

# A Christian Without a Pastor Is Like Children Without Parents

## 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

Issue 33 - September 1, 2014



**“I Jesus have sent mine  
angel to testify unto you  
these things in the  
churches.”**

(Revelation 22:16)

**“And so were the  
churches established.”**

(Acts 16:5)

### **Revelation 2:7**

“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”

### **Revelation 2:11**

“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”

### **Revelation 2:17**

“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”

### **Revelation 2:23**

“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”

### **Revelation 2:29**

“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”

### **Revelation 3:6**

“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”

### **Revelation 3:13**

“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”

### **Revelation 3:22**

“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”

The Greek word translated angel in the verse above is *aggelos*. It has been translated “messenger” seven times and refers to a messenger sent from God. God has given pastors in local churches to be messengers from God to Christians. Christians without pastors are like children without parents.

### **Establishing The Office of The Pastor**

The command given in Titus 1:5 is to “*Ordain (Translated “make ruler” 6x) elders (Pastors) in every city, as I had appointed thee.*” We read in Acts 15:41 that Paul and Silas, “*Went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.*”

### **Behaviour In The Local Churches**

#### **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.*”

The phrase “*house of God*” in the verse above has been translated “*household*” three times. A household consists of members of a family. There are many Scriptures giving us direction concerning our behaviour or how we are to conduct ourselves in the local church.



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## Concerning Pastors First Timothy 3:1-7

### Verse 1,

"This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work."

### Verse 2,

"A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;"

### Verse 3,

"Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;"

### Verse 4,

"One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;"

### Verse 5,

"(For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)"

### Verse 6,

"Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil."

### Verse 7,

"Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil."

## Concerning Deacons First Timothy 3:8-15

### Verse 8,

"Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;"

### Verse 9,

"Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.

### Verse 10,

"And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless."

### Verse 11,

"Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things."

### Verse 12,

"Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well."

### Verse 13,

"For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus."

### Verse 14,

"These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly."

### Verse 15,

"But if I tarry long, 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."



### **Psalm 42:4**

"I went with them to the **house of God**, with the voice of joy and praise."



### **Psalm 84:10**

"I had rather be a doorkeeper in **the house of my God**, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness."



### **Psalm 92:13**

"Those that be planted in **the house of the LORD** shall flourish in the courts of our God."



### **Ecclesiastes 5:1**

"Keep thy foot when thou goest to **house of God** and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools."



### **Psalm 55:14**

"We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto **house of God** in **company**."



### **Acts 4:23**

"And being let go, they went to their own **company**."



### **Acts 15:22**

"Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with **the whole church**, to send chosen **men of their own company** to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas."

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## Two Offices In The Local Church



Pastor

**Acts 20:28,**

*“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”*



Deacons



Deacons



Deacons



Deacons

**First Timothy 3:8- 15,**

*“Likewise must the deacons...”*

## The Congregation



**Acts 20:28,**

*“Take heed...to feed **all the flock**, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”*

## Feeding The Mixed Multitude

- Some are saved a short time
- Some are saved for many years
- Some are walking close to the Lord
- Some are walking away from the Lord
- Some are young people
- Some are middle-aged
- Some are older people
- Some have families
- Some widows
- Some divorced
- Some wealthy
- Some poor
- Some healthy people
- Some unhealthy people
- Some caring people
- Some non-caring people
- **Many different physical, emotional, and spiritual needs**



**“Not for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand.”**

(Second Corinthians 1:24)

## Together



*“Stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel.”*

(Philippians 1:27)



*“Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”*

(Amos 3:3)



*“Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me.”*

(Romans 15:30)



*“O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.”*

(Psalm 34:3)

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## Pastor's Responsibilities

### Feed The Flock

*"Take heed...to feed the church of God."*  
(Acts 20:28)

*"I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God."*  
(Acts 20:27)

### Focus On Christ

*"I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church."*  
(Hebrews 2:12)

### Organize

*"Set in order the things that are wanting...as I had appointed thee."*  
(Titus 1:5)

### Leadership

*"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind."*  
(First Peter 5:2)

### Overall Responsibility

**(1)** "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; **(2)** reprove, **(3)** rebuke, **(4)** exhort with all longsuffering and **(5)** doctrine."  
(Second Timothy 4:2)

### Discipline

*"But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within? But them that are without God judgeth. **Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.**"*  
(First Corinthians 5:11-13)

*"Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear."*  
(First Timothy 5:20)

*"A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject."*  
(First Timothy 5:20)

## Members Responsibilities

First Timothy chapter three is very plain and simple when it comes to the responsibilities of pastors and deacons. **I wish it included a section on the responsibilities of church members; however, it does not.**

### Proving What Is Acceptable Unto The Lord

**Ephesians 5:10,**

*"Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord."*

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## "Beware"



*"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."*  
(Matthew 7:15)



Click On The Icon Above



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*"Church attendance is as vital to a disciple as a transfusion of rich, healthy blood to a sick man."*

Dwight L. Moody

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Two years ago, I set out on an in depth study to attempt to determine what is acceptable unto the Lord concerning church membership. The first thing that was necessary was I needed to be sure I was interested in proving what is acceptable unto the Lord, rather than what is acceptable to my friends in the ministry.



