

Heart of God Ministries International
(HGMI) Greater Works TEAM Building

Part 2 Understanding Apostolic-Prophetic Living - Calling/Function

Scriptural Reference: Ephesians 4:10-16 He Who descended is the [very] same as He Who also has ascended high above all the heavens, that He [His presence] might fill all things (the whole universe, from the lowest to the highest).

[Note: Christ gave His appointments, ability and empowered them to build His church.] And His gifts were [varied; He Himself appointed His ministry functions to men] some apostles (special messengers, forerunners, vanguards, visionaries), some prophets (inspired spokesmen of the Word and delegate of prophetic gifts), some evangelists (preachers of the Gospel, traveling missionaries), some shepherds (elders/overseers and caretakers of His flock) and teachers (instructors to impart His truth by precepts, patterns and experiences) His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people), [that they should do] the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body (the church), [That it might develop] until we all attain oneness in the faith and in the comprehension of the full and accurate] knowledge of the Son of God, that [we might arrive] at really mature manhood (the completeness of personality which is nothing less than the standard height of Christ's own perfection), the measure of the stature of the fullness of the Christ and the completeness found in Him. So then, we may no longer be children, tossed [like ships] to and fro between chance gusts of teaching and wavering with every changing wind of doctrine, [the prey of] the cunning and cleverness of unscrupulous men, [gamblers engaged] in every shifting form of trickery in inventing errors to mislead. Rather, let our lives lovingly express truth [in all things, speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly]. Enfolded in love, let us grow up in every way and in all things into Him Who is the Head, [even] Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One). For because of Him the whole body (the church, in all its various parts), closely joined and firmly knit together by the joints and ligaments with which it is supplied, when each part [with power adapted to its need] is working properly [**in all its functions**], grows to full maturity, building itself up in love.

Today, many church and fellowship goers may never benefit from these gifts! WHY? The Ascension Gifts are appropriated by "clergy" as Titles of men rather than Imparted by the Holy Ghost as Divine Function for which is their intent and purpose.

Therefore, these Special Functioning Patterns of Christ demonstrated in His Personal Ministries are not understood, sanctioned, accepted nor demonstrated by most church leaders and their believers as they should be.

Usually, if the gifts are recognized, there is a profound hierarchy practiced in that the gifts are exaggerated as to rank of importance. Many churches hold certain individuals in recognition above others as "a celebrity" rather than appreciated in humble functions belonging fully to Christ.

John of whom the Lord gave grace to see and write the Revelation of Christ describes the haughty and conceitedness that Titles effectually invoke:

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3 John 9-10 (AMP)

9 I wrote something to the church; but Diotrephes, who loves to put himself first, does not accept what we say and refuses to recognize my authority.

10 For this reason, if I come, I will call attention to what he is doing, unjustly accusing us with wicked words and unjustified charges. And not satisfied with this, he refuses to receive the [missionary] brothers himself, and also forbids those who want to [welcome them] and puts them out of the church.

[Note: Many are called and by humble submission to God the Holy Ghost of the "One God" (represented by the Blessed Divine Holy Trinity) are demonstrators of the Divine Ascension Gifts. Some (elders) are called to FUNCTION in a local setting, others are called and anointed by the Holy Ghost to move in regional or national or even global fields of ministry.

They are "trans-local" ministers given Christ's Ascension ministering gifts to transfer the anointing of the Holy Ghost (power of God) to others by IMPARTATION so that the Body is fully equipped for service to expand the Kingdom of God in the earth!

John called to discipleship was appointed and trained as a forerunner (an apostle) to expand the Kingdom of Heaven in the earth. He is known to function in the five (5) apostolic-prophetic gifts (given by Christ to His eye-witness vanguards) as revealed by Paul, a called, anointed and an appointed Ascension gifted servant of Christ

Most generally, those who are drawn by the Holy Spirit partake of the Ascension Gifts empowered by "the laying on of hands."

They are No better than any other individual in the Body, they simply are anointed by the Holy Ghost in the Presence of His power of demonstration of the apostolic-prophetic gifts in recognition of one's "professed calling" to serve the Master! The vessel or vessels engaged in the Impartation are not the ones who select or announce a calling. [A demonstration of Ascension Gifts as Paul receives impartation of Divine origin...]

