

# CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD, INC.



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Volume 1 Issue 8

JUNE 2011

**EDUCATE – ENGAGE – CONNECT**

## THE NEED OF LEADERSHIP

### (The Making of a Leader & Basic Principles of Leadership)

Human history gives abundant testimony to the fact that no generation can rise above the level or quality of its leadership. Nations rise and fall according to their governments. This is true of businesses, families, as well as governments.

The principle of Scripture in Isaiah's times is certainly applicable to our day and time. "And I will give **children** to be their princes, and **babes** shall rule over them...As for My people, **children** are oppressors and **women** rule over them...(Isaiah 3:1-15, 4, 12).

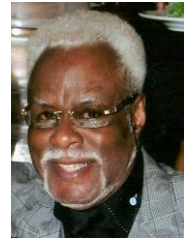
Israel, at this time, had weak and immature leadership over them rather than strong and mature leadership. This kind of leadership brought the nation to disaster. The men of the nation had failed to rise to their level of responsibility and so the prophet Isaiah laments the tragic laments the tragic conditions in the nation.

#### A. Leadership is Needed

Scripture and human history shows the absolute need of leadership. This is a fact that has to be recognized.

##### 1. Without Leadership there is Lawlessness

Without proper leadership, there is lawlessness, there is anarchy. There was no king (leadership) in Israel, and the results



was "every man did that which was right in his own eyes" (Judges 17:6; 18:1-19; 21:25)

##### 2. Without Leadership there is Confusion

Nimrod was the rebel leader in the building of the Tower of Babel. In the end result, God dealt with Nimrod and brought confusion of tongues and scattered the people. Without the leadership of Nimrod there was confusion \*(Genesis 10-11).

##### 3. Without Leadership, people are as Sheep without a Shepherd

God's people are likened to sheep and their leaders likened to shepherds. Sheep need leadership. Sheep need a shepherd. So do the people of God (Matthew 9:36; Numbers 27:17; 1 Kings 22:17).

##### 4. Without Strong and Godly Leadership, Weak Leaders Control

If there is not strong and Godly leadership, then weak and immature leaders will control people. People will have a leader, regardless of what sort he is, at times. This is seen in the nation of Israel when children, babes, and women rose to rule. Many today in leadership are like "children, babyish" in their behavior – weak, immature. Then the rise of "women" in the militant feminist and humanist movements show the evil of their philosophy of Humanism in the destruction of the family.

Scripture and history indeed shows the need for leadership, but the need is for Godly and Christ-like leadership and ministry.

## **B. Leadership is God-Ordained**

It is important to recognize that God Himself has ordained leadership. This is seen in the three major areas of human history. These areas of leadership become delegated authorities under God's supreme authority.

### **1. Home Leadership**

God has established leadership in the home. In any family there must be the leadership of the parents, of the father and the mother. Children do not lead or control the parents. That is reversal of roles. There must be leadership in the home. There must be Divine order. Otherwise the house, the family will disintegrate, which is what is happening in the world today. God's order is established in Ephesians 5:23-32; 6:1-4; the father, the mother and the children.

### **2. National Leadership**

The next area of delegated authority is leadership in a nation, in the government. Nations rise and fall with or without leadership. All nations of antiquity, as well as modern nations, rise to power and fall to ruin according to leadership. God has set in authority "the powers that be and there are ordained of God for the good of society (Romans 13).

### **3. Church Leadership**

The third area of delegated authority and leadership is that which God has set in the church. God has set in the church apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds and teachers as well as governing elders. These are to rule and care for the people of God. A church without leadership is like a ship without a helm, without a captain; an airplane load of passengers without a pilot.

Read Ephesians 4:9-16; 1 Timothy 3; Titus 1 for the qualifications if the kind of leadership that is to be in God's church.

God Himself is the supreme leader and guide of all His creation. But, in relation to earth, to humankind, God has delegated authority to leaders in the home, in the nations, and in the church. All therefore are subject to Him, responsible to Him in accountable to Him "in that day".

## **C. Leadership is under Satanic Attack**

Another important thing to understand is that leadership is under tremendous Satanic attack. As will be seen more fully, the principle of Zechariah 13:7 is true in this matter, "Smite the shepherd, and scatter the sheep".

There is Satanic attack against leadership in the home, against the husband and wife relationship. There is Satanic attack against the fathers and the mothers, in order to scatter the children, the family. There is Satanic attack against the government of nations, the politicians

No wonder the Lord told us through the apostle Paul to pray for all those who are in authority; for kings, presidents, and rulers (Timothy 2:1-4).