**Fifteen Minute  
Daily Internet  
Broadcast**

(Click On The Mic)



## “Set In Order The Things That Are Wanting”

There are seven verses in the Bible that contain the phrase “set in order.” Four of them are found in the Old Testament and have to do with how God wanted things done in the Old Testament worship services. The phrase appears twice in the New Testament and both have to do with how the Lord wants things done in our local churches.

The Corinthian church was operating in a manner that was not acceptable with the Lord and Paul wrote them a very rebuking letter concerning what they needed to straighten out and said, “**And the rest will I set in order when I come**” (First Corinthians 11:34).

Paul also wrote to Titus saying, “For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest **set in order the things that are wanting**” (Titus 1:5).

### God’s Purpose For The Local Church

Is it God’s purpose for the local church to be a place to win souls or a place to strengthen Christians? According to Paul God gave pastors for...

#### **Ephesians 4:12-15,**

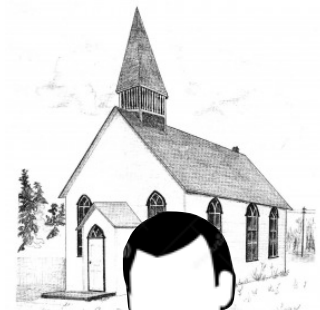
- 1) *The perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, (2) for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all (3) come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: ((4) That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, (5) may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.”*

We should take advantage of every opportunity to win people to the Lord. I have had the privilege of winning people to the Lord after many church services over the years; however, the purpose given for the church in the verses above is plain. The people are to be trained to do the work of the ministry.

The purpose of the church service is to perfect the saints and edify the Christian. The purpose the Christian remains in this world is to bear fruit for the Lord.

In **Second Timothy 2:2**, the pastor is commanded to teach, “...faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”

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**We Use The New Revised  
Version Bible**

“Preach the word...reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”

**Come And Be Comfortable  
In Your Sin!**

## Qualifications For Members

### Our Lord's Command

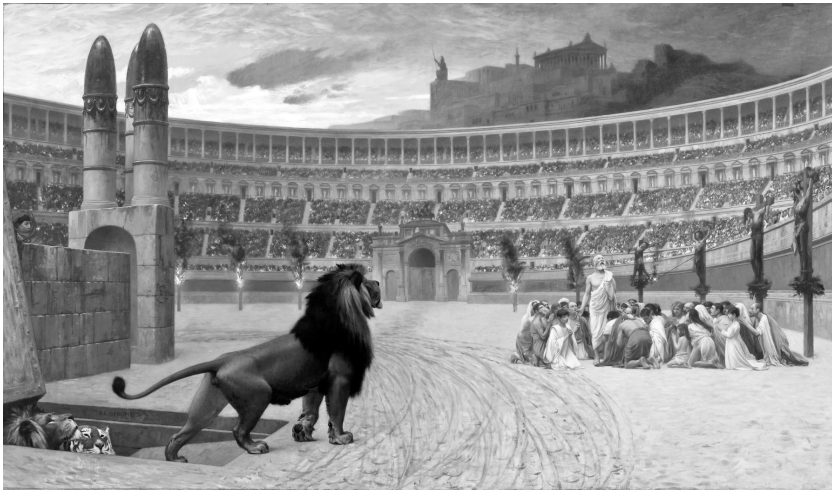
#### **Matthew 28:19,20.**

(1) *“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, (2) baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: (3) Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”*

According to the verse above we are to **“go”** and reach people for Christ. They are to be baptized, and we are to teach them *“to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.”*

Two-thousand years ago when people were baptized there was no question that they were sincere. These Christians would be disowned by their family. Many actually had a funeral service for them.

It was very likely they would lose their job and they also risked death, either at the hand of Paul, before he was saved, or at the hand of Nero.



**The early church did not need a rule book for perspective church members**

### Things Have Changed!

Two-thousand years ago when someone was baptized, publicly professing their faith in Christ, they were willing to put their lives on the line. They were willing to **die** for the Lord. We don't have that situation today; however, no one should be considered as a member of the Lord's local church today, who is not willing to **live** for Him.

**At FairHavens Baptist Church we require all members to be faithful to the services of the church.** Potential members are taught that they have the same responsibility to the church that the pastor has. If the pastor misses a service to watch some sports activity on television or to go and visit family, the people should find a new pastor. If a church

member skips church for something like that the church member should be instructed to get in line or find a church that allows a cheap membership.

Obviously, there are going to be times when the pastor or people will be away; however, if the church, that Christ *“purchased with his own blood”* is no more than an add-on in life, it is an insult to the Lord.

**At FairHavens Baptist Church members are required to be loyal to the pastor and to one another.**

That does not mean they will never disagree. It means they will disagree scripturally. It means if they have a problem they will *“Go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone”* (Matthew 18:15).

Those who are guilty of *“sowing discord among the brethren”* should be subject to church discipline.

#### **Hebrews 13:7**

*“Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow.”*

#### **Hebrews 13:17**

*“Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls.”*