

# **Spiritual Gifts 5 - Organization and Administration - Order Gifts a study for the Gulf Coast Baptist Church Bible Institute for the Winter session 2020-21 by Steve Thomas**

## **Organization - Rom 12:1-8**

### Introduction

About 765 billion dollars - yes that is Billion with a "b" - is wasted every year in health care expenses. Some of this is needless treatments that insurance companies or patients are billed for, but some of this waste is for medications that never make it to the patients. How tragic is it that in some parts of the world people are flushing medications down the toilet and in other parts, people are doing without life-saving medications? In the Church similar things are happening. As was taught earlier, the Spiritual gifts bring profit to the Body, edifying them and meeting needs. When the gifts are not directed properly or at all, needs are not being met that otherwise could be. The gift of Organization is used to make sure that the "good works" of the believers are being directed in an orderly fashion.

### He that ruleth

The Greek word *pro-histemi* is used in verse 8 of Romans 12. It's literal interpretation is one who stands before or to stand before. It means - "**To preside over; to organize in such a way as to lead.**" Consider 1Thessalonians 5:12-13: ***And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.*** Biblical authority is something not recognized in many churches. It resides in the three offices listed in scripture.

- Bishop - The overseer, most often the senior pastor of the church. 1 Tim 3:1-7
- Elder - Spiritual leaders of the church, often instrumental in making decisions for the business and spiritual needs of the people. Often one who has been saved for a longer period of time and is recognized by the church as fitting the position. 1 Tim 5, 1 Peter 5
- Deacon - Spiritual, Servant leaders who handle the business of the church dispensing the resources of the church to meet needs so that the Pastor (Bishop/Overseer) can spend his time in prayer and Bible study. 1Tim 3:8-13, Acts 6:1-6

The ability to rule is illustrated in all three of these offices. Timothy describes the need to rule over their own house as well as the elder receiving honor due because of his ruling. Most bishops should also be elders, but not all elders can be bishops.

### Purpose of the Gift

The purpose of the organization gift is to place in proper order the good works of the believers so that the needs of the people are being met. Titus 3:14. The good works of the

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saints include meeting both physical and spiritual needs of the believers. (Acts 20:34-35, Rom 12:13, 1 Tim 5:10, 6:18, 1 Cor 3:9-15, Titus 2:7, 1 Peter 4:10). God has ordained the works that each believer should pursue (Eph 2:10). The gifting of the Body fits nicely into this purpose of the good works of the believer.

### **Diligence in using the gift**

The attitude of diligence is to be used to organize the works of the believers. Rom 12:6-8 shows the mechanism that is to be applied to each gift as it is put into practice. The word for diligence means “**a determined focus to achieve some aim or goal**”. When those with the gift of ruling/organization are using their gifts with this focus, the church is able to be a witness before mankind Titus 3:8, 1 Peter 2:12.

This gift when used properly, is beneficial, or redeeming. This term profitable is used for the good works in Titus. In Phillipians 2:25 Paul said that the use of this gift was “necessary”. This illustrates the results of the gift used properly. When good works are directed by an “organizer” believers are fruitful in their manner of life Titus 3:14, 2 Peter 1:8.

Someone who possesses the gift of Organization will have a desire to see the local church function in an/ orderly fashion. They will keep the church focused and on track. They will often organize functions in and out of the assembly itself. They will also recognize gifts in other believers and direct them towards the ministry that suits them and meets the greatest need of other believers.

### **Conclusion**

Someone with the gift of Organization will direct the good works of the believers towards the need present in the assembly. This spiritual believer is helping the Christian to find those works that God has ordained before time, that they might be fruitful in their Christian life.

\* Organization (προίστημι) “ruling” Romans 12:8 A special ability to take the leadership in arranging and putting in order the good works done by and in the church.

- Church Clean up Committee
- Moderator
- Sunday School Superintendent
- Work Chairman
- Committee Chairman

## **Administration (governments) - 1 Cor 12:28**

### **Introduction**

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In order for a business to be able to function to meet its set goals, it must be able to do business in a fashion that pays the bills, keeps the lights on, and provides a working environment for the business to be carried out. This could be a HR department, or compliance department, or the business manager at a school. They do not operate in the actual business of the company, but if they were not there, no business could get done. In the church, there are people, often behind the scenes, that make the preaching and teaching of the word possible. There is a bureaucracy in place that functions to keep the church operating. There is a gift that fits this description as well. It is the gift of administration.

The offices of Elder, Bishop, and Deacon are listed in the study on Organization above. The gift of Administration could be useful to someone in these offices as well. In Corinthians this gift is expressly listed, it is implied in other passages. It is found throughout the Bible (Kuberbnees in the Septuagint) to describe those things that are determined for the purpose of plotting some course in life Prov 12:5, 24:6. It is used for the kind of person who has the ability to chart a direction - a driver or pilot Ez 27:8.

### **The word defined**

The verb for of the word means "to steer or direct, government, office, of a governor or director" - Thomas Green lexicon. In Reinecker/Rogers it is defined as "the plural indicates proofs of ability to hold a leading position in the church; the verb is applied to the management of a household..." It was used for the ship master of the boat that took Paul to Rome Acts 27:11. It is used of the ship masters of the world system as seen in the book of Revelation 18:17.

Those with the gift of administration will be able to steer the business of a church in a direction consistent with the spiritual objectives set forth. The church government will be established and maintained in accordance with those said objectives. The church's business will be maintained and directed in an orderly fashion. The person with this gift will know in a supernatural way, the best fashion to accomplish the business goals of the church.

### **Conclusion**

The gift of Administration will allow a person who is gifted in setting up and running bureaucracy to keep the church on track, focusing resources in the proper place so as to be compliant with certain government regulations, civil ordinances, and human resource regulations. When this is done properly, the work of the ministry can be handled without

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interruption, and the benefits of the other spiritual gifts can be realized among the believers.

\* Administration (κυβέρνησις) "governments" 1 Cor 12:28 A special ability to guide or lead the affairs of the church so that tasks are accomplished and spiritual goals met.

- Sunday School Superintendent
- VBS director
- Office Manager