



## Nine Letters Specifically For Pastors

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*"These things write I unto thee...that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."  
(First Timothy 3:14,15)*

## Fundamentalism Is Not Enough

By David Cloud

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# Lifting Up The STANDARD

*"When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him" (Isaiah 59:19).*



Challenging And Encouraging God's Remnant To Remain Faithful

January 27, 2014



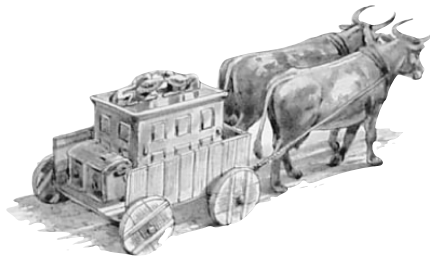
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## The New Cart



### Doing God's Work, The Philistine Way!

From the beginning, God gave instructions and rules about how to do His work. God told Adam to care for the garden and gave the rule not to eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. God's work must be done God's way. Adam is a good illustration of the price of disobedience. God gave us the Old Testament Scriptures for us to be admonished concerning what is right and what is wrong.

#### We read in **First Corinthians 10:11**,

*"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition."*

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**We did it God's way for about two thousand years** and reaped God's blessings. In recent years we decided to ignore God's plan and "...do that which is right in our own eyes."



First and Second Timothy was written that the local church would "...know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

For nearly two thousand years God has supplied pastors for His churches without the aid of any College that was organized outside of the church. Now we hear statements such as, **"As Goes The Colleges, So Go The Churches."**

The problem with that statement is twofold. First, it is true. Second, it is unscriptural. To be Scriptural, the colleges and the churches should be one-and-the-same.

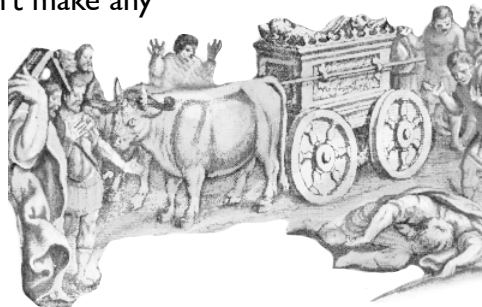
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The dictionary meaning of “admonition” is, “To remind of something forgotten or disregarded, as an obligation or a responsibility.” The Greek word carries the idea of a “warning.” The story concerning the “new cart” is “written for our warning.”

In Exodus chapter twenty- five, God gave many specific instructions concerning how He wanted things done, part of which included the details concerning the ark of the covenant. It was to be carried on the shoulders of the Levites when it was transported.

In Second Samuel chapter six we have the story of David going after the ark to bring it back to Jerusalem. In verse three we read, “And they set the ark of God upon a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab that was in Gibeah: and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drave the new cart.”

The Bible tells us that all the people were in a great spirit of revival until Uzzah lay dead on the side of the road, having been struck dead by God, because they were doing a right thing the wrong way. David ignored the way God wanted it done. The new cart was easier. It would get the job done faster. Carrying things on your shoulders was outdated. It didn't make any sense to travel under the burden and end up with blisters on your shoulders. The Philistines invented the new cart and Israel disobeyed the clear orders of God when they used it and paid a tremendous price for doing so.



## God Ruined David's Revival And David Was “Displeased.”

**Second Samuel 6:8** says, David was “displeased.” The next emotion David experienced was “fear” (Second Samuel 6:9). Finally David said,

“How shall the ark of the Lord come to me?” (Second Samuel 6:9).

David took three months searching the Scriptures to determine what they had done wrong. In First Chronicles 15:2 we read,

“Then David said, None ought to carry the ark of God but the Levites: for them hath the LORD chosen to carry the ark of God.”

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**A.W. Tozer**

“Whatever originates outside the Scriptures should for that very reason be suspect until it can be shown to be in accord with them....no experience can be proved to be genuine unless we can find chapter and verse authority for it in the Scriptures.”

