

“The Biblical Role of Elders & Deacons”

Question 1: “What is the _____ of church government that we the members of the church are to subject ourselves to?”

Answer: Since Christ is the Savior of His bride body, He is the One Head of the church. Therefore, the Biblical model of church government is a _____, as divinely governed by Christ.

Question 2: How did _____ administer His authority in the church?

Answer: By _____ leaders whom He named _____ and by directing them by the Holy Spirit. Then, under the authority of the Christ, the Apostles ordained _____ in the local church who in turn ordained still other elders.

Question 3: How did the Apostles and elders exercise their _____?

Answer: They exercised their authority in plurality with the many sharing in Christ’s authority _____.

Question 4: How many church offices do the terms _____, presbyter, overseer, shepherd, _____, and bishop refer to?

Answer: _____.

Quote: “We at HCF strive to _____ the only form of church government modeled in the Scripture. Family, you participate in a Theocracy for this is an elder-led church where the elders operate in plurality under the _____ of Jesus Christ.”

I. The _____.

A. _____ are to manage, _____ for, rule, have charge over, instruct, exercise oversight, shepherd (pastor), _____, and watch over the souls of the church. (cf. 1 Timothy 3:1-5, 5:17; 1 Thess. 5:12; Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:2; Heb. 13:17).

B. The pastoral calling is a _____ calling.

C. According to 2 Timothy 4:1-5, elders are to fulfill their pastoral ministry by:

1. _____ the Word.
 - a. If one is to preach the Word they must _____ the _____ . (cf. 2 Tim 2:15)
 - b. The pastor must present the Word _____ . (cf. 2 Tim 1:8; 3:16)
2. Being _____ in season and out of season.

3. Reproving, rebuking, and _____.
 a. These must be measured out with great _____ and instruction.
4. Being fully _____ of the _____ of the times.
5. Being _____ in all things.
6. _____.
7. Doing the work of an _____.
8. _____ his ministry.

II. There is another distinct _____ in the church. It is the office of _____. (cf. 1 Timothy 3:8-13 & Acts 6:1-6)

A. The office of deacon functions to minister to the of the congregation, thus freeing the Elders to devote themselves to minister to the spiritual (pastoral) needs.

1. The deacons' duties of service are _____ while the elders duties are well defined.

B. The office of the elder and the office of the deacon is a _____ hand in hand _____ and harmonious ministry.

1. Though the ministry of the deacon is to meet the practical service needs of the church, in so doing they actually _____ elders in meeting the _____ needs of the church by freeing them for pastoral ministry. Truly, it is a _____ concept!

Closing: In an effort to follow the Biblical model, we at HCF have an official office called the Deacons' _____. It is the responsibility of those who are appointed to this ministry to serve the congregation by watching over the _____ needs of the corporation, thus _____ the elders to give themselves to pastoral ministry.

In the Theocratic form of church government, Christ, being the Head of the church, continually governs His church by ordaining the leadership. So, it is our high aim to _____ recognize those whom Christ has chosen to serve as an elder or deacon and to faithfully _____ them as leaders in Christ's church.

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