

DOCTRINE OF THE PASTOR-TEACHER

1. Definition -

- a. The pastor-teacher is commissioned by God with His spiritual gift. (Eph. 4:11; 1 Tim. 4:14)
- b. He is the final authority in each local church in the “church age.” (1 Tim. 4:12; Titus 2:15)
- c. The pastor-teacher is charged with the responsibility of studying sound doctrine (1 Tim. 4:6-16; 2 Tim. 2:15; Titus 1:9; 2:1) and teaching it faithfully to his congregation.
- d. His primary function is the equipping and building up of the “body of Christ” (Eph. 4:11-16) until every believer in his congregation attains spiritual maturity in Christ (Col 1:24, 25, 28) and exalts Christ in his or her body. (Phil 1:20, 21)

2. Vocabulary -

- a. **ποιμήν και διδάσκαλος** - (Greek – poimen kai didaskalos; - pastor-teacher, found in the plural in Eph. 4:11; ie “pastors and teachers”)
 - (1) This is the title of the office and work of the pastor-teacher.
 - (2) This title expresses the authority of his message.
 - (3) The word “pastor” or “shepherd” is a metaphor for his work and care for his congregation. A shepherd leads, tends, feeds, and disciplines his sheep.
 - (4) The word “teacher” is used for the one communicating the Word of God to a local church congregation.
 - (5) The pastor-teacher not only communicates but also preaches, exhorts, comforts., and rebukes. (Titus 2:1, 15)
- b. **πρεσβύτερος** - (Greek – presbuteros – elder (1 Tim. 5:17,19)
 - (1) This is the title of rank and highest authority in the local church.
 - (2) This title expresses the authority of his person.
 - (3) The word “elder” refers to the pastor-teacher. (Titus 1:5; 1 Pet.5:1, 5; 2 John 1; 3 John 1; Acts 20:17, 28)
- c. **ἐπίσκοπος** - (Greek – episkopos – overseer, bishop, superintendent (Titus 1:7)
 - (1) This is the title of the administrative function of the pastor-teacher.
 - (2) This title expresses the authority of his policy.
 - (3) The word “bishop” or “overseer” refers to the pastor-teacher. (Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:7; Acts 20:28)
 - (4) Jesus Christ Himself is said to be the “Chief Shepherd” and “Overseer.” (1 Pet. 2:25; 5:4; John 10:11)
- d. **διάκονος** - (Greek – diakonos – deacon, minister, servant (Col. 1:23, 25)
 - (1) This is a general term which refers to the administrative assistants to the pastor-teacher in a local church. (Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:8-13)

