

The Body Ministry

ROMANS 12:1-8

- » 1 † ¶ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.
- » 2 † And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.
- » 3 † For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.
- » 4 † For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:
- » 5 † So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.
- » 6 † Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;
- » 7 † Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;
- » 8 † Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

EPHESIANS 4:11-16

- » 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:
- » 14 † That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
- » 15 † But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:
- » 16 † From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

60-1206 THE.SMYRNAEAN.CHURCH.AGE_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN ROJC 185-227 TUESDAY_

« 19 † **God never intended the Church to be run by men. God runs His Church, and He runs it through gifts of the Spirit. The gifts of the Spirit is in the Church to correct the spirit. He's got five ministerial offices in His Church.** First of them is apostles, or, missionaries. Missionary is the highest calling there is, apostle. The word missionary means "one sent"; apostle means "one sent." Why they ever chose to be called a missionary, I don't know. But they are apostles. All right. Apostles, prophets, teachers, evangelists, pastors. Now, that's the elected offices of God to His Church.

Then in each local church there's nine spiritual gifts that come among the people, that is, knowledge, wisdom, gifts of healing, working of miracles, speaking with tongues, interpretation of tongues. And all these things go in each local body. And every person in the church has an individual ministry, and that individual ministry goes together with the rest of the ministry, to edify the Body of Jesus Christ. And never...

54-0103M QUESTIONS.AND.ANSWERS.1_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN COD SUNDAY_

« 245 † **Now, one day there was sin in Israel, and there was a man by the tribe of the name of Levi. They pulled their swords, and they went with Moses to the camp, and they destroyed everything that was sin. Is that right? God looked down and said, "Because you did this and stood for Me, your-- all these others will serve you. You go right into the temple as priests." Is that right? "You stay right in the temple, and the rest of them will work and will bring in a tenth and take care of you." Is that right? Oh, hallelujah. If you can see what that temple was, that the Levites was the Bride. Now, when sin is a-wakening on every hand, the Levites is pulling their swords. The Holy Ghost born Bride is standing out, saying, "Jesus Christ in the positive is Jesus Christ in the negative, just the same. Sin is still sin; it's wrong to do these things." That's right; they're standing there with a Sword. God says, "Come ye now, the blessed of My Father." That is the Bride.**

64-1227 WHO.DO.YOU.SAY.THIS.IS_ PHOENIX.AZ V-6 N-9 SUNDAY_

« 173 † Notice, it was then, hallelujah, when Moses stepped forth and said, "Who's for me and God?" Amen! It was then the Levite pulled his sword and went through the camp and utterly slayed everything that was connected with it. Amen! Everything; every man that had a Moabite woman, they killed them right together. Now the hour has come. Where is that man? Where is Aaron's sons, some of the priesthood that's willing to pull the Word of God, this sharp two-edged Sword? Said, "Who stands for me and God?" Where's he at? Can invite, invite but nobody answers. See what I mean? We don't get it. We just... There's something wrong. Notice, there they was... It was then that Moses stood up and said these things.

64-1227 WHO.DO.YOU.SAY.THIS.IS_ PHOENIX.AZ V-6 N-9 SUNDAY_

« 174 † Notice, their sin, that they did there, when they denominated themselves with Moab and made them one body... That sin was never forgiven them. I'm just going to coast on that just a minute. (It's late, but just a minute.) Their sin was never forgiven them. Not one of them ever made the Promised Land. Jesus said, in... Excuse me. Saint John 6, Jesus said; in Saint John 6, when they said, "Our fathers eat manna in the wilderness"... They were Pentecostals. Brother, they eat the manna, they had the real thing.

175 Jesus said, "And they're, every one, dead. They're perished. They're Eternally gone." Their sin was never forgiven them. What did they do? They broke their covenant with God, and organized with Balaam, the hireling prophet that wouldn't take the warning of God; wouldn't take the Word of God; wouldn't take nothing of God. But he was determined to get them all one. Can you see the folly? I could stay on that a long time, but I--I think you got it. See? Notice, their sin was never forgiven them; not one of them that lived under those blessings and eat that manna and everything.

GENESIS 49:5-7

» 5 † ¶ Simeon and Levi are brethren; instruments of cruelty are in their habitations.
» 6 † O my soul, come not thou into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united: for in their anger they slew a man, and in their selfwill they digged down a wall.
» 7 † Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce; and their wrath, for it was cruel: I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel.

JOSHUA 19:9

» 9 † Out of the portion of the children of Judah was the inheritance of the children of Simeon: for the part of the children of Judah was too much for them: therefore the children of Simeon had their inheritance within the inheritance of them.