Acts 9:10-12 (AMP)

10 Now in Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias; and the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he answered, "Here I am, Lord."

11 And the Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and ask at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus named Saul; for he is praying [there],
12 and in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come in and place his hands on him, so that he may regain his sight."

[Note: "street called Straight," a long, straight street built by the Romans that ran through the city from east to west.] Callings are heart and spirit inspired within the one being recognized in apostolic□prophetic functions. Ascension gifted individuals are not authorized by the Lord to go around appointing individuals to ministry duties.

They are discerned and initiated Divinely by the Revelation Gifts of the Spirit.

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His pattern for appointment. It is through whole-hearted willingness and the desire to serve in fellowship with Him. Most are initially appointed to a team with purpose to achieve a Divine Vision. The visionary will have shared the intent of his heart to those whom the Lord brings into purposeful relationship. Those who surround and participate with a “visionary,” a forerunner will be motivated and eager to see the fruit of their labor!

Fellowship will be as “friends’ working together and not an adulation of a false elevation of importance. Christ is to be honored and exalted in all things. Without His work, we would all be destined for hell.

IMPARTATION: Impartation or empowerment is of God, the Holy Ghost, to administer. Anointing of the powers of heaven can be directly from Him. Holy Ghost Whom dwells in the redeemed. He anoints for equipping for manifestation of the Ascension gift functions! It is a matter of the working Presence of God Who manifests the demonstration! Secondly, “pattern” of transference of the “power of God” is done through and upon men (non-gender) by the laying on of hands. Here is a scripture that describes the awesomeness of God working in the midst of His people:

Acts 8:14-20 (AMP)

14 When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that [the people of] Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.

15 They came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit;

16 for He had not yet fallen on any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus [as His possession].

17 Then Peter and John laid their hands on them [one by one], and they received the Holy Spirit.

18 Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles’ hands, he offered them money,

19 saying, “Give me this authority and power too, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.”

20 But Peter said to him, “May your money be destroyed along with you, because you thought you could buy the [free] gift of God with money!

It is imperative that we recognize the ways that the Holy Ghost demonstrates the power of Heaven upon the New Creation [the “born again] who are receptive to the deeper spiritual walk in God! The Holy Ghost may “fall” upon men and empower them Himself. (See the Book of Acts Chapter Two, the Day of Pentecost!) Or, He may empower men through obedient servants endued with power imparting the Holy Ghost’s Presence through the “laying on of hands.” In order for the church (locally and trans-locally) to come to an authentic fullness of unity, intimacy and maturity (as Paul describes in Ephesians 4). All of the Ascension gifted leaders need to be free, focused and functioning AND locally financed through the divine pattern and protocol of tithing.

Both lines of priestly protocol are discussed through Moses (Levitical) and Abraham (Melchizedek). It is the responsibility of those endowed as the Ascension Gifted team to teach the congregations how to recognize, receive, release and resource these gifted servants.

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1. RECOGNIZE Teach the body in your sphere of appointment how to recognize these gifted individuals and help give some understanding about how to FUNCTION if you are not sure about them. Invite someone who is already functioning in the ministry gifting that you KNOW and TRUST to help you until you are certain before giving recognition. We read about what happened to one of John's planted churches by Diotrephes.

2. RECEIVE The Lord Jesus came and was Not received even by His own. Leaders, accountability will be seen in How they teach others to posture themselves in an humble attitude to receive (trans-local) servants dedicated to expanding the Lord's Kingdom of Light!.

BEWARE! Other's teachings will be based on traditional and legalistic interpretations of the Word. Old ways and belief systems are hard for people to break. It requires the transformation of the Mind and learning how to see into the scriptures with a mind-set. receptive to enlightenment, Illumination of the Word and revelation of Kingdom Living!

Kingdom living is a different culture than the mixed watered down word taught by tribal and historical churches. You will have to be bold to correct and call down false teachings. People are accustomed to hearing what they have been hearing all their lives and believing it! You will need to teach or share with those in your care to be OPEN to Godly Interpretation as you lead the way yourself. Show them how to receive the Ascension gifts. The Word instructs that you are to receive a "prophet" as a "prophet" in order to receive the reward of that prophet's ministry.

