

A Biblical Service



By Randall Ricker April 30, 2022

Sabbath Church of God

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Not forsaking the assembling

Hebrews 10:24-25

24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 **not forsaking the assembling** of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Emphasis on instruction

Hebrews 9:9-10

9 It was symbolic for the present time in which both **gifts and sacrifices** are offered which cannot make him who performed the service perfect in regard to the conscience-- 10 concerned only with foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly ordinances **imposed until the time of reformation.**



Pond5

Inspired speakers

1 Corinthians 14:26, 29-32

26 How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification... 29 Let two or three prophets [4396 a foreteller (“prophet”); by analogy an **inspired speaker**] speak, and let the others judge. 30 But if anything is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. 31 For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. 32 And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.



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Not everybody should teach

1 Corinthians 12:28-30

28 And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? **Are all teachers?** Are all workers of miracles? 30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

James 3:1

My brethren, **let not many of you become teachers**, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.

Who decides who will teach?

Acts 15:1-2, 13, 19, 22

1 And certain men came down from Judea and taught the brethren, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." 2 Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem, to the apostles and elders, about this question... 13 And after they had become silent, **James answered**, saying, "Men and brethren, listen to me: ...19 Therefore **I judge that** we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God, ...22 Then it pleased the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas, namely, Judas who was also named Barsabas, and Silas, leading men among the brethren.

Organization in the Church

Ephesians 4:11-13

11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and **teachers** [1320 instructor], 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

Titus 1:5-6

5 For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and **appoint elders** [4245 *presbuteros* older, a senior] in every city as I commanded you-- 6 if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination.

Titus 1:7-9

7 For a bishop [1985 *episkopos* **superintendent**] must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, 8 but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, 9 holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by **sound doctrine**, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.

Organization in the Church

1 Timothy 3:1-7

1 This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop [1984 *episkope* **superintendence**], he desires a good work. 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; 3 not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; 4 one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence 5 (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he **take care of the church** of God?); 6 not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. 7 Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

Truth and disputes

1 Timothy 3:15

but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

John 17:17

Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

1 Timothy 6:3-5

3 If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, 4 he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, 5 useless wranglings

Truth and disputes

2 Peter 2:1

But there were also false prophets among the people, even as **there will be false teachers among you**, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.

1 Corinthians 15:1-4, 23, 24

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you **hold fast that word which I preached to you**--unless you believed in vain. 3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, ...23 But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming. 24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.

The same doctrine for belief and action

1 Corinthians 1:10

Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all **speak the same thing**, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

1 Corinthians 14:33, 40

33 For **God is not the author of confusion** but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints... 40 Let all things be done **decently and in order**.

1 Timothy 1:3-5, 10

3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia--remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they **teach no other doctrine**, 4 nor give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which cause disputes rather than godly edification which is in faith. 5 Now **the purpose of the commandment is love** from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith, ... 10 for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and if there is any other thing that is contrary to **sound doctrine**.

Harmony in love

1 Corinthians 13:2, 4-10, 13

2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing... 4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part. 10 But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away... 13 And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but **the greatest of these is love.**