DEUTERONOMY 10:8-9

» 8 † At that time the LORD separated the tribe of Levi, to bear the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister unto him, and to bless in his name, unto this day.
» 9 † Wherefore Levi hath no part nor inheritance with his brethren; the LORD is his inheritance, according as the LORD thy God promised him.

NUMBERS 3:5

» 5 † And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
» 6 † Bring the tribe of Levi near, and present them before Aaron the priest, that they may minister unto him.
» 7 † And they shall keep his charge, and the charge of the whole congregation before the tabernacle of the congregation, to do the service of the tabernacle.
» 8 † And they shall keep all the instruments of the tabernacle of the congregation, and the charge of the children of Israel, to do the service of the tabernacle.
» 9 † And thou shalt give the Levites unto Aaron and to his sons: they are wholly given unto him out of the children of Israel.
» 10 † And thou shalt appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall wait on their priest's office: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.

NUMBERS 3:25

» 25 † And the charge of the sons of Gershon in the tabernacle of the congregation shall be the tabernacle, and the tent, the covering thereof, and the hanging for the door of the tabernacle of the congregation,
» 26 † And the hangings of the court, and the curtain for the door of the court, which is by the tabernacle, and by the altar round about, and the cords of it for all the service thereof.

NUMBERS 3:29

- » 29 † The families of the sons of Kohath shall pitch on the side of the tabernacle southward.
- » 30 † And the chief of the house of the father of the families of the Kohathites shall be Elizaphan the son of Uzziel.
- » 31 † And their charge shall be the ark, and the table, and the candlestick, and the altars, and the vessels of the sanctuary wherewith they minister, and the hanging, and all the service thereof.
- » 32 † And Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest shall be chief over the chief of the Levites, and have the oversight of them that keep the charge of the sanctuary.

NUMBERS 3:36

- » 36 † And under the custody and charge of the sons of Merari shall be the boards of the tabernacle, and the bars thereof, and the pillars thereof, and the sockets thereof, and all the vessels thereof, and all that serveth thereto,
- » 37 † And the pillars of the court round about, and their sockets, and their pins, and their cords.

I CORINTHIANS 12:4-31

- » 4 † Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.
- » 5 † And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.
- » 6 † And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.
- » 7 † But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.
- » 8 † For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;
- » 9 † To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;
- » 10 † To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:
- » 11 † But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.
- » 12 † ¶ For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.
- » 13 † For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.
- » 14 † For the body is not one member, but many.
- » 15 † If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?
- » 16 † And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?
- » 17 † If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling?
- » 18 † But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.
- » 19 † And if they were all one member, where were the body?
- » 20 † But now are they many members, yet but one body.
- » 21 † And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.
- » 22 † Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary:
- » 23 † And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness.
- » 24 † For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked:
- » 25 † That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.
- » 26 † And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.
- » 27 † ¶ Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.
- » 28 † And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.
- » 29 † Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles?
- » 30 † Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?
- » 31 † But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

63-0119 THE.WAY.OF.A.TRUE.PROPHET_ PHOENIX.AZ SATURDAY_

< 207 † We see what Amos would do when he called out. Our whole system would be condemned. Certainly not...

208 The government cannot build (my remark was) upon a rock, that the nation votes for sand.

209 **How you going to build your church upon the Rock? How will the preacher ever stand in the pulpit and preach the Rock, and build it upon the fundamentals of the full Gospel, when his audience, some of his people out there, would put him out? Now, I blame the preacher for not having the audacity, and the Spirit of God, for just shutting the door, say, "Get somebody else will stand for that stuff and not me." I--I admire a preacher that would do that.**

63-0119 THE.WAY.OF.A.TRUE.PROPHET_ PHOENIX.AZ SATURDAY_

< 210 † **But woe unto that congregation when an anointed man of God tries to bring them the Word, and then they won't line up with It. That's right. How is he going to have a church that all the nine gifts operating in it, and so forth, and then, they and that, and the church won't even--even live decently and morally, won't learn their ABC's of the Gospel? Then say, "If I had a better preacher!" Why, it's your fault. That's right.**

211 It's our nation's fault, our Americans, that we come over here for freedom of religion. From what? And we go right on back, and put into our capital the very thing that we was come over here to be free from.

212 This nation is a whole lot like Israel. They, Israel, come into Palestine, drove out the occupants and took the land. The first, they had some good--good, men over them. They had David, and Solomon, and great men. Finally, after while, they kept voting in, and pushing in, and electing in, till they got a Ahab down there, that married a heathen. Now, Ahab was a pretty good fellow. Is... He--he wanted to do right, but he couldn't do right, for that woman of his.

