

THE 'PERFECTING' WORK OF THE MINISTRY  
Eph. 4:11-16

OUTLINE:

I. THE OVERSIGHT OF THIS "PERFECTING" WORK

Note: v. 11 "And he gave ... some pastors and teachers for the *perfecting* ..."

Note: "pastors and teachers" not two separate offices

1. "pastors" are men gifted by the Holy Spirit to be *shepherds*
2. "teachers"— are men gifted by the Holy Spirit to be *school masters*

A. What **isn't** involved in the oversight of a pastor/teacher

1. Pastor/teachers are not at liberty to **assume** for themselves the **dominance** over the entire work of the ministry

Note: The idea/concept of "clergy" and "laity" is *foreign* to the *apostolic* church, and was *formulated* and made *religiously* fashionable by the *apostate*, Roman Catholic church. John 9, 10; 1 Pet. 5:2, 3.

2. Pastor/teachers are not at liberty to **accept** to themselves **delegation** of the entire work of the ministry.

B. What **is** involved in the oversight of a pastor/teacher

1. It is the business of the pastor/teacher to see that people are, as perfectly as possible, **equipped** for spiritual work and warfare. "Perfecting" = *katartizo*: to equip for service"

a. They have to be taught the *precepts and principles*

b. They have to be taught to *pray*

2. It is the business of the pastor/teacher to see that people are, as perfectly as possible, **engaged** in spiritual work and warfare.

a. The pastor/teacher must know how to help people *discover* their spiritual gifts

b. The pastor/teacher must know how to help people *demonstrate* their spiritual gifts

## II. THE OBJECT OF THIS "PERFECTING" WORK

Note: v. 12b "[the perfecting of] *the saints* ..."

- A. The "saints" are those who are to be perfected in terms of being able to **identify and implement** their **gifts** within the body of Christ
  - 1. This will help them "*find* their place" in their local church
  - 2. This will enable them to **function** as they are meant to function in their local church
- B. The "saints" are those who are to be perfected in terms of being able to **recognize and reach** their **goals** as members of the body of Christ
  - 1. Church members need to be "perfected" in terms of being clear as to what the **overall** mission *of* their church is.
  - 2. Church members need to be "perfected" in terms of being clear as to what their **own** specific mission *in* their church is.

## III. THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS "PERFECTING" WORK

Note v. 12c "The edifying of the nobqdy of Christ"

- A. Edification that **results** in our **measuring up** of our own l local body of Christ

Note: v. 12d "unto the stature of the fullness of Christ."

- B. Edification that **requires** us to **mature**

Note: vv. 14, 15 "That we ... head, even Christ."

## CONC:

Note: v. 16 "From whom ... itself in love."