

THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS

PAUL'S PRISON EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS

CHAPTER 4:7-16 Pt.14

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TITLE:

“United in the Gifts” Pt.14

SEATED IN THE HEAVENLIES IN CHRIST JESUS

SUB-TITLE:

“The Growing Up” of a Healthy Church

THEME:

Ephesians 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

The Gift of Governments

There's an old story about a farmer who found a little baby eaglet that had fallen from its nest high up in tree. Unable to place the little eagle back in his nest, the farmer took him home and placed him in the turkey coop to grow up there, intending to eventually set it free. Finally, the big day arrived. The farmer went to that coop and then escorted the turkeys and the great eagle out of the coop. But surprisingly, the eagle didn't take off. He didn't even flap his wings... he just ate with the turkeys. He just walked with the turkeys. He just sat with the turkeys.

THAT EAGLE HAD NO IDEA THAT HE WAS AN EAGLE

the potential that was lying dormant within that great bird was amazing

**It's hard to soar with the eagles
when you're hanging out with turkeys**

The Christian is saved for eternity, so he can be equipped for the ministry, so he can serve the body of Christ that is around he...

MANY CHRISTIANS HAVE NO IDEA THAT THEY ARE TO BE LIKE CHRIST

The Gift of Governments

is to equip and edify the body towards loving ministry

1 Corinthians 12:27-28

Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. ²⁸ And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, **(governments) or administrations,**

*

Governments GRK 2941 kubernesis (koo-ber'-nay-sis)

from a Latin origin, meaning to steer or to pilot, a director-ship. To provide maintenance

Romans 12:8a

he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who **leads,** (kjav- ruleth) with diligence;

Appears twice in the noun form:

Acts 27:11 the helmsmen & Revelation 18:17 shipmaster

The Word Implies that the Shipmaster is one who has been;

#1 - Appointed to the Task #2 - Equipped for the Task #3 - Committed to the Task

The context implies “Rough Water” or “Stormy Sea’s”

True Ministry is a Rough, but Wonderful Ride

(But who are you doing it for any way?)

The Pastor is to have this gift **as well as others** within the body (like the Aaron’s and Hur’s of the church or the Joshua’s that are among the body)

Like any Ship, there’s a helmsman and many helms’ mates to see to it that the ship is continuing course and undersail !!!

In The Old Testament Economy,

the people of God, Israel, was governed by God in a theocracy. A God led, God governed form of rule.

In that rule, HE determined certain avenues or positions that HE would honor.

(WORKING THROUGH PEOPLE)

The Lord established the mediator - Moses

(NOT the greatest of spokesmen)

He Sounded Like 'Porky Pig'

He had very little natural ability, if any!

He misrepresented God to the people

The Lord established the priesthood - Aaron

(NOT the greatest of priests)

He led the people in idol worship

He had very little natural ability, if any !

He misrepresented God to the people

The Gift of Governments

is not for the gifted businessman or the mayor or city counsel

It is the God given ability to lead,
guide or direct others in and toward spiritual matters

1 Timothy 5:17

Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine.

Moses and His Calling

Exodus 18:14-22,24

So when Moses' father-in-law saw all that he did for the people, he said, "What is this thing that you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit, and all the people stand before you from morning until evening?" ¹⁵ And Moses said to his father-in-law, "Because the people come to me to inquire of God. ¹⁶ "When they have a difficulty, they come to me, and I judge between one and another; and I make known the statutes of God and His laws." ¹⁷ So Moses' father-in-law said to him, "The thing that you do is not good. ¹⁸ "Both you and these people who are with you will surely wear yourselves out. For this thing is too much for you; you are not able to perform it by yourself. ¹⁹ "Listen now to my voice; I will give you counsel, and God will be with you: Stand before God for the people, so that you may bring the difficulties to God. ²⁰ "And you shall teach them the statutes and the laws, and show them the way in which they must walk and the work they must do. ²¹ "Moreover you shall select from all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens. ²² "And let them judge the people at all times. Then it will be that every great matter they shall bring to you, but every small matter they themselves shall judge. So it will be easier for you, for they will bear the burden with you... ²⁴ So Moses heeded the voice of his father-in-law and did all that he had said.

Now as God's Government is Expanding

Note: - It Grows From God to Moses, From Moses to the Elders, To the Elders to Aaron and then to the Priests then to the People

A Theocratic Rule Congregational Rule

Whenever there is a mixed multitude of people in a congregation in the scriptures, congregational rules always lead to Daystar !!!

