

## Special Ministry, of the Elder

Handouts for a class presented to a gathering of Elders at the Request of  
Pastors of Zion

Presented by Elder Ray Magargee

### Nature of Priesthood

- My Patriarcal Blessing instructs: “Minister in the Spirit of Ministry”
- Christ:
  - **Said to Peter:** “[Luke 22:31] And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold Satan hath desired you, that he may sift the children of the kingdom as wheat.  
[Luke 22:32] But I have prayed for you, that your faith fail not; and when you are converted strengthen your brethren.”
- Apostle Paul:
  - **Said to Timothy:** “[1 Tim 1:12] And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;  
[1 Tim 1:13] Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious; but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.  
[1 Tim 1:14] And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.  
[1 Tim 1:15] This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.  
[1 Tim 1:16] Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show forth all long-suffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.”
  - **Said to Titus:** “[Titus 1:4] To Titus, mine own son after the common faith; Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior.  
[Titus 1:5] For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee;”
- Apostle John wrote to the ministers at Ephesus: “[Rev 2:2] I know thy works, and thy labor, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil; and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars; [Rev 2:3] And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast labored, and hast not fainted. [Rev 2:4] Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. [Rev 2:5] Remember therefore from whence thou are fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.”

### The term Pastoral Ministry:

- Phrase developed in the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century (about the time this country was organized)
  1. Phrase is a reformation phrase when ministry was divided up:
    - Pastoral Ministry
    - Administrative Ministry
    - Revival Ministry
    - Reconciliatory Ministry
    - Etc.
  2. Many Seminaries now teach that Pastoral Ministry is anything that a pastor or his authorized representatives do. -- All of the above and more!
    - A.W. Tozer, a pastor for 31 years in Chicago, and previous editor of “Aliance Life”, and author of more than thirty books on priesthood

ministry. Mr. Tozer died in 1963 and before he died he wrote an article titled "Pastoral Ministry: Prophetic Preachers". In this article he wrote:

"Today we need prophetic preachers; not preachers of prophecy merely, but preachers with a gift of prophecy. The word of wisdom is missing. We need the gift of discernment again in our pulpits. It is not ability to predict that we need, but the anointed eye, the power of spiritual penetration and interpretation, the ability to appraise the religious scene as viewed from God's position, and to tell us what is actually going on."

- Erkel Darryl, who promotes himself as a reformer of the Calvinist movement and is the author of a vast number of books and articles on the working of the priesthood, wrote an article titled "The Urgent need for reformation in Pastoral Ministry." I take a few quotes from that article:

"Traditional pastoral ministry promotes a one-man rule knows a "the pastor." He is the final word and rule within most "evangelical" churches. In contrast the "New Testament teaches plural oversight by men known as elders (Acts 14:23; 20:17, 28; Phil 1:1; 1 Thess 5:12-13; 1 Tim 5:17; Heb 13:17; Jam 5:14; 1 Pet 5:1-4)..... Traditional pastoral ministry promotes lofty and honorific titles for church leaders.....In contrast, Jesus taught that His people were members of a unique brotherhood with no need for elite and honorific titles (Mat 23:6-12; Mark 10:35-45)....Contrary to our traditional and modern pastors, Paul wanted the churches to regard him and other church leaders as mere servants.....Traditional pastoral ministry places great importance on a professional "sermon" without recognizing its inherent problems and limitations....The very notion of a polished and eloquent "sermon" comes not from the New Testament, but from Greek culture which placed tremendous importance upon rhetoric and grammar. The early church had an open system of communication which permitted questions or even differing viewpoints, but we, in contrast, have preferred a closed one. Christians do not learn as effectively within a one-way communication kind of format (e.g., the monologue sermon). They learn by being asked questions and provoked to dialogue."

All Ministry is rooted in Love and Revelation:

- Christ's first and most important revelation is the First Great Commandment:  
"[Mat 22:35] Master, which is the great commandment in the law? [Mat 22:36] Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. [Mat 22:37] This is the first and great commandment."

