

HOW SHOULD THE CHURCH WORK WITHIN THE KINGDOM OF GOD?

By: Fountain Hendricks

(Acts 20:25-28)

In this modern era, the purpose of the church has been lost. The church has become its **OWN** idol outside of King Jesus, meaning that the church functions independently from God's Kingdom government.

King Jesus **DID NOT** establish the church to be separated from His Kingdom. His purpose was for the church to work **WITHIN** His Kingdom. The church is **NOT** meant to be a place where people come to socialize. It is **NOT** meant to be a facility to hold gospel concerts.

It is **NOT** meant to be the central location to receive the Word of God. The **PURPOSE** of the church is to be the **ADMINISTRATIVE DOMAIN** for the Kingdom of God.

Hearing and receiving the Word of God is **PART** of the functionality of going to church. However, that is not the dominant purpose. When Jesus ascended to heaven He **DID NOT** send the church to teach you all things, He sent the **HOLY SPIRIT** to teach you **ALL** things according to John 14:26.

The purpose of the Holy Spirit is to teach you the Word of God, while the purpose of the church is to **MANAGE** the resources of God's Kingdom.

**THE CHURCH HAS LOST ITS INFLUENCE
BECAUSE IT OPERATES OUTSIDE OF ITS
ORIGINAL PURPOSE!**

MANAGEMENT

Acts 20:25-28

The Apostle Paul gave a definitive definition in regards to the purpose of the church in Acts 20:25-28. The scripture

says, *"And now, I know that none of you among whom I was preaching the **KINGDOM OF GOD** will ever see me again. So today I tell you that if any of you should be lost, I am not responsible, because I have told you everything God wants you to know.*

*Be careful for yourselves and for all the people the Holy Spirit has given to you to **CARE** for. You must be like shepherds to the church of God, which he bought with the death of his own son."*

The Apostle Paul provided us with an articulate examination regarding the church's role on the earth. The role of the church is to **CARE** for the people that the Holy Spirit has given them charge over. In the King James version the word care is replaced with the word feed.

The church has taught us that the word "*feed*" is only relative to preaching the Word of God. However, this idea of this word is **INCOMPLETE**. When the Apostle Paul talks about feeding the flock of God he is **NOT** solely talking about preaching the Word of God.

He is talking about **CARING** for the flock of God that a spiritual leader has been given rulership over. Caring for people is **NOT** limited to talking. It encompasses provision, protection, healthcare, economic security, relational stability, etc.

THE KINGDOM MANDATE

The church is mandated to do **TWO** things so they can reflect the glory of the Kingdom. The **FIRST** thing the church is mandated to do is to take care of the people the Holy Spirit has given them rulership over. In other words, the church should take care of its **OWN** flock **BEFORE** they reach out to the community.

The Apostle Paul said it best in Acts 20:28. The reason the church remains ineffective is because they are working **AGAINST** the grain of the Kingdom. The church has chosen to help strangers in the community **BEFORE** it cares for the Kingdom citizens within their faithful flock.

As a church body the spiritual leader is **OBLIGATED** to nurture, manage and care for the people whom God has entrusted to him. The reason why a multitude of church attendees are **NOT** excited about giving their time, money and resources to the church is because the church does **NOT** reflect the purpose of the Kingdom of God.

When the church learns to **HONOR** and **CARE** for their attendees **FIRST** the attendees will be willing to give and share what they have. This is what happened in Acts 4:32-35. This group of believers (church) understood the purpose of the church.

They understood the concept of the Kingdom economy called commonwealth. All of these believers were united in their hearts and spirits. They shared everything they had with one another. The church **ALIGNED** itself with the Kingdom blueprint and no one in this church lacked anything.

ADMINISTRATION

The **SECOND** thing the church is mandated to do is **MANAGE** the Kingdom's resources. When parishioners tithe to the church, the church is **SUPPOSE** to manage the resources that is being given. Malachi 3:10 commands us to bring the tithe into the **STOREHOUSE** so there will be meat in God's house.

The word storehouse according to the hebrew dialect means "*depository*". As it pertains to the tithe, the church is meant to function like a bank. It is suppose to store the money coming in.

When a **FAITHFUL** and **COMMITTED** tither needs something they should feel confident to lean on the Kingdom of God's administration to supply their need. If the church functioned like it is suppose to no one should lack.

Unfortunately, many churches are **NOT** governed like this.

When churches are **NOT** governing themselves under the Kingdom mandate they are operating independently. The ideas of men are deciding what transpires rather than the word and mandate of King Jesus.

When a church decides to utilize Kingdom resources to build everything else but its people, the resources are being **MISMANAGED**. The Kingdom of God primary focus is its citizens. When a church does not have this same objective, they are out of order.

Every church should **INCREASE AND UPDATE** their methods on how it cares for its people. There are many programs a church can implement. There are many ways to provide for the needs of people. It all depends on what your people need.

If you are a spiritual leader have you asked your faithful followers what they need from your church? As a **COMMITTED TITHER**, have you told your church what you need from them? If not, start the conversation so the

Kingdom mandate can be fulfilled at the church you attend.

Please keep this in mind. The church is not only a place for you to shout, dance and hear good preaching. It is designed to be a place of **SAFETY, SHELTER AND PROVISION.**

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GOD.

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