

The Making Of A minister Of The Gospel

Perspective of the message of the hour

By

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A minister of the gospel is a holder of either the office of a pastor, teacher, prophet, evangelist or apostle

Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. ¹¹ And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; ¹² For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: ¹³ Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: (Eph 4:8, 11-13 (KJV))

[¹]The Bible said there's five offices in the Church that is *ordained* of God and put in the Church--office holders. [²]First is apostles, prophet, teachers, evangelists, pastors.

[³]Now, there's five offices that God put in the Church; there's nine spiritual gifts that accompany that offices and all the members of the Body. [⁴]The first is apostles, which is missionaries. [⁵]The word "apostle" means "one that's sent." [⁶] The word "missionary" means "one that's sent," the same word. [⁷]Apostles, prophets, teachers, pastors, evangelists, these offices God sets in the Church. [⁸] They're all in operation, or should be. [⁹]We cannot bypass one and say there's teachers without saying evangelists. [¹⁰]We cannot say there's evangelists without saying there is apostles. [¹¹]We cannot say there's apostles without admitting there's prophets. [¹²]All of them are for the perfecting of the Body of Christ.

He is predestinated of God, or ordained of God and not man

[13] They're God's foreordination. By predestination, by foreknowledge He saw it, placed it in the Church for every age.

[14] He was the voice of one crying in the wilderness.^[15] Do you believe that?

[16] God told Jeremiah, said, "Before you was even formed in your mother's womb, I knew you, sanctified you, and *ordained* you a prophet over the nations," before he ever come from his mother's womb. ^[17]Do you believe that? ^[18]Then you have to believe in foreordination. ^[19]See? ^[20] That's grace. ^[21]Not by choice, it's by the grace of God.

" A voice of one crying, Make ready in the waste land the way of the Lord, make level in the lowland a highway for our God." (Isaiah 40:3 (BBE)) This scripture is speaking of John the baptist before he was born. After coming of age he went "...before Him (Jesus) in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared to the Lord." (Luke 1:17) "And this is the witness of John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to him with the question, Who are you? He said, I am the voice of one crying in the waste land, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said Isaiah the prophet." (John 1:19, 23 (BBE)) Then Jesus vindicated him saying, "And if you are able to see it, this is Elijah who was to come." (Matt 11:14 (BBE))

Jeremiah was ordained a prophet of God to the nations as stated by the following scripture.

⁴ Now the word of the Lord came to me, saying, ⁵ *Before you were formed in the body of your mother I had knowledge of you, and before your birth I*

made you holy; *I have given you the work of being a prophet to the nations* (Jer 1:4-5 (BBE)). [Emphasis mine]

Giving account of his vision, Isaiah said, "¹ In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord seated in his place, high and lifted up, and the Temple was full of the wide skirts of his robe. ² Over him were the winged ones: everyone had six wings; two for covering his face, two for covering his feet, and two for flight. ³ And one said in a loud voice to another, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of armies: all the earth is full of his glory. ⁴ And the bases of the door-pillars were shaking at the sound of his cry, and the house was full of smoke. ⁵ Then I said, The curse is on me, and my fate is destruction; for I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of armies." (Isaiah 6:1-5 (BBE))

[22]Then we find at the--in the temple, when he was in prayer. [23]Being a prophet, his makeup was to see visions. [24]He was born that way, of course, being a prophet. [25]And he needed a touch from God. [26] And God had *ordained* him to--to be a prophet.

[27]We believe that the Holy Spirit calls men. [28]The Holy Spirit *ordains* men. [29]No matter we could lay hands on Brother McKinney, or any other *minister* hour after hour, all day long, and give him long sheets of paper he could sign, vows to creeds; it'll never do a thing to him. [30]But let the Holy Ghost strike him once. [31]That's it. That does it. [32]Nobody has to tell him anything else. [33]He's gone. [34]See? [35]That's all. [36]And then, the only thing we can do is a fellowship that we recognize our brother is in that position.

"Mr. Branham, what denomination are you with?"I said, "I'm not with any." And he said, "Then, were you *ordained*?"

I said, "Yes, sir."

He said, "Who *ordained* you?"

I said, "The Lord Jesus gave me the Holy Spirit to preach the Gospel, and gave me a commission."

Well, that's the ordination that we need. Jesus never said to His disciples, "Go out to the..." I'm not criticizing those things, but they've lived their day. He didn't say, "Go, study to be a *minister* for so many years." He said, "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until you be endued with power from on high." He said that to men who couldn't sign their own name. "And after this, the Holy Ghost is come upon you, then you shall be My witnesses, both in Jerusalem, Judaea, Samaria, and to the utmost parts of the earth." That's the *ordination*.^[37]

^[38]I do not believe that man can be called of man and be a successful *minister*. ^[39]I believe gifts and callings are without repentance (Romans 11:29), that God by His foreknowledge foreordained His *ministers* into the Gospel, and the gifts into the Church.

