



## WEEKLY CHRISTIAN FOCUS



**P**astors, Shepherds, Pastor's wives, God's sheep, 'Visitation', caring, looking after, Warning others and much more! PART II

(THIS IS AT LEAST A THREE-PART SERIES OF GREAT IMPORTANCE! You and your church may not survive the future without this counsel).

WARM GREETINGS!

I hope you have had the opportunity to read part I of this series.

This edition and the next ones are going to build on that with attention to some of these topics:

- Prayers and respect for your True Pastor (Praying
- For your pastors/ leaders/shepherds)
- Spiritual battles, physical battles, and the ruthless spiritual demonic attacks on your Pastor
- **Why is being a True Pastor the most difficult job in the world? The dangers of being a True Pastor.**
- **God's Genuine Love and Power are the keys to your Pastor and your flock being successful.**

Last time we understood in depth that a true pastor had to be able to know or do three things:

- (i) Feed God's People the Word of God.
- (ii) Lay down even your own life for God's true sheep.
- (iii) Be personally aware of the devil's fight against you and understand (ongoing process), what to do about that.

A true Pastor will be doing this. He has been called by God into this Ministry which includes these three priorities above, and much more.

### **The dangers of being a True Pastor.**

In these articles, I am not focusing very much on your church set up (if you have a 'church').

I am speaking globally about the concept of a man of God and his wife, if he has one, and what they are doing and how others can help and pray for them.

In this day and age and even before, it is and was quite common for a Pastor to be pushed out of his church, by members of his congregation, or people of financial influence or certain 'women' who felt

like they didn't like this or that sermon. In fact, it is common now. In the last three years I have come across three pastors known by me who were evicted by their church for some petty reason or another. These changes had devastating consequences and in one case, one church itself that I know of, has never recovered from voting out its beloved pastor, by 'voting out' I mean just some elders or 'Board'.

Truly these are wicked things when they are done with no guidance of God against the Pastor. In fact, such people in my opinion, should be in fear and trembling, to stretch out their hands against an anointed man of God.

In one situation the Pastor became homeless, he had to move house in some cases, and his wife and children relocated and started a new school. His financial situation also changed drastically and immediately in one case I know of. He had a breakdown of sorts, Also members of the congregation, were not given a valid reason and some of them left or stayed and were just left confused and dismayed, as in this one case, they loved their Pastor!

**So these things happen, despite much scripture telling us to honour such people, treat them well, give them a 'double portion', respect them and pray for them.**

Recent church history affirms this 'habit' of evil, including against such famous people as William Booth, and later George Jeffries, possibly the

greatest Evangelist the UK ever produced in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Even today, I believe the Elim Pentecostal denomination has perhaps never fully and corporately confessed its sins in kicking this wonderful man out of his own denomination, which he founded! I may be wrong.

**So there is no-one the devil hates more than a truly sincere and 'righteous by faith' Man of God who desires to win people to Christ and feed his flock!**

Such people are few and far between, but they do exist still in some abundance on the earth. If you honour them, Jesus and Paul said, you will



be greatly blessed. Just as Moses needed help to keep his arms up, so the Israelites could win the battle, so does your Pastor need both practical help and especially prayer, from any and every one in his flock, including other elders and every single person. I wish I and others could more humbly understand this.

Like I have just said, the devil hates such people and will send along a string of attacks

as often as possible to hurt him and therefore you, as one of God's sheep. Such attacks may be, but are certainly not limited to: sickness, spiritual battles of the mind, lack of sleep, stress, lack of sufficient quiet and rest and Word of God time, the devil sending along the Spirit of Jezebel to him face to face though another attractive woman to derail his life; bad advice through others, deaths in the family, accidents, persecution by others outside the 'church'. Financial struggles, bad habits and from childhood he may be still struggling to overcome. Pressures and expectations to conform to a certain 'way' of being a Pastor inflicted on him through Conferences, other Christian leaders etc., instead of letting God lead him. (More on that later, as Jesus spoke specifically about that). As you can see this simple list is staggering for most of us to handle!

**Being thankful for your Pastor. Praying for him.**

So if you have a Pastor wherever you are, whether he is overseeing 4 people or 400+ people, it behoves you to pray for him, his wife and their children, on a regular basis. If he is bringing the Word of God to you, if he visits you or tries to, or cares for your soul, you have the obligation to pray for them and don't let the devil confuse you into looking at his 'flesh', weaknesses or other shortcomings! Jesus told us to Watch and Pray and not Watch and Criticise!

It is a very difficult job for a sincere man. He needs all the help he can get and

encouragement and prayer.  
So I repeat; In one sense, his position very much fits that of Moses who needed help in holding up his arms on the mountain, so that the battle below in the valley was being won by God's people.

**God's Genuine Love and Power are the keys to your Pastor and your flock being successful.**

It must be true that:

THE FOREMOST REQUIREMENT FOR ANY PASTOR OR MISSIONARY and even any true disciple of Jesus is:

The same driving Love of God which motivated the Apostle Paul and all true disciples of Jesus Christ, and all the martyrs and every great man or woman of God, over the last two thousand years,

A Pastor or any disciples needs to pray for an irresistible compassion which should motivate them in everything they do, say, and places they go.

THE LOVE OF CHRIST constrains us! (2Cor.5:14) as Paul said and which we should all pray for and not just the Pastor or missionary.

Jesus said that IF disciples LOVE each other, God dwells in them and His Love is perfected in them ... and we have known and believed the Love that God hath to us. God is Love, and he that dwells in love dwells in God and God in him.

FOR GOD SO LOVED the world that He gave His only begotten Son, and God commends His Love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

(Jn.3:16; Ro.5:8; 1Jn.3:16; Jn.13:34,35; 1Jn.3:1) also John chapters 15, and 17

because the Love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost.

This is the victory that overcomes the world, even your faith, but it is Faith which works by LOVE (Gal.5:22; Ro.5:5; Mt.22:37-40; Gal.5:14; 1Jn.5:4;

Gal.5:6; Ro.8:37; 1Cor.13:13; Jn.21:15-17; SOS.2:4)

If we all do that and the Pastor/ Missionary does that then we will all have much more success for the Lord.

We will surely find out that GOD'S LOVE IS THE ANSWER TO EVERYTHING: It will 'save' people for God, forgive sins, satisfy hearts, purifies minds, redeems bodies, wins friends, and makes our life here in earth life worth living.

May God bless you and give you a positive and fruitful life as Pastors and flocks. In Jesus' Name! Until next week,

Jerry for the WCF Team

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