- Christ second important revelation is the Second Great Commandment: “[Mat 22:38] And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.”
- “[Mor 7:50] And if a man be meek and lowly in heart, and confesses by the power of the Holy Ghost, that Jesus is the Christ, he must needs have charity; for if he have not charity, he is nothing; wherefore he must needs have charity.”
- **Peter said**: “[Acts 3:6] Then Peter said, silver and gold have I none, but such as I have, give I thee; In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise and walk.”
- **Arthur Oakman said**: “Love and brotherhood comes out of spiritual closeness”.
  - [Sec 76:3a] We, Joseph Smith, Jr., and Sidney Rigdon, being in the Spirit on the sixteenth of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, by the power of the Spirit our eyes were opened, and our understandings were enlightened, so as to see and understand the things of God;
  - [Sec 76:3b] even those things which were from the beginning before the world was, which were ordained of the Father, through his only begotten Son, who was in the bosom of the Father, even from the beginning, of whom we bear record, and the record which we bear is the fullness of the gospel of Jesus Christ, who is the Son, whom we saw and with whom we conversed in the heavenly vision;
- **If gift of Revelation is not active in our lives, it is because we ASK NOT**:
  - [2 Ne 14:5] Wherefore, now after I have spoken these words, if ye can not understand them, it will be because ye ask not, neither do ye knock; wherefore, ye are not brought into the light, but must perish in the dark.
  - [2 Ne 14:6] For behold, again I say unto you, that if ye will enter in by the way and receive the Holy Ghost, it will shew unto you all things what ye should do.

All Ministry comes from within us:

- **Hierarchy in the Priesthood functions**:
  - α. I speculate, Based upon the direction of High Priest D.R. Hughes, that there are Terrestrial Ministers. I suggest that their primary purpose is to **Scare people who are dwelling Telesstial lives OUT OF HELL**. If they are successful, their flock will not spend time in Hell – They are saved! [RE: Sec 76: 7a-d shown below]

[Mark 9:36] And John spake unto him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followed not us; and we forbade him, because he followed not us.  
 [Mark 9:37] But Jesus said, Forbid him not; for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can speak evil of me. For he that is not against us is on our part.

[Sec 76:6a] And again, we saw the terrestrial world, and, behold, and lo;  
 [Sec 76:6b] these are they who are of the terrestrial, whose glory differs from that of the church of the Firstborn, who have received the fullness of the Father, even as that of the moon differs from the sun of the firmament.  
 [Sec 76:6c] Behold, these are they who died without law; and also they who are the spirits of men kept in prison, whom the Son visited, and preached the gospel unto them, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, who received not the testimony of Jesus in the flesh, but afterwards received it;  
 [Sec 76:6d] these are they who are honorable men of the earth, who were blinded by the craftiness of men:  
 [Sec 76:6e] these are they who receive of his glory, but not of his fullness;

[Sec 76:6f] these are they who receive of the presence of the Son, but not of the fullness of the Father; wherefore they are bodies terrestrial, and not bodies celestial, and differ in glory as the moon differs from the sun;  
[Sec 76:6g] these are they who are not valiant in the testimony of Jesus; wherefore they obtained not the crown over the kingdom of our God.

[Sec 76:7a] And again, we saw the glory of the telestial, which glory is that of the lesser, even as the glory of the stars differs from that of the glory of the moon in the firmament  
[Sec 76:7d] these are they who are thrust down to hell;  
[Sec 76:7f] these are they who receive not of his fullness in the eternal world, **but of the Holy Spirit through the ministration of the terrestrial**

- β. Aaronic Minister by the “Gift of the Holy Ghost” They have many tools to draw upon, not the least of which is the gift of the ministry of Angels [Sec 83:4c]: “Now this is not all your gift, for you have another gift, which is the gift of Aaron; behold, it has told you many things; behold, there is no other power save the power of God that can cause this gift of Aaron to be with you; therefore doubt not, for it is the gift of God, and you shall hold it in your hands, and do marvelous works; and no power shall be able to take it away out of your hands, for it is the work of God. And, therefore, whatsoever you shall ask me to tell you by that means, that will I grant unto you, and you shall have knowledge concerning it; remember, that without faith you can do nothing. [Sec 8:3b-e] Therefore, ask in faith.”

[Sec 16:5e] And, behold, you are they who are ordained of me to ordain priests and teachers to declare my gospel, according to the power of the Holy Ghost which is in you, and according to the callings and gifts of God unto men; and I, Jesus Christ, your Lord and your God, have spoken it.

- χ. Melchezidec: To Give the Holy Ghost: “[Mor 2:1] The words of Christ, which he spake unto his disciples, the twelve whom he had chosen, as he laid his hands upon them. [Mor 2:2] And he called them by name, saying, Ye shall call on the Father in my name, in mighty prayer; and after ye have done this, ye shall have power that on him whom ye shall lay your hands, **ye shall give the Holy Ghost**; and in my name shall ye give it, for thus do mine apostles.”