^[40]God told Jeremiah, I believe it was, that said, "Before you was even formed in your mother's womb, I knew you, and sanctified you, and *ordained* you a prophet to the nations." ^[41]Seven hundred and twelve years before John the Baptist was born, God told Isaiah that he was the voice of one crying in the wilderness. ^[42]He couldn't help from being John. ^[43]And all the way from the garden of Eden, and yes, before the foundation of the world, Jesus Christ was *ordained* the Son of God. ^[44]So we are what we are by the grace of God.

^[45]But your pastor is *ordained* of God, if he's a believer, to pray for the sick.

There are ministering spirits sent of God ordained ministers that work through men

[46]^u We know that Paul had the Holy Spirit. Do you believe that? Well, when he was fourteen days and nights upon the sea, without any moon or stars, and it was all dark. And he went down in the gallery to pray. He came back and told the men, "Be of a good courage; for the Angel of God, Whose servant I am, came to me last night and said, 'Fear not, Paul.'" Is that right? Not the Holy Spirit; the Angel of God (See?), an Angel of God, sent from God. And then John the revelator. The whole Book of Revelation, when It was wrote, he said, "I have sent My angel," Jesus did. And John fell down to worship the angel, but the Angel said, "Stand up. Worship God." See, a true angel of God won't stand to be worshiped. And he said that he was of the prophets, and was his fellow men that had been sent to signify these things. Therefore, angelic beings is *ordained ministers* of God, to come to the earth to bear record of God. And they work through mortal beings, just as they did through Daniel and back through the ages there. And I believe it with all my heart.

A minister is ordained by laying on of hands to sanction and recognize the gift of God in Him. It's done by elders

[47]Now, the Bible times, the way that they ordained a minister was by *recognizing a gift of God in this minister--ministry.*

[48]While you have your heads bowed, I know that there's a brother come down here this morning, Brother Slink (I believe they called him "Sink, Jim Sink"), who I believe to be, that our brethren has *recognized to be a teacher of this Word.* [49]Isn't that right, Brother Sink? [50]We're to lay hands on him

this morning just before we pray for the sick, to ordain him a minister, one of our brothers, to go out to the churches to preach the Gospel. ^[51]Brother Jim Sink, will you come up here to the altar? ^[52]Come, Brother Neville. ^[53]Brother Junie Jackson, are you here? ^[54]Any of the other ministers of this faith?

^[55]When we ordain these ministers by *laying on of hands*... ^[56]Now, we realize that the Scriptural way of ordaining a minister is *laying on of hands*. ^[57]Now, we do not believe that gifts comes by laying on of hands. ^[58]We believe that *laying on of hands is a sanction to what we've already seen*.

"When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also. (2 Tim 1:5 (KJV))

He asks Timothy to stir up the gift of God in him

"⁶ Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. (2 Tim 1:6 (KJV))

^[59]Now, when *they laid hands upon Timothy* and upon those brethren, *they had noticed in them men was the gift*. ^[60]Remember, "stir up that gift, which was in you, come from your grandmother Lois." ^[61]And they seen this in Timothy; and therefore, the *elders laid hands upon him*, ordaining him, not put hands upon a man that nothing has ever been showed forth. ^[62]You see? ^[63]And they just asked the blessings, and we all believe that. ^[64]So we don't impart spiritual gifts; *we only recognize them and lay hands upon them to sanction them*, that we believe that God has done such things for the people.

[65]Now, latter day brethren--latter day rain brethren got though--that mixed up. [66]They thought they give him a gift by doing that. [67]No, the gift was already in him, and *they just laid their hands upon him as a sanction* that they believed that God had already put the gift in him; and *they sanctioned it by laying on of hands.* [68]And these men here in this church that I believe that's possessed in their soul was this Quickening Power, if you brothers will come up just now, Brother Ruddell and all the rest of you that's here in the church, and the elders and sister churches around to lay hands upon Brother Capps, that he might be ordained by our sanction before this audience and sent out to preach the Gospel of the Lord Jesus wherever God may call him. [69]He becomes--he's already one of us by birth. [70]He's one of us because he's believed the Message. [71]He's one of us because that-that he stands for the Truth of the Word. [72]And we want Brother Capps to be officially *ordained* before you by the *laying on of hands*, that he's one of us.

