

PASTOR-TEACHER

1. Pastor-Teacher [ὁ ποιμην και διδασκολος] [ho poimen kai didaskolos] (Eph. 4:11)

A. Meaning:

1) poimen [ποιμην]:

a. one who tends flocks or herds, a shepherd, herdsman.

b. [met.] a pastor, superintendent, guardian.

2) didaskolos [διδασκολος]:

a. teacher

b. in the N.T., an equivalent to rabbi.

B. There is a special Greek grammar rule that indicates that Pastor-Teacher is one gift, not two gifts.

"The following rule by Granville Sharp of a century back still proves to be true: 'When the copulative *kai* connects two nouns of the same case, if the article ὁ or any of its cases precedes the first of the said nouns or participles, and it is not repeated before the second noun or participle, the latter always relates to the same person that is expressed or described by the first noun or participle, i.e., it denotes a farther description of the first-named person.'"

C. This person has the supernatural ability to rightly divide the truth contained in the Bible and then communicate that truth to the believers of his congregation and see those believers advance to Christian maturity.

D. (P)reacher vs. (p)reacher (modern-day confusion):

1) There is no church office called "Preacher" (capital "P").

2) Preacher (capital "P") is NOT synonymous with Pastor-Teacher.

3) preacher (lower case "p") is any Christian who witnesses.

4) Both male and female Christians can be preachers (lower case "p").

5) All Christians should be preachers (lower case "p") because all Christians should witness.

E. Preacher vs. Pastor-Teacher (more modern-day confusion):

1) The terms are not synonymous.

2) There is no spiritual gift called "preacher."

3) No one is "called-to-preach" in the Church Age.

4) Pastor-Teacher is a spiritual gift, not "a calling."

- 5) Technically, any person, male or female, who witnesses is a preacher.
- F. This gift is given only to men.
- G. This is a leadership gift. The Pastor-Teacher leads the flock given to him by God.
- H. Inherent in the gift is a burning desire to study and teach the Word of God to believers for the purpose of seeing those believers advance toward and arrive at Christian maturity.
- I. Comparing the work of an evangelist with the work of Pastor-Teacher:
- 1) Evangelist: presents the Gospel of Jesus Christ to unbelievers.
 - 2) Pastor-Teacher: teaches the whole realm of doctrine to Christians.
- J. The man who wants to evangelize all the time does not have the gift of Pastor-Teacher--perhaps evangelist, but not Pastor-Teacher.
- K. Believers are the Pastor-Teacher's primary target.
- L. A common fallacy: The Pastor needs to invite an evangelist to his church to tell his congregation what he doesn't have the courage to tell them himself.
- M. Four categories of Pastor-Teachers:
- 1) One who never discovers his gift.
 - 2) One who becomes distracted from his gift.
 - 3) One who is prepared, but does not find an opportunity to use his gift.
 - 4) One who is prepared and serving.
- N. Four distractions to a Pastor-Teacher:
- 1) Romance or an early marriage,
 - 2) Success in business or another profession.
 - 3) Having family before preparation.
 - 4) Other obligations to parents, children, friends, debts, etc.
- O. Biblical terms for a Pastor:
- 1) poimen: means shepherd, one who tends the flock.
 - 2) episkopos: means an inspector, overseer; a watcher, a guardian.
 - 3) presbuteros: means elder, senior (in rank)
- P. The Pastor's authority over his congregation is established in Hebrews 13:7, 17.
- Q. The Pastor-Teacher is the final authority in all church matters in his congregation.
- R. The qualifications of a Pastor-Teacher: (1 Timothy 3:1-7)

blameless
the husband of one wife
vigilant
sober
of good behaviour
given to hospitality
apt to teach
not given to wine
no striker
not greedy of filthy lucre
patient
not a brawler
not covetous
one that ruleth well his own house
having his children in subjection with all gravity
not a novice
must have a good report of them which are without

S. Accommodation vs. communication.

- 1) The Pastor-Teacher either accommodates or communicates to his congregation.
- 2) Accommodation neutralizes the communication of doctrine, while communication of doctrine destroys the rapport built by accommodation to a congregation.
- 3) Accommodation is patronizing the congregation.
- 4) Communication is a blessing to the congregation.
- 5) Example: One hospital visit could deprive an entire congregation of understanding a passage.

T. The Pastor-Teacher should teach the Word of God isagogically, categorically and exegetically.

isagogically: interpreting the Bible within the framework of its historical context.

categorically: takes into consideration all the Bible has to say about a particular subject.

exegetically: considers grammar, syntax, and etymology in the interpretation.