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**THE SERVANT'S
QUALITIES OF AN INFLUENTIAL
CHURCH**

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THE SERVANTS' QUALITIES OF AN INFLUENTIAL CHURCH

I. THE ROLE OF THE LOCAL CHURCH

The Church comprises all the persons redeemed by the blood of Jesus. They have forsaken the world and themselves to live for God while waiting for the rapture.

It is a lamp that must shine in the world. The Bible says that there will not always be gloom. Thus, the servants who are in the local churches should work to reach this goal. The servants and members must not only shine, they must reach maturity, reach the perfect stature of Christ, i.e. reach divine nature.

To this end, the ministers of the Word should regularly uplift members so that they can put the various graces God gave each one of them, to the service of others.

Although each local church has an evangelical and a prophetic particularity according to the vision given by God to the visionary or leader of each of his local

churches, the aim is the same, namely: the members of each local church who are considered worthy will be part of the secret rapture. They are the Church as the Body of Christ.

One does not work for nothing or without aim. The members who come must grow and reach maturity. Therefore, the servants should be of good quality for a local church to be influent.

We know that God has established ministers and other servants for a perfect and serious work within the local church so that it should shine. However, we shall not speak of the ministry of his servants, but rather of their qualities. For a good church is the one that has good servants.

Whatever the level of the members, because of the good servants the members will change, i.e. they will become better and perfect.

Let each servant now and then ponder this sentence of Christ that is in **Mathew 16: 18: “And I tell you**

that you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it »

and ask himself if he is still a rock?

If so, do you accept the other rocks on your left, On your right, above and under you.

II. THE SERVANTS' QUALITIES

Let us read our basic passage, Acts 20: 20-21. « You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house.²¹ I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus ».

In principle, considering the goals to achieve, a servant can not conceal useful things to members and any man. He must not fear men in the performance of his duties, but he must fear God. This is why the Apostle Paul spoke the words we have just read. This is a good example to follow for the servants and members of the church.

Just like the servant is required not to conceal what is useful:

1. He should not hide himself.

A servant of God is like a lamp, he must be put above to light up the room, he is like a town on the mountain:

Mathew 5 :14-15 « You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house”.

The presence of a servant should be felt within the assembly and everywhere he may be. This presence should be reflected In his way of working (prayer, words...) or in any action he does in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Examples:

- a. Jesus was among the doctors of the law, he asked them questions and was noticed at once;
- b. Joseph in prison attracted attention by explaining dreams and the others understood that he was a man of God;
- c. Daniel attracted attention among the youth at the king's court;
- d. Paul went from house to house, from town to town speaking aloud of Christ. He even rented a house to receive the people he taught.

Today, in certain assemblies, some servants are hidden, We recognise them only when they are in front of the pulpit.

Outside the worship, in places of mourning, in houses and anywhere else they are not felt. There is no spiritual, evangelical or prophetic action on their part. These servants hide some biblical truths during their performances. They are afraid. The apostle Paul says: I was not afraid to preach repentance to God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. The devil intimidates fearful servants by saying:

- If you preach sanctification or the doctrine of Christ People will run away;
- If you teach about God's judgement, the kingdom of heaven and the rapture, people will not give money to the church.

Beloved, Jesus compares the servants to a town on a mountain.

It cannot be hidden. We must be visible to all. We must be transparent in doing our work or ministry.

Transparency is not only in money but also in the management of the members of the church.

When we read **Revelation 21: 10-11** « **And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.**

¹¹ **It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal” and 23 “The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp”.**

When a stone is transparent, when you look at it you will see the other side. Likewise, for a servant, when he prays, speaks, sings or administers the members or the assets of the church, you must see the Lord through him. When looking at you one must see the Lord.

This is why Jesus in his days on earth said: **“Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father”.** (John 14: 9) ». He was seen preaching, dealing with problems, managing the disciples, ... and they saw God in him.