There is Satanic attack against leadership in the church also. Destroy all church leadership and then scatter the congregations. "Divide and conquer" is Satan's strategy. It always has been and always will be until he is finally judged by God Himself.

Anyone with eyes to see, ears to hear and a heart to perceive will recognize this Satanic attack against all forms of leadership that is taking place in the earth today! The root reason is that Satan is against God's authority!

## **D. Definition of Leadership**

What is a leader? There are many excellent definitions of leadership. Following are some of these definitions from Dictionaries, the Scripture and some quotable quotations.

## 1. Dictionaries – Webster’s & Collins English

- A person that leads; directing, commanding or guiding head, as of a group or activity.
- To guide by holding the hand (as leading a child).
- To guide or conduct by showing the way.
- To conduct, as a chief or commander; as a general leads his troops to battle.
- To govern.
- To show the method of obtaining an object
- To influence; to exercise authority.

## 2. Hebrew Concordance

Strongs Concordance shows “Nagid” as being “A commander (as occupying the front, one out in the front), Civil, Military or Religious (Numbers 27:17).

This Hebrew word is translated in **KJV** as “Captain, chief, excellent thing, governor (1 Chronicles 29:22), leader (1 Chronicles 12:27), noble (Job 29:20), prince (1 Kings 14:7), chief ruler (1 Samuel 25:30), and captain (Isaiah 9:16).

- Leader of the Aaronites – 1 Chronicles 12:27
- David consulted with every leader – 1 Chronicles 13:1
- David, a witness, leader and commander – Isaiah 55:4
- Leaders of Captains in the camp – 2 Chronicles 32:21
- Leaders of this people cause them to err – Isaiah 9:16, 3:12

## 3. Greek Concordance

The Greek word for “leader: is “Hodegos”, and means “A conductor (literally or figuratively) and is translated, “guide, leader”. It also means to show the way.

- Blind leaders of the blind who both fall into a ditch – Matthew 15:4

## 4. Quotable Quotations

Following are some quotable quotations of various leaders defining leadership.

- A leader is one who has an objective, who knows where he is going and can persuade others to follow; who knows what he wants done and can persuade others to help him (Les Pritchard)
- One who has the ability to motivate people to a certain purpose or goal.
- One who goes ahead or in advance, one who acts as a guiding force.
- One who can draw people to a course of action by means of persuasion or example.
- One who can give direction or structure to the efforts of others in their work.
- One who can advise, counsel and co-ordinate the ideas of others in their work (Frank Damazio)
- The capacity and will to rally men and women to a common cause, and the character which inspires confidence (Lord Montgomery)
- Leadership is influence, the ability of one person to influence others. One man can lead others to the extent that he can influence them (J. Oswald Sanders).
- A leader is a man/woman who knows the road, who can keep ahead, and who can pull others after him/her (Dr, John R. Mott).
- A leader is a person who has the ability to get others to do what they do not want to do, and like it (President H. Truman).

## E. Three Kinds of Leadership

The Bible shows that there are basically three kinds of leaders. Any of them can be dangerous if not under the leadership of Christ. Two of them are absolutely contrary to the Scriptures. The only secure leadership is that which is Christ-like leadership. This is why Paul could write to the believers in Corinth and say: “Be you followers (imitators) of me, even as I also follow Christ”. (1 Corinthians 11:1).

People can follow leaders as long as they follow Christ. But if these leaders cease to follow Christ, then people should cease following them, and continue to follow Christ.

## **We note the three kinds of leadership in Scripture:**

### **1. Self-Appointed Leaders**

In Numbers Chapter 16, we see Korah and his self-appointed leaders rising up against Moses and Aaron. The Lord stepped in to deal with this type of leadership. It was dangerous and brought judgment to Israel. A self-appointed leader takes upon himself the authority and responsibility of a spiritual office into which he has not been divinely called.

The beloved apostle John also spoke of Diotrephes who was a self-appointed leader in the church John wrote to. John strongly rebuked his activities. The epistle of Jude, verse 11, refers to three men as examples of false ministries: Cain, Balaam and Korah. Jude states that in these last days, some men will go the way of one or all of these false ministries. The way of Korah is the man who will appoint himself to a divine office without the call of God. He represents self-willed and presumptuous men who want authority that is not given to them. They rise up against God-ordained leadership, as Korah did against Moses. **Self-appointed leadership is dangerous indeed!**

### **2. Man-Appointed Leaders**

Man appointed leaders claim to receive a call from God, but the call is by the authority of human vessels who are not speaking by the unction of the Lord. Man-appointed leadership is very common in our society today. The strong trend of humanism in the world makes people man-centered rather than God-centered.