A minister is not a woman, women are not ordained ministers

“**11** Let a woman quietly take the place of a learner and be under authority.
12 In my opinion it is right for a woman not to be a teacher, or to have rule over a man, but to be quiet. (1 Tim 2:11-12 (BBE))

[73]He says that he was with a group, and the group wanted to *ordain* women *ministers*. [74]He [Brother Correll] couldn't stand it, and he had to break away from it. [75]He [Dr. Roy E. Davis] wanted to *ordain* some women preachers, and I said, "No, sir. [76]As an elder," I said, "I cannot do that consciously; it's against the Word of God. [77]We have nothing against those women; they are sisters; we love them, but we believe that they got their

place; in that they must stay. ^[78]And we believe that they are darling to a man, a helpmate, and by no means... ^[79]We think they're the greatest gift outside of salvation that God ever give a man. ^[80]But she's got no place in the pulpit according to the Word of God. ^[81]Upon that basis and your faith in God, we lay hands on you as fellowship to come go with us. ^[82]Let us lay our hands.

^[83]He said, "If any man be spiritual or a prophet, he'll acknowledge that what I say is the commandments of the Lord." ^[84]If a angel come from heaven and said, "Let the women preach and be preachers, *ordain* them *ministers*." the Bible said, "Let him be accursed." ^[85]This is the commandments of the Lord here.

^[86]Show me one place where God ever *ordained* a woman preacher.

A minister is not to impersonate an office that isn't his

^[87]But to see the vision of the Lord, it caused the prophet to confess he was a sinner. ^[88]He didn't walk out and say, "Yes, glory to God. ^[89]Hallelujah, that's good enough for me. ^[90]Praise God, I'm going out."^[91] Or, he didn't go up and say, "I'll not listen to That. ^[92]I had a mental allusion. ^[93]It isn't according to what the priest says." ^[94]No.

^[95]He took lesson to it. ^[96]He saw what God was trying to show him. ^[97]Why? ^[98]The spiritual seed was already in him, like it was in the woman at the well, like it was the others. ^[99]They were *ordained*, foreordained to this. ^[100]And he saw the reason. ^[101]He saw Uzziah in the leper house, a great man who tried to impersonate something. ^[102]He saw God setting there, and he saw how God dressed His servants and how He sent them out. ^[103]Caused him to say,

"I am a sinner." ^[104]Then it come the time for the cleansing after confession,
"I am a sinner."

^[105]He got so lifted up in his heart, until he thought he could take a *minister's* place. ^[106]*He tried to become a minister*, which he wasn't called to be. ^[107]And I think that's a many times that where sometimes men in these ranks, and the businessmen's groups, they--they get to a spot that God blesses them in their business, and makes them prosperous, and so forth, till they get to a place till they think they ought to preach the Gospel also. And that's wrong. ^[108]You should always let a *minister* do that preaching.

^[109]He saw a real Example. ^[110]In other words, God said, "Look up this a way, I am your Example." ^[111]And if we could only do that in our own ministry. ^[112]I'm addressing the *ministers*, and businessmen, teenage. ^[113]*Ministers*, if we could only do that... ^[114]We, each one have our place in Christ. ^[115] And to try to impersonate Billy Graham would be only the same thing that Uzziah did, it'd only result in the same way of a disaster. ^[116]Just be what you are, what God made you to be.

^[117]Does the Scripture teach that gifts and callings are without repentance? ^[118]That's right. ^[119]*You can't make yourself something you're not.* ^[120]I wanted to be six foot tall and weigh a hundred and ninety pounds, or... It didn't do me any good. ^[121] He said, "Who, taking thought can add one cubit to his stature?" ^[122]You are what you are by the grace of God. ^[123] You can't add nothing; you can't take nothing. ^[124]If God wanted you to be a *minister*, He *ordained* you to be a *minister* before the world ever began. ^[125]You believe that? It's what the Bible teaches.

His success depends on his relationship with his creator

^[126]Don't faint when you're rebuked. ^[127]When you read something in the Scripture, and you know that you should humble yourself, and follow the Word of God in the path that He *ordained* for you to walk in, then you don't do it, then the first thing you know, it's over. ^[128]Your influence is spoiled.

^[129]Now, we must remember that. ^[130] And this young prophet, what a lesson that was to him. ^[130]Then when he seen this king...By this very thing Isaiah learned one of his greatest lessons, that no matter how great a man might be, how much influence he might have, but *when he fails to walk in light, when he fails to obey God, then his influence is ruined and he's took off the field.*

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- [38]-[44] William Branham," Balm in Gilead," 59-0707, Par. 7,
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- [117]-[125] William Branham, "Be of good cheer," 54-0721, Par.
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