They also saw Christ in the work of his disciples; they were even called Christians.

2. He should have Christ in himself.

The servant should be one with Christ, so that he does not hide what is useful to members. i.e. that Christ is in him. This servant should be the one who keeps and practices the Word so that God be in him (**John 14 :23**).

This servant will say what comes from Christ without problems in the performance of his duties. Thus, Christ said on his days on earth in **John 14 :10 « Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work»**.

Christ within someone cannot allow that his instrument hides what is useful. Besides, the instrument is there to be useful. The instrument that is the servant should fear God lest he misses the blessing or the reward. This is why the apostle Paul was not afraid in performing his ministry.

Remember what is written in **Hebrews 6 :7** «**A land that drinks in the rain often falling on it and that produces a crop useful to those for whom it is farmed receives the blessing of God** ».

Man's heart can find hard some things or words coming from God and can try to spare those who listen thinking they do good while they do bad. The servant may fear the talks of members or their faces and not impart what was needed.

Let us read about a few cases in the Bible:

a. The vision of the book in Ezekiel 2 :1-10

“And he said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee. ² And the spirit entered into me when he spoke unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spoke unto me. ³ And he said unto me, Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against me: they and their fathers have transgressed against me, even unto this very day. ⁴ For they are impudent children and stiff hearted. I do send thee unto them; and thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD. ⁵ And they, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear,

(for they are a rebellious house,) yet shall know that there hath been a prophet among them. ⁶ And thou, son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns be with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.

⁷ And thou shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they are most rebellious ... »

b. John 6: 59-63

After hearing the teaching of Jesus, the disciples said that this is a hard teaching. Jesus did not soften or change his words but he asked them to be spiritual because the flesh counts for nothing. A servant who has Christ in himself is not afraid of the members' reactions. If they leave God will send others or he will convince them to come back to the church.

c. Luke 18: 24-27

Those who listened to his words asked who then could be saved? This reaction did not frighten the Lord.

He understood that they were thinking like men; thus, he told them that it is possible with God.

Today some servants perform their ministry according to the reaction of their members, i.e. they preach what their members want and not what God wants.

Jesus said to those in front of him that he had come to do his father's will. **John 6 :38 « For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me ».**

Considering the above, we understand that God nourishes and man is only an instrument.

If the minister of the Word operates in his own way by hiding some truths, the members will not have the divine power to influence others. Let us work with God for God so that the church will have its true worth and will be able to influence the world.

3. He should work through the Holy Spirit.

By working through the Holy Spirit, the servant will not conceal what is useful to others.

John 16 :13 « When he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come”.

Let us also read **2 Peter 1 :21**« For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit”.

The Holy Spirit knows the things and depths of God, he will not let the servant be idle or prevent him from saying what is necessary. The Bible says that he will guide him in the truth. However, the one who has not the Holy Spirit, or who has saddened him, will at one time, be afraid of the gospel and will always conceal what is useful to others. Thus, when a church has several members without Holy Spirit, this church will have no influence. Some members will act by fear others timidly.

But the apostle Paul says: « For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. ⁸ So do not be ashamed of the testimony

about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God »
2Timothy 1 :7-8.

This is how the ministers of the word should act towards those responsible for entities, worship leaders, soul-winners, intercessors and ushers.

They will speak everywhere of Christ under the action of the Holy Spirit; then people will speak of this church whose servants operate without fear nor timidity.

God also spoke like that to Joshua (**Joshua 1 :6-7**). There are churches where the ministers of the word are timid which leads to the lukewarm nature of the members and consequently the church is not known in the district or the municipality, or even in the house where one of the members lives.

a. The Holy Spirit does not care about the environment

The one who has the Holy Spirit is not ashamed of the place where he is to preach or teach. The teaching can

take place in church, at home or in a public place for any servant able to teach.