Israel, in their backslidden moments, sought to set up their kind of leadership. They wanted to set up a leader who could take them back to Egypt, back to the house of bondage, when they became discouraged with the way in the Wilderness (Numbers 14:4).

Later on, Israel wanted to set up a king like the other nations about them. God granted them their request, in king Saul, but they suffered under his reign for 40 years (1 Samuel 8&9).

Jeroboam the king also set up priests of the lowest of the people for his own counterfeit religion. These priests led the people into further idolatries (1 Kings 12:31). **All man-made leaders brought trouble to the people of God. Usually man-appointed leaders look toward ministry as a professional or career. But ministry is more than a good career in a nice institution.**

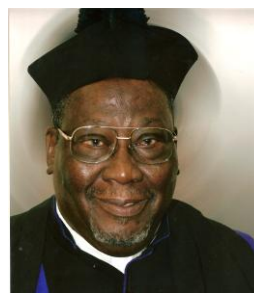
### **3. God-Appointed Leaders**

The only safe and secure leadership is that which is appointed of God. God called Moses to be His leader of Israel (Exodus 3; Numbers 12). God called Aaron to be His priest, in His sanctuary, and confirmed this call by the rod that budded and brought forth fruit (Numbers 17). “No man takes this honor unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron...” Even Christ did not call Himself to priesthood. It was the Father God who anointed Him to the priesthood after the order of Melchisedek (Hebrews 5:1-9).

All leaders need to check out whether they are self-appointed, man-appointed or God-appointed leaders.

Paul could say that God “**put me into the ministry**” (1 Timothy 1:12). If God put you into the ministry, then you will be safe in His hands and care. If you put yourself into it, or men put you into it, without God’s direction, then there will be problems indeed.

The Lord called David to be a witness, a leader and a commander of His people (Isaiah 55:3-4; Psalm 78:70-72). One cannot command, if one cannot lead and one cannot lead if one is not a witness! True leadership is God-appointed and then God-anointed.



**President General  
Bishop T. N. Brown  
Closing Remarks to the  
51<sup>st</sup> National Foreign  
Mission Convention in  
his sermon on  
Thursday afternoon.**

PHILIPPIANS 3: 13 “Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

A. Think with me for a moment says Bishop Brown:

1. Your mind has two functions
  - a). The Memory
  - b). The Imagination
2. The Purpose of your
  - a). MEMORY is to rely events in your past experiences
  - b). IMAGINATION is to replay events in your future
3. Now hear this
  - a). Your PAST is over,
    - Satan has no fear of your past
    - He merely uses it as a memory to :
      - Taunt you
      - Intimidate you
      - Demoralize you, BUT, it’s over
    - God does not remember the sin of your PAST SO WHY SHOULD YOU? Psalm 103:12
    - Jeremiah 31: 34b – for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more
    - Throw it into the sea for forgetfulness - and I will remember them no more

b). When Satan keep showing you the same photograph of yesterday’s failure, it is only an indication that He is “Running Low On Material.”

- He has nothing fresh to flash on the screen of your mind.
- He is simply scrambling to find worthless photographs to paralyze you “Emotionally” and “Spiritually.”

c). It’s important for you to move quickly away from the memories that destroys you. “Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. God is doing a new thing in this His finest hour. Isaiah 43:18

d). Refocusing on tomorrow moves you away from yesterday. Isaiah 43:19. “Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

4. Your Future Is Intimidating To Satan.

## The 10 Commandments of Handling Difficult People

1. *Use the 101% principle. Find the 1 percent you agree on and give it 100 percent of your attention.*
2. *Love people more than policies, but love truth more than people.*
3. *Give others the benefit of the doubt.*
4. *Learn to be flexible where you can.*
5. *Check your own attitude.*
6. *Don’t overreact to conflict and disagreement.*
7. *Welcome the conflict. Make it a learning experience.*
8. *Provide an escape for the person in conflict. Let them maintain their dignity.*
9. *Take a risk. Give people a second chance.*
10. *Take the high road. Be generous and believe the best about others.*

**To Be Continued in July’s Edition**

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