

Deacons

Deacons are to have the same sanctification as elders; they must be our Father's choice. We must choose whom He chooses, and not choose those He does not.

It is essential that he rule his own household well. It is essential that an elder rule well, having the gift of government. He rules with his word and not with the rod all the time. They rule because they carry authority. *Disrespect*— We must deal with disrespect.

Gen 18:19 — “Chosen before the foundation of all things.” He chose us in Messiah to come in through one of the twelve gates of the Holy City (we are not in unless we come through the gates to be part of the Bride). We were chosen in order to do something. Messiah is seed of Abraham, the chosen one; it was *known* that he would command his household after him. We are in Messiah, therefore we are Abraham's seed, chosen.

Christianity is a product of failure of the first church.

If you can't rule with the word, you should question if you are in Messiah. The diligent will rule. Elders know how to rule (1 Tim 3:4), commanding respect in every way and keeping their respect. Elders are on display, not for accusing, but that the sheep would pray for them.

Having a will for their children is the hardest thing for the people of YHWH. The early church failed in this area. The children should have to be disciplined less and less and less. Others have to rule with the rod all the time because they don't know how to rule with the word. A rod is used when obedience to the word is lacking. 1 Tim 3:5 — Many people do not know how because they have not been given the authority to know how, not being in Messiah. 1 Tim 3:15 — Pillar and support of the truth, the truth of what true authority is, what true elders are, apostles, etc. Christianity has hired hands. *We must know how; we are the pillar and support of all truth.*

You were our Father's choice, communicated by the Holy Spirit to each and every person who is in communion. You are no problem unless you are out of fellowship, lacking self restraint. You love your neighbor as yourself, bearing fruit, increasing in this.

First, you were our Father's choice, then the Body's choice, knowing the head of the Body. There is no such thing as an elder living a separate life from the Body. He watches over our Father's sheep.

Heb 13:17 — If we have our Father's choice of elders and deacons then we should render them our obedience. If we have erred in our selection of elders, then they should step down. There is no need to defend your position, our Father defends it if we are spiritual enough to select. The sheep render absolute obedience, because the elders represent our Father's authority. They should walk in fear and reverence because they have our Father's authority on earth.

Two problems: lack of absolute submission to elders, OR wrong choice of elders. The worst is lack of submission.

An elder cannot be an unbroken man, not dealt with by the Holy Spirit. He must be one who is warm, tenderhearted, a shepherd. He is close, not far. Unless broken, his ministry cannot come forth from him. If the elder is not praying for you, he has not been selected by our Father.

Deacons and Lawlessness

1 Tim 3:8 — They must be men of dignity, not shifty or double talkers, but sincere in what they say. They don't just talk about money all the time. There is no *lawlessness* in deacons, no running around making shifty deals. They are not fond of talking about money. They must have a clear conscience, free from lawless deeds, and tested in this. Deacons are the prime example of Messiah in the Body — servants of all.

Our Master taught the disciples the difference for the authority He would die to establish (Mk 10:35 42) — the difference between the authority in the nations and the authority that is in the Edah. In the Edah there is no lording it over those in your charge. While in the world, this is the desire of the Gentiles, for their own glory, respect, rule. They do not know God. The desire of the Gentiles to rule is so they can be looked up to and obeyed by man. This is an unclean motive and must be driven away from us. Every one who aspires to this will be tested with fire, and then we can only receive the place appointed for us. The more we suffer for His sake the

closer we are to Him, and the closer we are to Him, the more we are worthy to rule, exhibiting the characteristics of light and salt. We will receive authority only by drinking the cup he offers (either in this age or the age to come).

There will be divisions if elders are not both our Father's selection and the Body's. 1 Cor 1:10 — Divisions will come to expose those who are not divinely approved. If Messiah can be divided, then the Body can. In the first church the ones with the Holy Spirit didn't divide but they allowed others to come in because of their lack of communion, and as they died away, they were replaced by natural men living by biblical principles and not the Holy Spirit. If you rule by an unclean spirit you'll not practice hospitality, you won't reach out to bring healing. The more the spirit of the gentiles is in a man the less our Father can lead through him. No one striving or seeking to rule is to be *nominated*. Those who want to rule are still under the spirit of the gentiles. Hidden pride will eventually be revealed, even by their own mouth. Our Father's authority is not to be self-righteous or proud.

Elders and deacons are to walk in uninterrupted fellowship with Our Master. Only obstinacy and rebellion would keep them from communion. One in authority can most easily misrepresent YHWH's heart. We drift unconsciously, but if we seek to stand, we will feel its subtle tendency to draw us away from communion. It isn't some tiny pressure. This pressure worked on the first communities. We too could be moved. Bad judgment is a lack of communion. The foundation is perfect and sound or else in 30 or 40 years it will crumble, too late to correct this drifting. We could fall and join Ephesus, Rome, and Corinth in the dust. All that exist of them is Christianity, without a King. We will be kingless, unable to be raised on the last day.

Unless we are under authority we are out of order. We are all in the same order. The woman wears the sign proclaiming this order. If we are not in this order, we have no real or active part in the body. The testimony of headship is 1 Cor 11:1 5. If you are not in that order, you are out of order. Woman to man; man to Messiah; and Messiah to the Father. Women wear the sign to demonstrate the order. If you are not in that order you have no real or active part in the Body of Messiah.