Anything that is found contrary to the Word of God should not be accepted regardless of who is promoting it.

“For the time is come that judgment (discernment) must begin at the house of God.”  
(First Peter 4:17,18)



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God did not want cows pulling the ark around, He wanted the Levites to take their God-given responsibilities. At that time in history, the ark was a symbol of God's presence among His people.

During much of the Old Testament we also find God manifesting His presence in the Temple. In the Old Testament we read phrases like...*"The house of God"* in seventy-three verses. *"The Lord's house"* is found in twenty verses and *"The house of the Lord"* in 213 verses. In the New Testament we read references to the *"church"* in seventy-nine verses and *"churches"* in thirty-six verses.

In the age in which we live God has chosen the local church, and only the local church to do His work.

### **First Timothy 3:14,15,**

*Paul wrote, These things write I unto thee...that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."*

A careful study of the Old Testament Scriptures reveals that David made sure of many other details concerning how God wanted things done. He did things God's way, and again Israel experienced God's blessings.

### **Non-church ministries, or para- church ministries, have taken over the functions that the churches should be doing.**

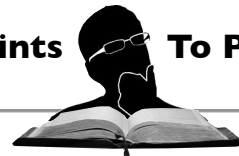
Perhaps some assemblies have gotten lazy, allowing others to do their work. Still others have not been aware that God's plan is for the local church to be the tool for getting all of His work done. When a Christian organization is not directly under the authority of a local assembly it becomes another *"new cart."*

There are no Scriptural grounds for any Christian organization to exist unless it is under the authority of a local church. Absolutely none!

One of the main reasons we face the apostasy of our day is the flood of para-church movements that are simply *"doing that which is right in their own eyes."*

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## **Points To Ponder**



God did not give any instructions for discipline of any Christians in a para-church organization.

All missionaries in the New Testament were sent out by the local church.

All offerings in the New Testament were handled through the local church.

There are absolutely no instructions in the Bible concerning how to raise funds for a para-church ministry.

The only authority structure given in the New Testament concerning service for God is given in the context of the local church.

The only ministry Jesus sanctioned for the carrying on of His work was the local church.

The only agency given in the New Testament for the teaching of doctrine is the local church.

All decisions made concerning the promotion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ were made in a local church context.

The only place ordained of God in the New Testament for the making of disciples was the local church.

Christ promised the gates of Hell shall not prevail against the local church. He made no such promise for a newspaper or missions board outside of the local church.



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God has given His people clear instructions for the local church age. For about 2000 years we did it God's way and had God's blessings. In recent years, we have set His instructions aside and have accepted the new modern ways of the world.



## Spoiled Through Philosophy And The Tradition of Men

### Colossians 2:8,

*"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ".*

A philosophy is "a theory held by a person or organization that acts as a guiding principle for behavior." We are now following the philosophy or the tradition of men and we are doing God's work in a manner contrary to His Word.

God wrote, "Pastoral Epistles" giving details to Pastors as to how God wanted Pastors to get things done in the local church. He gave no Epistles for College Presidents, Newspaper Editors, Radio Pastors, TV Pastors, Mission Board Directors, City-Wide Crusade Organizers, Seminar Conductors, or any other para-church organization, including evangelists that are not under the authority of a local church.



**There is no mention of a universal church in the Bible. It is completely man invented; it is completely unscriptural**

## "Turned Back In The Day of Battle"

Psalm 78:9



**First Samuel 17** begins by telling us "the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle."

**Verse eleven** tells us that "Saul and all Israel...were dismayed, and greatly afraid."

**Verse twenty-nine** says God's little teenager said "Is there not a cause?"

God had a teenager armed with only a slingshot and the promises of God.

**Once again,** we are living in an age of apostasy when many of God's warriors who have been trained and armed with the Word of God are "turned back in the day of battle."

### First Timothy 3:14,15

*"These things write I unto thee...that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."*