In Church Government there are basically three modes of operation

The Episcopo form

Traditionally - a multi-member, external governing power tied to one another

The Presbyterous form

The church governs itself, either by committee or by department or

The Congregational form

The church allows all attendees to have a say in all matters. The body rules itself
(The greatest number of church splits and closures)

The Method isn't Important - But The Men are
Are the People fearful, humble, and Christ focused

There are four positions listed in the new testament:

- Bishop
- Elder
- Pastor
- Deacon

Here at Calvary, we will here, stay clear of titles and names

The Key is,
Appointing People with the Gift of Governments
~ to care for a particular ministry:

The ministry will - begin to take care of itself

The ministry will - create new ministers

The ministry will - expand in its vision & influence

The ministry will - be willing to obey God

The ministry will - be usable by God

The Dead Sea - Jordan Example

In One day, we drove south from the headwaters of the Jordan river near Caesarea Phillipi. around the sea of Galilee, south again along the Jordan.... life everywhere, crops, trees, fields, fishing.... but if you continue, the river flows into the dead sea. the fertile, clear waters of the Jordan enter the Dead sea very much alive but the apathy and sterility of the sea - kills any chance of new life

Ministry, God's Way will be Lively, Dynamic

Mark 2:22

"And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine bursts the wineskins, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But new wine must be put into new wineskins."

A Humble Example

Acts 11:21-24

And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. ²² Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. ²³

When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. ²⁴ **For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord.**

(Humble Barnabas had the gift of governments - & was used greatly)

A Note:

There will be those who are Ambitious to be in Ministry and they will be severing.

Then there are those who are Unambiguous, they too will be serving as well

Never allow yourself to be persuaded by the personal attributes or the charisma of a salesman in ministry...

Ambition will always get your attention first **but** first is not always good

Mark 10:35-39a

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask." ³⁶ And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" ³⁷ They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory." ³⁸ But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you ask. Can you drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" ³⁹ They said to Him, "We are able."

A church can have a great start. A good pastor.

As the ministry grows, often the pastor will be requested to speak here or there.

But I have seen good guys get big heads over ministry opportunities that should have humbled them... but they got puffed up, they took it personally.

Then ego sets in - the leaders keep following "the big-headed pastor" and soon their heads begin to swell up.

The church becomes like its leaders and soon it is divided down the middle...

It's the staff here and the common church body there

What was the Pastor like at Laodecia

(Look at King Saul's Life)

Chosen By God

1 Samuel 10:22

Therefore they inquired of the LORD further, "Has the man come here yet?"
And the LORD answered, "There he is, hidden among the equipment."

Blessed By God

TURN TO 1 SAMUEL 10:1-7

Rejected By God

1 Samuel 15:17

So Samuel said to King Saul, "When you were little in your own eyes, were you not used by God, head of the tribes of Israel? And did not the LORD anoint you king over Israel?"

Self-exaltation in a ministry is the first step downward

Revelation 2:1-5

"To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, 'These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands: ² "I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars; ³ "and you have persevered and have patience, and have labored for My name's sake and have not become weary. ⁴ "Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love. ⁵ "Remember therefore from **where** you have fallen; (they have fallen - out of love) repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place-- unless you repent.

Void of Ego - Christ First

(There will be a deep commitment to unity....
even sacrificing self)

John the Baptizer words

John 3:30

"He must increase, but I must decrease.

- * **Increase** **GRK 837 auzano (owx-an'-o)**
to become more and more, to enlarge over an area

- * **Decrease** **GRK 1642 elattoo (el-at-to'-o)**
to lessen in rank or influence, to make lower.

Only when we have the "HE MUST INCREASE" down does it all work right

Letting Jesus, be Jesus in His Church
if He's alive and well - we'll know it

Another Example

God blesses a ministry; He bless it with more Ministry

Acts 6:1-5a, 7

Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, (+) there arose (problems) (-) a murmuring against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. ² Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples (+) and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables (-). ³ Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom **we** may appoint over this business; (+) ⁴ but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵ And the saying pleased the whole multitude.... ⁷ Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests

God Blessed them with Growth - Growth Created Problems
The Problems Provided an Opportunity, the Opportunity
was.....

More People were added to the ministering Ranks of the Church

**To Have the Gift of Governments,
Is to be a facilitator**

Now that's going to take maturity from us

- ~ You will have to believe that- *His Bible is true*
- ~ You will have to believe that- *His Holy Spirit is here*
- ~ You will have to believe that- *God still sits on His throne*
- ~ You will have to believe that- *He knows what He's doing*

Hebrews 13:7

Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

Hebrews 13:17

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.

Hebrews 13:24

Greet those who rule over you,

Matthew 16:18b

".... I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

Do I have The Gift of Governments

#1 - you will have vision from the Lord for the church

#2 - you will be called to a position of some form of leadership or influence

#3 - you'll see (or you have been seeing) things that need to be done and you'll either (begin the ministry yourself, latter to hand over to another or you will be able to appoint someone who can do it in your place.