2 Timothy 2: 1-2 «You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others”.

You can teach others at any time whatever the place. Think of Christ who one day taught His disciples on a mountain. **Mathews 5 :1-12**. He also taught in the temple, **Mathews 21 :23**. But it must be done under the Holy Spirit's action in order to conceal nothing in the teaching.

b. The Holy Spirit takes the period into consideration

For the ministers of the word, all that is useful should not be said at any time. It must be said at the proper time. The Word to preach at difficult times is different from that at peaceful times or in times of plenty.

The Holy Spirit helps the ministers to carry out their ministries. You will notice that in difficult times of the church, miracles take place so that members do not leave the church.

When ministers have saddened the Holy Spirit, they preach the necessary at any time while there should be a given word for a given time.

Luke 12: 42-43 « The Lord answered, “Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom the master puts in charge of his servants to give them their food allowance at the proper time? It will be good for that servant whom the master finds doing so when he returns! »

Jesus told the disciples one day that He had still many things To tell them but that they could not bear them now; i.e. if he told them, the disciples would not be able to digest the material. Likewise, for a church at a given time. There are churches where the necessary is often preached late or after the event.

Peter was in prison bound in chains, he had grace, but to come out this grace was not enough, a miracle was needed which was done by the angel. « **Acts 12 :7-12** ». There are times when happiness and grace accompany God's people and at difficult times miracles are added to happiness and grace to accompany God's children. The servant will not always say that happiness and grace accompany you, at times he will also say that miracles accompany you.

Christ said: « And these signs will accompany those who believe: in My name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well » **Marc 16:17-18**.

Daniel had the revelation but he was told that this revelation would be kept secret until the end of times. Those who will read it will see their knowledge increase.

He received things for later times. The others will benefit from Them after his death. You can write a book with revelations, but God will see that it is published

after your death. Without the Holy Spirit it will difficult for you to understand things in this way. Today, most of the time, we have a dream, a revelation at night, and early in the morning we tell everyone. We say the useful at the right time. When we have saddened the Holy Spirit, we will not be able to work in the Lord.

Daniel 12 :9-10; 13« He replied, “Go your way, Daniel, because the words are rolled up and sealed until the time of the end. ¹⁰ Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand.

¹³ “As for you, go your way till the end. You will rest, and then at the end of the days you will rise to receive your allotted inheritance ».

4. He should regularly sanctify himself

God's will is that each person should sanctify himself to serve properly. In fact, sanctification removes any trace of sin from our body, our soul (seat of desires, ambitions and will) and our spirit (seat of thoughts and

imagination) **1Thessalonians 5 :23** and transmits to us divine nature.

If there are traces of sin in the soul, the servant will add his ambitions each time God uses him for some or other thing.

Examples:

After praying for the sick and they were cured, The servant not sanctified in his soul will want to become a Pastor. After speaking or prophesying at a service, the servant not sanctified in his soul will want to prophesy again at the next service.

Let us take a biblical example in **1 Peter 1 :10**, «Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care”.

But in verse **12** God brought them back to order.

“¹² It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves

but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you

by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit

sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things ».

Let us also read **Mathews 16 :21-24**, Jesus says that the thought that was in Peter's mind did not come from God.

Whoever wants to follow him must deny his human nature

by sanctifying themselves. Everything is sanctified by the

word and prayer (**1 Timothy 4 :5-6**). Servants must sanctify

themselves now and then so that the word of God coming

from their mouths produce impacts among those who listen

to them. Jesus Christ says in **John 17: 19**

« And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth ».

Someone who urges, sings or preaches should have divine nature. He should go everyday through sanctification.

The servants and members of the church should read the

Word, pray and fast regularly.

We conclude this chapter by saying that God punishes those who hide certain truths to the members of the church.

Romans 1 :18-19 « For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; ¹⁹Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them”.

And verse 21 « Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened ».

5. The servant's voice

The servant's voice should be powerful through the Holy Spirit To cause terror, shake all evil physical or spiritual barrier To bring a decision or a change to those who listen.

