

Sunday School

Exposition of the Second London Baptist Confession
Chapter 26: Of the Church
The Government of the Church (8-11)

The Church's Appointed Officers (8)

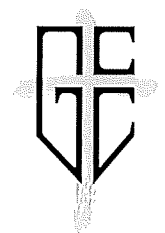
8. A particular church, gathered and completely organized according to the mind of Christ, consists of officers and members; and the officers appointed by Christ to be chosen and set apart by the church (so called and gathered), for the peculiar administration of ordinances, and execution of power or duty, which he entrusts them with, or calls them to, to be continued to the end of the world, are bishops or elders, and deacons.

- A. Gathered and organized according to the mind of Christ
- B. Consists of officers and members
- C. The Calling and Duties of Officers
- D. The identification of the Church's Two Offices
 - 1. Bishops/Elders
 - 2. DeaconsPhil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:1-16

The Calling of Elders (9)

9. The way appointed by Christ for the calling of any person, fitted and gifted by the Holy Spirit, unto the office of bishop or elder in a church, is, that he be chosen thereunto by the common suffrage of the church itself; and solemnly set apart by fasting and prayer, with imposition of hands of the eldership of the church, if there be any before constituted therein; and of a deacon that he be chosen by the like suffrage, and set apart by prayer, and the like imposition of hands.

- A. The Supernatural Elements of the Call
 - 1. A Christ appointed way of calling
 - 2. Fitted and gifted by the Holy Spirit
 - 3. Chosen by common suffrage of the church itself
 - 4. Solemnly set apart by fasting and prayer
 - 5. Imposition of the hands of the eldership
 - 6. For a deacon - chosen by suffrage, set apart by prayer, imposition of hands



Sunday School

The Work and Support of the Pastor (10)

10. The work of pastors being constantly to attend the service of Christ, in his churches, in the ministry of the word and prayer, with watching for their souls, as they that must give an account to Him; it is incumbent on the churches to whom they minister, not only to give them all due respect, but also to communicate to them of all their good things according to their ability, so as they may have a comfortable supply, without being themselves entangled in secular affairs; and may also be capable of exercising hospitality towards others; and this is required by the law of nature, and by the express order of our Lord Jesus, who hath ordained that they that preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel.

- A. The Work of the Pastor
 - 1. Ministry of the Word and prayer
 - 2. Watching for their souls as they must give an account to Him

- B. The Support of the Pastor
The church has the following responsibilities
 - 1. Give due respect
 - 2. Communicate to them of all their good things according to their ability, so they may have a comfortable supply, without being themselves entangled in secular affairs
 - 3. And may be capable of exercising hospitality towards others
 - 4. This is required by law of nature and express order of the Lord Jesus

The Work of Preaching (11)

11. Although it be incumbent on the bishops or pastors of the churches, to be instant in preaching the word, by way of office, yet the work of preaching the word is not so peculiarly confined to them but that others also gifted and fitted by the Holy Spirit for it, and approved and called by the church, may and ought to perform it.

- A. Pastors must labor in the Word

- B. Other gifted men may preach
(Not restricted to elders)
 - 1. Gifted and fitted by the Holy Spirit
 - 2. Approved and called by the church