- How can we give the Holy Ghost unless it is resident within us?
- How can we give freely unless we have that to give?
  - a. “[Mat 10:6] And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. [Mat 10:7] Heal the sick; cleanse the lepers; raise the dead; cast out devils; freely ye have received, freely give.”
  - b. “[Sec 50:6c] And again, verily I say unto you, and I say it that you may know the truth, that you may chase darkness from among you, for he that is ordained of God and sent forth, the same is appointed to be the greatest, notwithstanding he is least, and the servant of all: [Sec 50:6d] wherefore, he is possessor of all things, for all things are subject unto him, both in heaven and on the earth, the life, and the light, the spirit, and the power, sent forth by the will of the Father, through Jesus Christ, his Son; [Sec 50:6e] but no man is possessor of all things, except he be purified and cleansed from all sin; and if ye are purified and cleansed from all sin, ye shall ask whatsoever you will in the name of Jesus, and it shall be done:”
- There is evidence that the early priesthood **PRACTICED** the use of the “Gifts of the Spirit”.

- a. Parley Pratt recorded (See page 167, “The Story of the Church” by Inez Smith Davis) concerning the Colesville settlement in Missouri in the summer of 1833: “A school of the elders was also organized, over which I was called to preside. This class to the number of sixty met for instruction once a week. The place of meeting was in the open air, under some tall trees, in a retired place in the wilderness, where we prayed, preached, and prophesied, and exercised ourselves in the gifts of the Holy Spirit.”
- The Elders, are more than capable (if righteous and faithful) to use these powers:
  - a. “[Sec 104:9a] The power and authority of the higher, or Melchisedec, priesthood, is to hold the keys of all the spiritual blessings of the church; to have the privilege of receiving the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven; to have the heavens opened unto them; [Sec 104:9b] to commune with the general assembly and church of the Firstborn; and to enjoy the communion and presence of God the Father, and Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant.”

#### May I Present Elder Pendelton!

- The Elder who converted the Magargee family between 1915 and 1919. He was accepted without prejudice, but not granted much attention. There was a neighbor lady that was dying. Elder Pendelton went to her and asked “Would you like to be healed, or would you prefer to die?” She elected to be healed.. He administered. SHE WAS INSTANTLY HEALED! All of the neighbors began to listen. The “Calvinist” Byrdie Magargee also listened.
- Elder Pendelton taught:
  - a. Miracles come by faith.
  - b. God’s people are a people of faith and miracles.
  - c. A Miracle was the translation of the Book of Mormon.
  - d. The next Miracle was to be when the Holy Ghost verified the Book of Mormon to Byrdie Magargee.
  - e. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is clear, simple and changeless – It needs no interpretation, and should never be polluted in the slightest way.
  - f. God knows his people, watches them all the time, and hears all of their prayers.
  - g. Our salvation is a growing experience – If we don’t exercise it, it is only salvation from the fiery pit, but a hell of its own because we have missed the greatness of all of his glory.
  - h. He taught that every member of the body of Christ had an obligation to test their faith regularly.
  - i. Elder Pendelton taught the Magargee Family for four years before baptizing them.
  - j. He freely exercised the gifts of the Spirit.
  - k. He became the standard against which my Dad judged all other Elders.

#### Pastoral Ministry is best expressed **BOLDLY!**

Parley Pratt wrote: “On the next day, we had to cross a plain fifteen miles in length, without a house, a tree, or any kind of shelter; a cold northwest wind was blowing, and the ground covered with snow and ice. We had made two or three

miles into the plain when I was attacked with a severe return of my old complaint, which had confined me so many months in Jackson County, and from which I had recovered by a miracle at the onset of the journey—I mean the fever and ague. I traveled and shook, and shook and traveled, till I could stand it no longer; I vomited severely several times, and finally fell down on the snow overwhelmed with fever, and became helpless and nearly insensible. This was about seven or eight miles from the nearest house.

Brother John Murdock laid his hands on me and prayed in the name of The Jesus; and taking me by the hand, **he commanded me with a loud voice**, saying, “**In the name of Jesus, arise and walk!**” I attempted to arise; I staggered a few paces, and was about falling again when I found my fever suddenly depart and my strength come. I walked at the rate of about four miles an hour, arrived at a house, and was sick no more.”

