

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
THE GOD-ORDAINED WAY**

Message Four

An Overall View of the God-ordained Way

Scripture Reading:

- Col. 1:25 Of which I became a minister according to the stewardship of God, which was given to me for you, to complete the word of God.
- Acts 5:42 And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and announcing the gospel of Jesus as the Christ.
- Matt. 28:19 Go therefore and disciple all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- 1 Cor. 14:31 For you can all prophesy one by one that all may learn and all may be encouraged.
- Lam. 3:22-23 *It is Jehovah's lovingkindness that we are not consumed, / For His compassions do not fail; they are new every morning; / Great is Your faithfulness.*
- Luke 5:29 And Levi gave a great reception for Him in his house; and there was a great crowd of tax collectors and others who were reclining *at table* with them.

I. The God-ordained way is the way to practice God's New Testament economy—1 Tim. 1:4b; Col. 1:25; John 15:16:

- A. For us to practice the New Testament economy, we need to see the divine economy; this economy is clearly revealed in the holy Word—1 Tim. 1:4; Eph. 1:10; 3:9; Col. 1:25; 1 Cor. 9:17.
- B. Our going out to visit people by knocking on their doors is for this economy and should be linked with the divine economy—John 15:5, 16; Luke 10:3-6.
- C. God's eternal economy involves and includes millions of sons of peace; these sons of peace need us to go to visit them in their homes—Eph. 3:6-11.

II. The success of the new way depends upon bringing the church into our homes and bringing all the saints into the truth—Acts 5:42, 2:42:

- A. The early churches met in the homes of the saints; if we take this organic way, whatever we do will be organic and not organizational—Rom. 16:3, 5a.
- B. To bring the meetings into the homes is the very heart of the God-ordained Way—Acts 5:42:
 - 1. I hope that every home would be mobilized, that everyone will become a soldier, and that together we will become an army of the Lord
 - 2. This should include the homes of the new believers.
- C. Once each new one is saved, he can pursue the truth; as a result, the Lord's church will have a firm foundation and be built up in the truth—1 Tim 2:4

III The four steps of the God-ordained Way are begetting, nourishing, perfecting, and building up—Eph. 3:8-11; 1 Thes. 2:7; Eph. 4:12; 1 Cor. 14:26:

- A. To beget is to gain people by going to contact them:
 - 1. We need to beget others, to bear fruit, by preaching the gospel for the organic building up of the Body of Christ—Eph. 3:8-11.
 - 2. We must go and disciple all the nations—Matt. 28:19.
- B. To nourish is to care for others in the home meetings:
 - 1. As mothers we must cherish the new believers—1 Thes. 2:7.
 - 2. Newborn babies need special care.
- C. To perfect is to instruct and equip in the small group meetings—Heb 10:24-25:
 - 1. In the small group meetings, the believers have mutual fellowship, prayer, care, and shepherding; they teach and instruct one another, learn the truth together, and pursue the growth in the spiritual life to promote the various services in the church life, such as preaching the gospel, taking care of the new ones, and leading the small groups.
 - 2. The small group meeting is the major part of the church life and the church services— Acts

2:42.

- D. To build up is to prophesy in the church meetings—1 Cor. 14:31:
 - 1. Prophesying is to speak for God and to speak forth God, supplying Christ to others.
 - 2. To speak words for building up, encouragement, and consolation is for the building up of the church—1 Cor. 14:3-5.

IV. The living of the new way is—Lam. 3:22-23; 2 Cor. 4:16:

- A. To be revived every morning—Lam. 3:22-23:
 - 1. The first step in the exercise of the spirit is to call upon the name of the Lord.
 - 2. The second step in the exercise of the spirit is to pray-read the Lord's word.
- B. To be renewed every day—2 Cor. 4:16.

V. The life-pulse of the practice of new way is the homes—Acts 2:46:

- A. In the age of the apostles, the churches were built up in the saints' homes—Rom. 16:5 and note 1.
- B. The mouthpiece of the gospel is man, and the outlet of the gospel is the homes—Acts 2:46, 5:42.
- C. We not only need to preach the gospel but also need to open our homes to give a great reception for Jesus to preach the gospel—Acts 10:1-5; Luke 5:27-29.
- D. In this way, blessing will come to us even unto generations after generations—Exo. 20:6.