

Ephesians 4:8-16 - Eph 4:8 Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men." 9 (Now this, "He ascended" --what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) 11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ-- 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

Hebrews 13:7 & 17 – 7 Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct. 17 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

#### Introduction:

- Ignorance or misunderstanding of the purpose of anything causes two things to happen: 1. Abuse is inevitable and 2. Benefits are negligible.
- We will discuss His Ministers duty to His People and His Peoples duty to His Ministers
- Concerning the responsibilities of church leadership & followers observe the following
  - Leaders must live a life worth following: connected to the Shepherd, His Doctrine & His Ways
  - Followers have the duty to follow and imitate the leaders the Shepherd installs

#### 1. 5 Fold Gifts: Apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers and evangelists

- a. Must meet qualifications see I Timothy 3, Titus 1:7 (see prophets mentioned)
- b. Church needs all 5
- c. Hebrews 13, submitted to, yet not kings. Family of God equal, Kingdom of God rank
- d. To equip believers, who do the ministry
- e. To be given double honor and make living from Gospel: I Timothy 5:17, I Corinthians 9:14
- f. Can walk in multiple offices: Paul – teacher, prophet, apostle. Understand your pastor

#### 2. Peter

- a. I Peter 5
- b. Jesus is the Shepherd, others are under-shepherds, sheep don't belong to pastors, they have charge of them and will give an account
- c. Must feed sheep and love sheep
- d. Willing not grudgingly – not because you have to, but you want to

#### 3. Paul

- a. He respected authority: James – Acts 21:18, Galatian 2:9, even Peter respected James: Acts 12:17 (Paul also respected the High Priest: Acts 23)
- b. Keep in mind: II Peter 2:10 & Jude 8 – people will not respect authority and speak evil of dignitaries
- c. He defended his authority – Romans 11:13, I Corinthians 9

- d. Titles? Not unusual: Dr. President Mr. Mrs – not a demand of ego or done or religion, but to deference of position
- 4. David – I Samuel 26 – stretch hand toward Lords anointed
- 5. Moses – Numbers 16:1-3, Jude 11, yes He speaks to and loves all his people
- 6. ENC
  - a. Extension of EWPC Dr Bob Rodgers
  - b. Affiliate of CGIA Dr. Bob Rodgers and Dr. David Yonggi Cho
  - c. Best of Both Worlds: small & self-supporting; connected to large with accountability
  - d. We have leadership team here that meet monthly in advisory capacity
  - e. Sister Erin and I pastor at the Will of God and Direction of Dr. Bob Rodgers

Conclusion:

- 1. No kings, but servant leaders
- 2. For good of the church: leaders and followers