If you walk in the endless teachings we have provided an are ministering them in the opportunities God has given as open doors, He will bring Increase in DUE season!

3. RELEASE

Build an "apostolic ethos" (the fundamental character and spirit of Christ's Kingdom culture). Learn, teach, and demonstrate how to release Christ's Ascension gift ministries into and out of the local church.

3 John 1- (AMP) [John, an elder admonishes believers to Walk in the Truth]

1 The elder [of the church addresses this letter] to the beloved and esteemed Gaius, whom I love in truth.

2 Beloved, I pray that in every way you may succeed and prosper and be in good health [physically], just as [I know] your soul prospers [spiritually].

3 For I was greatly pleased when [some of the] brothers came [from time to time] and testified to your [faithfulness to the] truth [of the gospel message], that is, how you are walking in truth.

4 I have no greater joy than this, to hear that my [spiritual] children are living [their lives] in the truth.

5 Beloved, you are acting faithfully in what you are providing for the brothers, and especially when they are strangers;

6 and they have testified before the church of your love and friendship. You will do well to [assist them and] send them on their way in a manner worthy of God.

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7 For these [traveling missionaries] went out for the sake of the Name [of Christ], accepting nothing [in the way of assistance] from the Gentiles.

8 So we ought to support such people [welcoming them as guests and providing for them], so that we may be fellow workers for the truth [that is, for the gospel message of salvation].

9 I wrote something to the church; but Diotrephes, who loves to put himself first, does not accept what we say and refuses to recognize my authority.

10 For this reason, if I come, I will call attention to what he is doing, unjustly accusing us with wicked words and unjustified charges. And not satisfied with this, he refuses to receive the [missionary] brothers himself, and also forbids those who want to [welcome them] and puts them out of the church.

11 Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but [imitate] what is good. The one who practices good [exhibiting godly character, moral courage and personal integrity] is of God; the one who practices [or permits or tolerates] evil has not seen God [he has no personal experience with Him and does not know Him at all].

12 Demetrius has received a good testimony and commendation from everyone—and from the truth [the standard of God's word] itself; and we add our testimony and speak well of him, and you know that our testimony is true.

13 I had many things [to say when I began] to write to you, but I prefer not to put it down with pen (reed) and black (ink);

14 but I hope to see you soon, and we will speak face to face.

15 Peace be to you. The friends [here] greet you. Greet the friends [personally] by name. You are encouraged to meditate deeply upon this passage of John. In these verses are Divine wisdom! They will serve you well! There are many questions to ask as we dwell in this time and space of Challenge, Both of God and between ourselves.

[Note: Paul, Barnabas and John Mark worked as apostolic-prophetic team on the first missionary journey. Paul had been 13 years in Tarsus then three years working with Barnabas at Antioch].

Acts 13:1-5 (AMP)

Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets [who spoke a new message of God to the people] and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod [Antipas] the tetrarch, and Saul.

2 While they were serving the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul (Paul) for the work to which I have called them."

3 Then after fasting and praying, they laid their hands on them [in approval and dedication] and sent them away [on their first journey].

4 So then, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

5 When Barnabas and Saul arrived at Salamis, they began to preach the word of God [proclaiming the message of eternal salvation through faith in Christ] in the synagogues of the Jews; and they also had John [Mark] as their assistant.

[Note: Verse 3... The Antioch ministry team laid hands upon them which imparted a fresh anointing for the work ahead!

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Holy Ghost is SPIRITUAL POWER.., He “recharges” us for extraordinary work!

Acts 16:1-5 (AMP) "The Macedonian Vision"

Now Paul traveled to Derbe and also to Lystra. A disciple named Timothy was there, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer [in Christ], however, his father was a Greek.

2 Timothy was well spoken of by the brothers and sisters who were in Lystra and Iconium.

3 Paul wanted Timothy to go with him [as a missionary]; and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those places, since they all knew that his father was a Greek.

4 As they traveled from town to town, they delivered the decrees decided on by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem, for the churches to observe.