- (2) This word is used for government administrators. (Rom. 13:4)
 - (3) It is used in a general sense for the universal ministry of believers.
(2 Cor. 3:6; 4:1; 5:18; 6:3, 4)
 - (4) The word “deacon” or “minister” refers to the pastor–teacher in (1 Cor. 3:5; Eph. 3:7; Col. 1:23, 25; 4:7; 1 Thess. 3:2; 1 Tim. 1:12).
3. The rulership and authority of the pastor-teacher within the local church is taught in (1 Thess. 5:12; Heb. 13:7, 17).
 4. While the pastor-teacher is the ruling authority within the local church, he is not to abuse his authority but instead be an example to his congregation. (1 Pet. 5:2, 3; 1 Tim. 4:12)
 5. The pastor-teacher is not a superior person but is a total product of the grace of God. (1 Tim. 1:12-16; 1 Cor. 15:10; Eph. 3:7)
 6. The pastor-teacher must struggle and work hard to fulfill his ministry. (Col. 1:24, 29; Col. 4:12, 13; 1 Tim. 4:10; 2 Tim. 4:5; Heb. 13:17)
 7. The pastor-teacher must suffer on behalf of Christ (Col. 1:24; 2 Tim. 1:8, 12; 2:3, 9; 10) and on behalf of his congregation.
 8. The pastor-teacher receives double blessing in time (1 Tim. 5:17) and a special reward in eternity. (1 Pet. 5:4)
 9. The pastor-teacher’s function within the local church is taught by several metaphors:
 - a. Shepherd - (Eph. 4:11)
 - b. Joints of the body - (Eph. 4:16; Col. 2:19)
 - c. Greek drama: “supply” – (Eph. 4:16)
 - d. Military – (2 Tim. 2:3, 4; 4:7)
 - e. Athletic – (2 Tim. 2:5; 4:7)
 - f. Farming – (2 Tim. 2:6)
 10. The profile of the pastor-teacher is found in (Col. 1:23-29; 1 Tim. 3:1-7; 4:6-16; 2 Tim. 2:24-26; 4:1-5; Titus 1:5-9; 2:1, 15; 3:1, 2; Eph. 4:11-16).
 11. Qualifications for and characteristics of the pastor-teacher:
 1. Be a student of Bible Doctrine (1 Tim. 4:6, 11, 13; 2 Tim. 2:15)
 2. Be able and prepared to teach (1 Tim. 3:2; 2 Tim. 2:2; 24; 4:2)
 3. Prescribe and teach with authority (1 Tim. 4:11-16; Titus 2:1, 15; Col. 1:28)
 4. Teach the “mystery doctrine” of the church (Eph. 3:3, 9; 6:19; Col. 1:26, 27; 4:3)
 5. Preach the Gospel (2 Tim. 4:2, 5)
 6. Refute those who contradict (Titus 1:9; 2 Tim. 2:25, 26; 4:2)

7. Reprove severely with sound teaching rebellious men and deceiver (Titus 1:10-13)
8. Review and repeat Bible doctrine (Titus 3:1, 2)
9. Be an administrator (Titus 1:7; 1 Tim. 3:4)
10. Be a servant of the Lord (2 Tim. 2:24)
11. Be self-disciplined (1 Tim. 3:2; 4:7, 8; Titus 1:8)
12. Be faithful and consistent (2 Tim. 2:2; 3:14, 15; 1 Tim. 1:12; Eph. 6:21; Col. 1:7; Col. 4:7)
13. Be confident in Bible doctrine (1 Tim. 3:13; Titus 3:8)
14. Be above reproach (Titus 1:6; 1 Tim. 3:2)
15. Be honorable (1 Tim. 3:2)
16. Be an example (1 Tim. 4:12; 1 Pet. 5:2, 3)
17. Have a good reputation with unbelievers (1 Tim. 3:7; 2 Cor. 8:21)
18. Care for the congregation (1 Tim. 3:5)
19. Not be a new convert (1 Tim. 3:6)
20. Not be a female (1 Cor. 14: 34, 35; 1 Tim 2:11, 12)
21. Able to handle rejection (1 Thess.2:2; 4:1-8; Col. 1:24)
22. Be monogamous (Titus 1:6; 1 Tim. 3:2)
23. Keep his children under control (1 Tim. 3:4; Titus 1:6)
24. Be gentle (1 Tim 3:3; 2 Tim. 2:25)
25. Be patient (2 Tim. 2:24; 4:2)
26. Be hospitable (1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:8)
27. Not be arrogant (Titus 1:7)
28. Not be quick tempered (Titus 1:7)
29. Not be rebellious (Titus 1:6)
30. Be uncontentious (1 Tim. 3:3; 2 Tim. 2:24)
31. Not be a brawler (1 Tim. 3:3; Titus 1:7)
32. Not be a gossip (1 Tim. 3:11)
33. Not be a lover of money (1 Tim. 3:3; Titus 1:7)
34. Be loving what is good (Titus 1:8)
35. Be sensible (Titus 1:8)
36. Be just (Titus 1:8)
37. Be devout (be holy) (Titus 1:8)
38. Not be an alcoholic (1 Tim. 3:2, 3; Titus 1:7)
39. Flee youthful lusts (2 Tim. 2:22)