

Work Of The Church (III)

History Repeats Itself

Only the NT can identify Lord's church

1 Tim.4¹ Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, ² speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, ³ forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

Only the NT can identify Lord's church

Col.3¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. ¹⁷ And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Only the NT can identify Lord's church

2 Jn.⁹ Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.

I. Orphan Home Issue

Church benevolence

Acts 2⁴⁴ Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, ⁴⁵ and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Church benevolence

Acts 4³² Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common. ... ³⁴ Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, ³⁵ and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.

Church and individual

Mt.18¹⁵ Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶ But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.' ¹⁷ And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.

Church and individual

1 Co.12¹⁴ For in fact the body is not one member but many.

1 Tim.5¹⁶ If any believing man or woman has widows, let them relieve them, and do not let the church be burdened, that it may relieve those who are really widows.

Some misuse benevolence as form of evangelism

Jn.6²⁶ Jesus answered them and said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled.

Ac.6² Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, “It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables.

Some misuse benevolence as form of evangelism

2 Th.3¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.

2 Jn.⁹ Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. ¹⁰ If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; ¹¹ for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.

Some misuse benevolence as form of evangelism

1 Tim.5¹⁶ If any believing man or woman has widows, let them relieve them, and do not let the church be burdened, that it may relieve those who are really widows.

I. Orphan Home Issue

II. Sponsoring Church
Arrangement

Each church must do its own work

NT limits elders' oversight

Ac.20²⁸ Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

Each church must do its own work

NT limits elders' oversight

1 Pt.5¹ The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed:

² Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly...

No authority for one church to send funds
to another church to preach gospel

2 Co.8¹¹ But now you also must complete the
doing of it; that as there was a readiness to
desire it, so there also may be a completion out
of what you have. ¹² For if there is first a willing
mind, it is accepted according to what one has,
and not according to what he does not have...

No authority for one church to send funds
to another church to preach gospel

2 Co.8...¹⁴ but by an equality, that now at this
time your abundance may supply their lack, that
their abundance also may supply your lack—
that there may be equality.