Therefore, any servant should know that his voice cannot be the voice of a simple man, it must have power to create, Change or reverse situations.

Here are some examples:

1. During Isaiah's calling « ... Above it stood the seraphs: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.

³ And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

⁴ And **the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried**, and the house was filled with smoke.

⁵ Then said I, **Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.** ⁶ Then flew one of the seraphs unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: ⁷ And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged. ⁸ **Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said**

I, here am I; send me». Isaiah 6: 2-8.

2. Let us think of John the Baptist, when he preached, the people confessed their sins and were baptised. His voice was not that of a simple man. **Matt 3 :1-10.**

3. The case of Paul and Silas in jail « When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. ²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose.

²⁷ The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he

thought the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"²⁹ The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas.

³⁰ He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved —you and your household." ³² Then they spoke the word of the Lord to

him and to all the others in his house. ³³ At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. ³⁴ The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household » **Acts 16 :24-34.**

Thus, servants who urge to preach and sing should draw from what is written above so that those who believe them are filled by a divine power to change their lives. Otherwise, the people will listen but they will be insensitive and will stay the same. The work of the church will not be visible in the eyes of the world and of God.

This is why the apostle Paul said in **2 Timothy 2: 19** « ... “The Lord knows those who are his,” and, “Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness.” So that his voice has an impact on the audience so that it changes day by day until it reaches the perfect stature of Christ.

III. WHAT IS USEFUL?

Let us read our basic passage again: **Acts 20 :20-21 « You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house.²¹ I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus Christ ».**

If we must quote all that is useful and that we cannot conceal, we will not be able to end the list because there is too much.

However, we will mention only a few cases:

1. The body and spirit of man.

Members of the church should know that their bodies Are members of Christ, they cannot do anything with their bodies (**1 Corinthians 6 :15**) nor introduce anything in their bodies (**Luke 1 :15; Galatians 5 :21**) **The** body is good for the sacrifice to God in the example of Christ:

a. Hebrews 10: 5 «Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: “Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me”.

b. 1 Corinthians 11 :23-24 « For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread,²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.”

The Spirit is useful to glorify God and to receive instructions from God (**1 Corinthians 6:20; Romans 8 :16**).

2. All that is part of the divine vision, i.e. God’s vision.

Members of a church should be taught about repentance and conversion to God, forsaking dead works, faith in God, holiness, with water and the spirit in the name of Jesus Christ, spiritual gifts, secret rapture, the love of God, liberation, divine heritage...

3. Any divine revelation on a person, people or church.

Jesus Christ is the True God (1 John 5 :20); this verse must be said and read without fear or worry. This truth must be transmitted to the whole family or any person living in this world.

Read the example of John the Baptist' s testimony on Jesus in **John 1 :29-34.**

John the Baptist saw and spoke out. He did not keep what he saw for himself, but he told others so that they would know and follow Christ who takes away sins. It is an act of love and spiritual sincerity. An example to follow.

The case of Saul and Barnabas **Acts 13 :2 « While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them. »;**

This message could not be concealed and was not concealed.

In the churches, transmit to all the message coming from God, with whatever means of transmission.

Read the case of the gift to Timothy that was given to him in a prophecy **1 Timothy 4 :14**

**4. Any scripture inspired by God
(2 Timothy 3 :16-17)**

All Scripture under divine inspiration is useful to man. It must not be hidden because it contributes to the enlightenment and improvement of the members of the church. Members must grow and reach the perfect stature of Christ; it is only possible through the teachings from the biblical scriptures.

Therefore, any biblical scripture is useful for teaching and nothing should be rejected or concealed.

IV. IN CONCLUSION

Beloved, let the Holy Spirit teach us more.

The main thing is that God make us more and more capable to perform the ministry in a manner worthy of the Lord.

Finally, let us prepare for the rapture so that we can live eternally with Jesus-Christ.

That the grace of God overflows in your life with the faith in Jesus Christ.

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