63-1130B INFLUENCE_ SHREVEPORT.LA V-17 N-8 SATURDAY_

< 50 † But he got lifted up so much in his heart! Now I want to speak this word to the Full Gospel Business Men. He got so lifted up in his heart, until he thought he could take a minister's place. He tried to become a minister, which he wasn't called to be. And I think that's a many times that where sometimes man 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. That is wrong. You should always let a minister do that preaching, 'cause, as Oral Roberts once said, "It's hard enough to keep the thing clear, by ministers, let alone by men who is not called for that office." See, you should have men there that knows, and are ordained for the work.**

63-1130B INFLUENCE_ SHREVEPORT.LA V-17 N-8 SATURDAY_

< 51 † This proves it. That, he, we find out that this man, being a great man, a good man, an honorable man, but he took the--the offering, the censer, and went in to the altar of the Lord, to burn incense before the Lord, which is only for a dedicated priest to do so. But he thought, being that God loved him so much, and--and He had been so good to him, that he could go do that, anyhow. And the priest run after him, and said, "You're not ordained to that office. God forbids that anyone should come in there, only a Levite that's dedicated to that service." You should never do that.

52 **And that's the way many times, that, what's, I think has got the world today in such a confusion, that men go out and try to take those places which they're not ordained to do. It gets to a spot to where they--they try to fulfill this office, and they're not called for that place.**

63-1130B INFLUENCE_ SHREVEPORT.LA V-17 N-8 SATURDAY_

< 53 † **Now we find out, though a good man, blessed of God; but, if God blesses you, you stay in the category that God has called you in. If it's a housewife, remain a housewife. If it's in a business, remain in that business, reflecting God. And whatever God has called you to, let it be that. Because, He wants you to be a real housewife, to reflect your influence upon another person that would want to be a good housewife. If you're a good businessman, let your life so be that it will reflect Jesus Christ in your business, with honesty and integrity, and with things that really mean something. Because, somebody is watching your life. You're influencing somebody. God has to have a real housewife. God has to have a real teen-age in school. God has to have a--a--a real minister, a real businessman, somebody that will reflect Him. Because, there they see, in you, Christ. No matter what the rest of the world has got to do, that has not one thing to do with you or I. We are responsible to God for our lives, and for our experience with Christ.**

59-0404 WHAT.IS.THE.WORKS.OF.GOD_ LOS.ANGELES.CA SATURDAY_

« E-13 † **But now, in the Scriptures we read also, that it is written that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." That's Hebrews 13:8, I believe. That Christ is the same. Then if He's the same Jesus that was in Galilee, and then He's here in the form of the Holy Ghost in California, He's got to be the same in principle, the same in power, the same in attitude, just the same Jesus; only He's in Spiritual form working through a Church or a group of believers, manifesting Himself in the same way that He did through a--one body, God, manifested in flesh in the Son called Jesus, if He's the same.**

Them days, God was in His Son, Jesus, manifesting Himself to the world, what He was. And today, He's in... By His death, burial, and resurrection, and our justification on believing it, He's manifesting Himself to us in human flesh, our flesh, through the Holy Spirit, as we can yield ourself to that Holy Spirit.

59-0404 WHAT.IS.THE.WORKS.OF.GOD_ LOS.ANGELES.CA SATURDAY_

« E-14 † **Now there is the thing, knowing how to yield yourself. And some people is set in the Church; some can yield themselves to preaching. Some can yield themselves easily to teaching. Some can yield themselves to prophesying. Some can yield themselves to other gifts. So all the gifts won't be alike. They wasn't alike then; Paul said they wasn't. But each man is called and placed into the Church for a purpose. And if you'll find out what God can use him best at, and yield himself to that place, he will be a success.** [Brother Branham clears his throat--Ed.] Pardon me.

My finger could never take the place of my ear, no matter how much it tried. Neither could my mouth take the place of my eye. But each member knows what it can do, and all of them coordinating together makes the body move. If this church can only see that. If you can only see that it takes coordination. It takes cooperation with all the body of Christ. You Methodist, Baptist, Catholic, Pentecostals, whatever you are, we're divided, in ways of--of denomination. But in Spirit, and in heart, and in principles, we should never be divided. We should always be one.

The man might just different with me. All of them does that almost. But that doesn't stop me. The love for the brother, he's working the best he can, and maybe God's wanting him to do that. And if He's--wants him to work it in that way, all right. Maybe one prays for the sick, run them through the line laying hands up on them, the other one pours oil on them, whatever God has called the man to do. All right. That's wonderful.