This principle here is essential for life and peace in the Body. Authority, covering, submission and headship are all essential for life and peace, there is no peace or life when these are not demonstrated. One not in this order is walking in darkness. We must be in absolute submission to the "head" whom we meet in the order of the Body. The spirit of lawlessness is in the one who claims to be in Messiah and is not in submission to parents. We will be crippled for life if we allow pockets of rebellion to remain in us by not wanting to come under authority. If we have trouble with authority, we have trouble with YHWH.

Wives

Eph 5 — Husbands should exercise authority with *condition*: that they love them. To fulfill this commandment they must be in subjection to the Spirit (self control). They are in submission to their own head, Yahshua, in fellowship. If husbands are to represent YHWH's authority they must love their own wives. Is love hard? They offer their members as instruments of righteousness. This is done instinctively by the saved, being in communion. Sanctification is increasing in the narrow way, doing unto others as we would have them do unto us. 1 Cor 13:4 — The fruit of the spirit is love. If you lack these qualities, you are out of fellowship, refining the flesh, imitating the fruit. Love hardly ever notices when others do it wrong.

The headship of man in relationship to woman exists in relationship to the relationship between Messiah and YHWH. We must all do our part, each being in submission to the other, in the proper order. All this must be worked out now.

Parents, do you provoke your children to anger? Remaining in communion is the (Rev 3:20 21) only possibility that we would rule with Messiah, even as we are ruling over our children. Don't exasperate them, requiring more than they are able. If we are, we are out of order, out of communion, out of fellowship, out of submission to our head.

Wives must be subject to their husbands; but husbands must love them. They can do that only if they are subject to their head. Our Father is going to get us into that order. He is faithful.

Parents are not to rule according to fallen natural instinct and impulses. If we lack self control in this, we will

hurt our children, exasperating them. Bad authority will spoil the child as much as sparing the rod will. Our Father is full of mercy, always disciplining for a reason. The object of all authority parents exercise is to bring them to the way they should go. This will happen if we train them in the spirit we have received. No thought of harsh treatment in our relationships.

The problem with us is that we learned authority wrongly. We must unlearn it all. We should have been raised in the church. We should be in subjection to all authority in the Body. Subjection to national authority is relative to the authority in the Body, which is higher than the national authority. Civil disobedience is lawlessness and rebellion; it is not possible outside of the Edah. Those authorities established by YHWH are those established to protect and establish the Edah. We are thankful for policemen and proper authority in nations.

1 Tim 2:1 — Something we must pray for: raising holy hands without wrath and dissension when we pray for men everywhere, especially those in authority. This is a commandment, that we pray for kings and authorities, that we might lead a tranquil, peaceful life. The men lift their hands when they pray these kinds of prayers; women hold babies.

We can never rule over nations unless we know how to deal with the national authorities now. We must learn now. Children submit to parents in the Edah, wives submit to husbands, husbands to Messiah. Obedience is the essence of the gospel, if we are to rule with Messiah. He is trying to train a group of people to rule with Him in the twelve tribes. Rom 13:1 — All authority comes to end. The Edah is in the world. We are in the Edah. We are not involved in the government of the nations. We never speak disrespectfully of the authorities of the nations. We are given instruction as to how to conduct ourselves in the household, even how to rule — not in the world as a politician (it was never meant to be that way), but in the church — not just an elder, but over wife and children, because he loves them.

Martin Luther subjected the Lutheran church to the government of the world. But our Father didn't intend for us to be part of the nations. Mk 10:35 45 — There is a difference in the way we exercise authority — we serve, not lord over. We came out of nations (Eph 4:17; Gal 4).

Brethren should know how to be subject to leaders.

Self Control

This is an essential quality of elders and deacons. There is no elder with a pudgy belly, who eats more than he needs. A lack of self control is a lack of communion, making one unfit to rule, an *enemy of the cross*, given to appetite. If we can't master our appetite, we can't go on to anything else. Titus 2:14 — The lawless cannot enforce the law.

Zep 1:12; 1 Tim 2:8 — We must be strictly self controlled in all things, or else we are put on the shelf. We cannot do anything if we cannot master food. This is only the beginning.

Titus 2:15 — Let no one despise you — through your behavior. Elders and deacons cannot have a lack of self restraint. Elders and deacons must go beyond reproach in this, since they must rule the Edah, being examples, ruling over themselves.

1 Pet 5 — Our Father does not select those who put themselves first. He chooses self-controlled, self judged men. You do not choose them just because they are the most self controlled under the sun, but they must rule or have gift of government — first over himself, then over wife and children, then over the household, then over the church. This man has the mind of Messiah, exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit. Yahshua chooses us for this: to rule with Him in every way.

If you have no life and peace, your mind is not on the Spirit (Rom 8:5 6).

The elder is not measured by others' opinions of him, or even his own opinion. He's measured only by the revelation of what has been revealed in his heart, by how he received his brothers and sisters.

The natural mind takes over the Edah when the light grows dim, as the revelation and communion of the Spirit dies out. Children are raised up who don't know Him, but imitate the truth, apart from having it.

When His revelation is withdrawn from a man, he is rejected. We are progressing in the revelation of the Son of YHWH. If not, we are waning.

The motive of our heart must be pure, without defect, as in the burnt offering's organs. He will strip off the skin, exposing the inward parts. We must be lifting up holy hands.

