

THE SERVICE OF LEADERSHIP

(Part 2)

Introduction

- 1) Those who occupy positions of *leadership* have a vital and serious responsibility
- 2) One of the most important aspects of leadership is that of *service* (1 Kgs. 12:7)
- 3) Jesus is the perfect example of one who came to serve (Matt. 20:28)
- 4) Need to examine the *service of leadership* as it applies to civil government, the workplace, the church, and the home

I) CIVIL GOVERNMENT

- A) King Rehoboam faced a choice to serve or “lord it over” (1 Kgs. 12:1-19)
 - 1) Chose to follow the bad advice of young men and caused a rebellion
 - 2) He did not seek the good of the nation (citizens) of which he was a leader
- B) Civil leaders must serve the good of those they govern (Prov. 20:28; 16:12; 29:14; Rom. 13:4)
 - 1) Corruption arises from selfish, evil motives, and hurts everyone (Prov. 29:4)

II) WORKPLACE

- A) The employer (boss, supervisor, manager, superintendent, executive, administrator) is to seek the good of his employees to create a productive workplace
- B) God commands “masters” to serve the needs of their “servants” (Col. 4:1; Eph. 6:7-9)
 - 1) Not selfish dictators seeking only please and enrich themselves

III) CHURCH

- A) Elders are to serve in feeding and protecting (*poimaino* – tend as a shepherd) the church of God (Acts 20:28-31; Titus 1:9)
- B) Serve as overseers (1 Pet. 5:1-3 – watching over souls, cf. Heb. 13:17)
 - 1) Not “being lords over” (same word *katakuriuo* as in Matt. 20:25)
- C) The elders are engaged in a good work (labor, toil) for the Lord and the flock (1 Tim. 3:1)

IV) HOME

- A) The leadership in the home is to be provided by the husband and father
- B) This leadership (headship – *kephale* 1 Cor. 11:3) should be one that encourages and supports the proper submission of the wife and obedience of the children
- C) *Children* – not to be provoked to wrath by abuse of leadership, but lovingly served in being brought up in the training (discipline) and admonition of the Lord (Eph. 6:4)
 - 1) “Deadbeat dads” are fathers who selfishly serve themselves and not their children
- D) *Wives* – the husband is *not* a dictatorial tyrant demanding humiliating subjugation to his desires
 - 1) Loving husbands will serve the needs and welfare of their wives who will, at the same time, be happy to obey the Lord and submit to their husbands’ leadership and needs (Eph. 5:22, 28-29)
 - a) Listening, helping, taking views into consideration, seeking her happiness (cf. 1 Cor. 7:3-4)
 - 2) Husbands who do *not* serve and fulfill the needs and welfare of their wives fail miserably in their responsibility to lead, bringing unnecessary stress to the submission of the wife
 - 3) **1 Peter 3:1-6** – “Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord” (see Gen. 18:1-12)
 - a) Abraham loved/worked with Sarah and served her needs; she loved/submitted to him
 - 4) **1 Peter 3:7** – husbands are to “dwell with [wives] with understanding” – lead with service!

Conclusion

God is the sovereign ruler over all things and served our greatest need by giving His only Son for our salvation from sin (Jn. 3:16). He continues to give us all things that pertain to life and godliness (2 Pet. 1:3). Will you submit to His will and obey His word? God awaits your decision today!