5 So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and they continually increased in number day after day.

This series of verses helps us to realize the mandate to GO FORTH! In these scriptures we observe that both the Holy Ghost and the Church Team released (Ascension gifted individuals) into visions and targeted evangelistic fields. (Please take special note of this) Eventually there should be teams fully equipped in the fellowships in which you worship, to teach and train to do the “Work of the Ministry!”

You are to multiply yourself! How? “The pattern!”

Paul planted, Apollos watered, God brought forth the Increase!

The MINISTRY must be an apostolic-prophetic work!: it is one which receives and sends as led by the Holy Ghost! Such a Ministry is always focused outwardly! When we as apostolic-prophetic “ministers” scatter seed, and it is watered, it will always come back multiplied! Paul encourages to do all that we can do and then STAND FIRM in the planted work!

4. RESOURCE (God provides the resources! You have seen Nehemiah prove Him!)

1 Timothy 5:18 (AMP) For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain [to keep it from eating],” and, “The worker is worthy of his wages [he deserves fair compensation].” One who spends his time and life preaching the Truth of the Gospel should be rewarded and supported by those who Benefit. When the Light of Truth, Light of Life and Light of the Holy Spirit is sown as spiritual seed, the harvest should first be material so that the Spiritual grace of God is manifest to demonstrate His Favor and Plan for expanding the borders of the Kingdom in the earth! This is a DIVINE KINGDOM PATTERN!

The passage of 1 Timothy 5:10 is not restricted to local elders/shepherds. It is inclusive to trans-local ministers as well. Churches are to be taught to desire the apostolic-prophetic ministries showing them hospitality and reward them as worthy servants of God so that the Body can become anointed and equipped to do the work of the ministry of Christ. Each part needs empowered that the church can be built up into the whole measure of Christ. (See Ephesians Chapter 4) In order for this to happen!

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Christ's Body needs open, wide, free, secure anointed individuals who will themselves help God's people to recognize how they are to function, how they are to receive their placements in their individual callings, and to work with the local elder to anoint and release the local body into the work.

Most importantly, the whole fellowship should be taught the divine principle of tithing and with great eagerness, find ways to resource valid trans-local ministers with material support that they may administer the priceless gifts given by Christ Himself. In so doing, they will be rewarded in maturity and growth in edifying the Kingdom in love.

The collecting of gifts clearly demonstrates a heart of Love and support for those called into apostolic-prophetic visions (referenced as forerunners, apostles –first responders) of Christ based in Ministry Life Centers. Jerusalem was the base center for the chosen frontrunner (disciple) Jews and Antioch was the base center for the Jew and Gentile Teams. There are several accounts of money being collected or instructions to do so in the scriptures to support the work of the Lord. When the Christian gives, he may give to individuals or to the church, but in the final analysis in doing so he is giving to God

Proverbs 19:17 (AMP) He who is gracious and lends a hand to the poor lends to the Lord, And the Lord will repay him for his good deed.

[Note: Servants of God are rich in Spirit and usually sorely pressed financially to carry forth the burning desires of Kingdom expansion vision imparted in their hearts.]

Matthew 22:19-21 (AMP)

19 Show me the coin used for the poll-tax." And they brought Him a denarius [a day's wage].

20 And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?"

21 They said, "[The Emperor Tiberius] Caesar's." Then He said to them, "Then pay to Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and to God the things that are God's."

Mark 12:2 (AMP) When the harvest season came he sent a servant to the tenants, in order to collect from them some of the fruit of the vineyard.

[Note: Most American believers are quick to pay taxes, but slow or of neglect to give a tenth of the blessing of financial resources God has made possible to receive..

Colossians 3:22-25 (AMP)

22 Servants, in everything obey those who are your masters on earth, not only with external service, as those who merely please people, but with sincerity of heart because of your fear of the Lord.

23 Whatever you do [whatever your task may be], work from the soul [that is, put in your very best effort], as [something done] for the Lord and not for men,

24 knowing [with all certainty] that it is from the Lord [not from men] that you will receive the inheritance which is your [greatest] reward. It is the Lord Christ whom you [actually] serve. Not only [did they give materially] as we had hoped, but first they gave themselves to the Lord and to us [as His representatives] by the will of God [disregarding their personal interests and giving as much as they possibly could.