arrive when they will not endure sound Doctrine." If that hasn't come now!

65-0718E - Spiritual Food In Due Season

Cannot Deny Any Of The Word

76 Now, God fortified His army. What with? Himself, in the form of prophets, apostles, teachers, pastors. What did He do? What was God doing? Listen, did you ever think what that offices of the church is? It's God's dress, inside dress, an apostle, a prophet, a seer. Foresee, before Satan ever gets to it, done told it. What is it? God dressed up in His church. These offices is God's dress-wear. When you see those offices, pastors, teachers, evangelists, what is that? That's God's dress-wear, God's Presence, God's Spirit (And if...) working through man. And if that office denies any of this Word, then it's not God-dressing...?... No, not that. That's that wolf in sheep's clothing. Watch that fellow. Beware of him.

62-0607 - Putting On The Whole Armor Of God

Pastoral Qualities

Young Men Can Take This Message

But I'm very thankful for these open doors that I've had, to go into, and the inspiration it's give to young men like your pastor here. That's caused them... As I'm beginning to get old, and know that my days are numbered, and know now that these young men can take this Message and sweep It on to the Coming of the Lord, if He doesn't come in my generation. Which, I'm hoping to see Him. I look daily for Him, watch, keeping myself prepared for that hour.

65-1205 - Things That Are To Be

Be Humble

63-0714E - Humble Thyself

83 I was talking to a man the other day, that's just organizing a church up at the... pulled out of an organization that there had been. And, well, it's Brother Boze, and them church where they had, they had had that great church there for so long, and the Lord was blessing. Then the people got to a place that they wanted to polish up like the rest of them, and wanted to throw it into an organization. And when they did, it just... those

humble Christians in there did not want that. All their life, they had been taught against it, so they walked away from it. Now they've got a group, and the Lord has blessed them until they're coming in, up into a big place now again, for a church now that puts up about four or five thousand people, and they're starting over.

84 And they come to me, and said, "Brother Branham," setting right there in the office, the church office, the other day. And he said, one of the leaders, Brother Carlson and them, said, "What must we do?"

85 I said, "Find a man to be the shepherd that has no reputation in all denomination, that's just a real good, genuine, sweet, humble brother that lives the life. God will take care of the rest of it, see." I said, "A good pastor that'll just feed the sheep, and be humble and things, God will do the rest. If you'll... Not some big know-it-all's coming in, going to put this in order, and this has to be this way, and cutting things around." I said, "It'll never work. You've just got to it."

309 See, that's the difference. Somebody wants their name in some big something, but God's people wants to shun that kind of stuff. They don't want great big things, and great big something; they want to be humble, that humility. The way—the way up is down. "He that humbles himself shall be exalted; he that exalts himself shall be abased." Humbled himself. Don't try to be a big something; try to be a little something, but be what you are. See? Be little in the sight of God, be little in your own sight, everybody else is above you. "Lest him's the greatest among you be minister to all."

60-1207 - The Pergamean Church Age

Submit yourselves one to another in the fear of God. "Submit yourself." Congregation, submit yourself to your pastor. Pastor, submit yourself to your congregation. If a little clique rises up, don't be on either side, submit yourself to the whole congregation. Congregation, if you start in a clique, submit yourself to your pastor in the fear of God. See? Oh, brother! Hmm!

61-0108 - Revelation, Chapter Four #3

The pastor must be a man that has got a very humble way about him, but not too humble but what he could be like the Lord Jesus Christ when He seen wrong going on in the church, He platted ropes and ran them out of the church. And now the Church of God is the house of judgment, and the pastor is the highest order in the Church. The elder is the highest thing in the apostolic Church, outside of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit brings His Message straight to the elder, and the elder gives It to the people.

58-1007 - Church Order

A Burden Bearer

104 But, you see, in the church there is the pastor, and that pastor is a special person. He's built to where he can—he can put up with the fusses of the people. He—he—he's a burden-bearer, he's the ox of the team. He—he's a man that can sit down when the...

somebody's got something against somebody else, and sit down with them two families (and take neither side) and reason it out and bring it right back into sweetness. See? He—he's a pastor, he knows how to take care of things.

63-0724 - God Doesn't Call Man To Judgment Without First Warning Him

An Intercessor

15 And now again, I'd like to say that, in this time, that, knowing that people holds to your words; they do, to their pastor. And, of course, I've been a pastor. 16 And they hold to a pastor's words, just like it was between death and life. They hold to their priest's words, just like it was death and life. And of course, the pastor, perhaps with all that he knows how to do, he is teaching his people just exactly like he was taught in the seminary; no doubt but what the priest, also, in the different religions that have priests. Course, the pastor really is a priest; it's an intercessor.

65-0221M - Marriage And Divorce

Solid

54 If you see him real flighty and going on, you—and he says, "The Lord called me for such and such a—to be a pastor." Now, a pastor can't be a flighty person. A pastor's solid, sound.

61-0112 - Questions And Answers

Feed The Flock

You'll never live no higher than your pastor. You just remember that, see. And so... Cause he's the shepherd that feeds you. If he's the shepherd, he's got to know where the manna is, to feed the—the sheep. Is that right? Now, a little special. And watch this just a minute, the revelation, the hidden manna.