**Jesus’ Ministry:** “Now a certain man was sick, whose name was Lazarus, of the town of Bethany; And Mary, his sister, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, lived with her sister Martha, in whose house her brother Lazarus was sick. Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick. And when Jesus heard he was sick, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby. Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus. And Jesus tarried two days, after he heard that Lazarus was sick, in the same place where he was.....

These things said he; and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.....

Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead.....

And when Jesus came to Bethany, to Martha's house, Lazarus had already been in the grave four days. Now Bethany was nigh unto Jerusalem, about fifteen furlongs off....

Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled, And said, Where have ye laid him, They say unto him, Lord, come and see. Jesus wept.....

Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh; for he hath been dead four days. Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God? Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always; but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.

[John 11:43] And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave- clothes; and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go. [John 11:1-44 with skips].”

**Elder Heber C. Kimball’s revelation to Parley Pratt** (In Brother Pratt’s words):

Day had hardly dawned before there came a knock at the door, and Heber C. Kimbal, with other Saints entered. Kimbal told the young Apostle that he had a message for him; first, to cease to worry about his wife, her health would improve from that hour and she would bear him a son; to leave his debts in the hands of the Lord, who would provide means to pay them, and care abundantly for his necessities. Thou shalt go, he was told, to upper Canada, even to the city of Toronto, the capital, and there thou shalt find a people prepared for the fullness of the gospel, and they shall receive thee, and thou shalt organize they church among them, and it shall spread thence into the region round about ....and from things

growing out of this mission shall the fullness of the gospel spread to England; and cause a great work to be done in that land.”

### **Pastoral Ministry comes through unity within the Priesthood.**

[Sec 38:6a] Behold, this I have given unto you a parable, and it is even as I am: I say unto you, **Be one; and if ye are not one, ye are not mine.**

The preparer of this lesson plan went to Kirtland in around 2001 with great anticipation. We met in the Mormon church building in Kirtland for a communion service. During that service, the Spirit of Truth came upon me and the following exchange occurred (in part):

1. I was told that “I can not speak to this body because
  - a. Many have come with personal agendas and I am not part of those agendas.
  - b. The Elders have not come agreed upon any one thing.”
2. I then asked: Why am I here?
  - a. “To commune with me.
  - b. To see the changes that are required in you.
  - c. To increase your dedication and service to me and the flock.”
3. What need I?
  - a. “Treat your wife right (I have chosen to not disclose this portion of the experience).
  - b. You are called to teach – to whom are you teaching?
  - c. Become united with priesthood who want to become “ONE”.
  - d. Develop your ministry in the local branch, and increase your level of dedicated service.
  - e. Develop serious repentance and forgiveness in my life.”
4. Confirmation.
  - a. I returned to the hotel room that evening feeling completely whipped and of no value at all. I had to grow in my relationship with my wife, I had neglected my calling to teach, I had grown distant with virtually all priesthood, and the Lord had said that I was unrepentant and lacked dedication. I could not bring myself to talk to anyone that evening. During the night I felt led to ask a young Elder who was with us, Elder Spencer Reynolds, to administer to me. The next morning we (there were four elders in that hotel room) all shaved and dressed. I could not find the ability to talk. Elder Dale Carrick asked if I was alright, and if I would like administration. I agreed. Brother Carrick then anointed and he directed that Brother Reynolds confirm. I was told in that administration that my service was acceptable but, improvement was required. My Lord had dealt with me as a father would with his son.

**BRETHREN, THE LORD DEALT WITH ME DIRECTLY, BUT HE USED OTHER PRIESTHOOD TO PERCEIVE THE NEED, TO**

ADMINISTER AND DIRECT ME ACCORDING TO THE SPIRIT  
THAT WAS IN THEM.

I learned that day:

- That a Priesthood that is not united and/or has agendas that he has not designed is unacceptable to him.
- That he is fully capable of correcting our course if we will listen – BUT – it is through a united priesthood that his ministries are to be fulfilled in the eyes of the flock.
- That his plans will not be frustrated.
- That he has Priesthood ready and willing to follow the Spirit that he has placed within them.
- That he had chosen me, but not me alone, but many within the Priesthood to fulfill his cause.

John 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

John 17:6 I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

John 17:7 Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee.

John 17:8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

John 17:9 I pray for them; I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.

John 17:10 And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.

John 17:11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.