

AN ABLE MINISTER OF THE NEW COVENANT — 11 COR. 3:6

(AN ORDINATION SERMON)

1. WHO IS AN ABLE MINISTER??

1. SOME PREREQUISITES:

A. SAVED BY THE GRACE OF GOD, 1:2

B. FILLED WITH THE PEACE OF GOD, 1:2

C. CALLED BY THE WILL OF GOD, 1:1

2. HE IS ABLE TO DEPEND OF GOD

A. NOT SELF-SUFFICIENT, BUT UTTERLY DEPENDENT ON GOD, 3:5

B. "MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR THEE", 11 COR 12:9

C. COMPETENT, BUT INDEPENDENT

D. HE IS A GOD-MADE MAN, NOT A SELF-MADE MAN —

"GOD, WHO HATH MADE US ABLE MINISTERS..."

"THE SELF-MADE MAN USUALLY WORSHIPS HIS MAKER."

3. HE IS ABLE TO WALK WITH GOD.

A. ENOCH WALKED WITH GOD

B. HE IS CONSTANTLY GOING THROUGH A PROCESS OF SPIRITUAL METAMORPHOSIS INTO CHRISTLIKENESS BECAUSE OF INTIMATE FELLOWSHIP WITH THE LORD, V. 18.

(1). RENUNCIATION OF THE HIDDEN THINGS OF SIN, 4:2A

(2). COMMENDATION OF SELF TO EVERY MAN'S CONSCIENCE IN THE SIGHT OF GOD, 4:2B, ALSO 6:3,4

(3). CONSTRAINED BY THE LOVE OF CHRIST, 5:14.

1. WHAT IS HIS MINISTRY?

1. IT IS CALLED A MINISTRY OF THE NEW COVENANT

A. AS CONTRASTED WITH THE OLD COVENANT, JEREMIAH

B. AS INSTITUTED BY JESUS

C. IT IS OF THE SPIRIT, NOT THE LETTER

D. A MINISTRATION OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, NOT CONDEMNATION

IT IS:

2. A MINISTRY OF PRAYER

A. ACTS 6:4, WE WILL GIVE OURSELVES TO PRAYER

3. A MINISTRY OF PREACHING

A. "AND OF THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD," ACTS 6:4

B. PREACH CHRIST, 11 COR. 4:5, 1 COR. 2:2

C. PREACH THE WORD, 11 TIM. 4:2

(1). "IN GREAT PLAINNESS OF SPEECH", 11 COR. 3:12

(2). NOT WITH EXCELLENCE OF SPEECH OR WITH THE ENTICING WORDS OF MAN'S WISDOM, 1 COR. 2:1,4.

(3). "IN THE LIBERTY OF THE SPIRIT, V.17.

4. A MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION, 5:18

A. PERSUADE MEN TO BE RECONCILED TO GOD

(1). BECAUSE OF THE TERROR OF THE LORD, 5:11

(2). BECAUSE OF THE SACRIFICE OF CHRIST, 5:20,21

B. DO THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIST; BE A SOUL WINNER

5. A MINISTRY OF SERVICE.

A. JESUS CAME NOT TO BE MINISTERED UNTO, BUT TO MINISTER.

B. THE WORD PAUL USES HERE FOR MINISTER IS SERVANT,
THE SAME WORD WHICH IS USED FOR DEACON.

C. IN 4:58 HE SAYS, "OURSELVES YOUR SERVANTS FOR JESUS' SAKE,"

(1). THE WORD REALLY MEANS BONDSLAVE

(2). WE ARE WORKERS TOGETHER WITH GOD, 6:1

(3). EVERY MAN'S WORK SHALL BE MANIFEST, 13:3

(4). EPH. 4:12, "THE WORK OF THE MINISTER"

(5). PHIL. 4:3, "THOSE WHO LABOR WITH ME IN THE GOSPEL"

D. THIS SERVICE IS TO BE SACRIFICIAL, 4:8-11; 6:4-10

E. HIS SERVICE SHOWS THAT HE CARES.

(1). CARE FOR INDIVIDUALS, 7:12, "OUR CARE FOR YOU"

— IN THE SIGHT OF GOD. —

(2). CARE FOR THE CHURCH, I LOVE THE CHURCH
11 COR. 11:28, "BESIDES ALL THIS, THE CARE OF THE CHURCH"
1 TIM. 3:5, "TAKE CARE OF THE CHURCH OF GOD"