60-1207 - The Pergamean Church Age

3 It's been one of the most amazing things that I have noticed along the lines of my ministry for our Lord Jesus, is the peculiarity of people. And the study of human life is one of the greatest things that—that a person can study: to watch nature of people. And the different parts of the nations and worlds to where you go, you'll notice that there's a different—there's a different attitude that people take towards Christ, towards His service, and towards His servants, towards worship. And one of the things has been, that one type of meeting will just be wonderful in one part of the country, where it won't work in the other part of the country. Now, I believe, mostly to blame for that... Or not to blame, but mostly is the way the people are taught. And the church will never live higher than its pastor teaches. You seldom find that. If you got a good, sound, sane, Gospel teacher, you'll usually find that type of church. And it's just where your pastor leads you, the—the pastors that you feed on.

53-1109 - How The Angel Came To Me

And I think that pastors sometime are suspicious of—of things that they hear, and I think they have a right to be; because if I understand the translation of the word "pastor," it means "a shepherd." And therefore, he is a feeder or herder of a group of men and women of which the Holy Spirit has made him the overseer of, and he has the right to know what kind of a food his sheep is getting, and where it's coming from. I think he has a right to that, and if a pastor or sometimes people would seem to be just a little bit suspicious, that doesn't never—should not bother anyone. It should only bring a respects to a man's heart, for a man of that—that standing that would question it. 25 And after all, if you're not sure that you are lined up right, how can you ever walk by faith?

61-0425B - The Godhead Explained

Full And Complete Authority Of The Church

282 But the full and complete authority of the church is the pastor. Read that in the Bible, see if that's not Bible order. That's exactly right. There is no one above the elder. I have nothing to do with what Brother Neville does here. That's up to you and Brother Neville. If Brother Neville wanted to preach Jehovah Witness doctrine, that's up to him and you. See? If he wanted to preach anything he wanted to, that's between you and him. That's all. If the congregation votes for him in there, to preach that, that's all right. That's up to him.

57-0922E - Hebrews, Chapter Seven #2

We have no bishops and overseers, and boards and so forth, moves this one in and got a lot of authority. There's nobody got authority here but the Holy Ghost. That's right. He does the moving. And we take Him as the majority of the people, the way the people go.

57-0922E - Hebrews, Chapter Seven #2

58-1007 - Church Order

63 And now to the pastor (to our Brother Neville, at this time), remember, he is the full head of the church. **Brother Neville has a right to exercise any authority that the Holy Spirit would, anything the Holy Spirit would tell him to say, in other words.** In the church, he has the right to anything that God would lead him to do. He also has the right over his deacon board. He can change the deacon board, the trustees, or—or pianist, or any other office in the church that he desires to change, feeling led by the Holy Spirit to do so. And whatever he does, I will recognize it, as he (I believe) to be a godly man. I'll recognize it to be of the Lord, and will sanction the same, therefore it gives him the authority then to operate the church the way he feels led to do it. Now, or, any office in the church, if he desires to—to—to switch positions, with people, for he has the authority to do that. Which, I trust that this will always be lovely and never have to be used.

64 Now, may the Lord bless you all. And I trust that this will be carried out to the very best of your knowledge. And may the Holy Spirit watch over each one of you.

65 And may every officer of the church fill his post of duty, knowing this, that God is going to hold you responsible for how you held your office in the church. Each one will have to give an account.

Must Be Led By Holy Ghost

We don't run it; there's nobody in head. No. All, we're all the same. But, we got a leader, that is the pastor, as long as he's led by the Holy Ghost. True. All right.

57-0922E - Hebrews, Chapter Seven #2

Losing Respects

Be careful. You're guilty if you speak a word (against your brother) that's not right, not just, go around and tear down it. You don't have to stick a knife in a man's back to kill him. You can break his character and kill him, kill his influence. Speak against your pastor here, say something bad about him, you just might as well as shot him. Told something that wasn't right about him, well, it'll kill his influence with the people and things like that, and you're guilty of it. What Jesus said.

57-0922E - Hebrews, Chapter Seven #2

If a—if a family ever loses its respect for the family (the children lose the respect to the parents), that family's tore to pieces. If a—if a church ever loses respect of its pastor, why it—it—it—that church is gone.

57-1006 - Questions And Answers On Hebrews #3

165 If you can't respect the man, respect the office he holds in God. That's exactly right (See?); respect him. If a minister comes up, your pastor, always respect him. I've heard congregations talk about their pastor, how just talk about him, run him down, ridicule him. How is that pastor ever going to do anything for you? He can't do it. You—you don't—you don't re... I don't say this church, but I mean churches I have seen, that if you... You've got to love your pastor. You've got to know that he's a human being, but yet God has made him His pastor. The Holy Ghost has made him overseer; then you've got to respect him in that manner. And no matter what the pastor's done, if you respect him in your heart as God's servant, God will respect you for doing it. "He that—he that receiveth Me, receiveth Him that sent Me," Jesus said.

61-1015E - Respects

God demands respects for His servants. He—His servants, how we know that they're His servants, because He a-vindicates these servants by His Word. He takes these servants and makes them servants of God, and proves that they are servants, by making His Word work through them servants. Then as you respect that servant, you respect God. So when I respect you, and you respect me, and we respect each other, then we're respecting God.

61-1015E - Respects