Mat 97

The Believer’s responsibility to the pastor.

(BRIGHTEON WAS down in June)

Thank you to Allyson & also Chad and Jessica in SD….I had some bills pending like my quarterly taxes that run around 500 every 3 months and I am able to take care of that along with a few other bills.

Last lesson we noted TLJC sending these new teachers out to evangelize and our Lord was clear that these men need not worry…or for that matter even focus on cash flow.

No concern for where they would stay…what they would eat and how they would earn a living.

/God has designed a spiritual protocol for pastor-teachers to stay focused on the study and distribution of His word. Meaning this is a trade and full-time occupation much like a nurse, lawyer, truck driver or a school teacher.\

The difference is a nurse or lawyer or truck driver have companies and clients who pay for the goods and services and this enables these occupations to prosper and supply daily living expenses.

It truly is no different for a pastor- teacher. The pastor has to have financial and logistical support otherwise he will struggle with his personal life in the area of daily living expenses.

/The Lord was getting His leaders prepared to apply faith in Him and also to realize the journey ahead would be a challenge and many people would reject what their calling was. Studying and teaching was now their occupation, not fishing or manual labor. They would have to trust God’s plan & God’s timing completely.\

These men were learning a whole new lifestyle and learning to trust in God from now on.

And as I taught last lesson the Pastor should never focus on financial profit in any way shape or form. He must trust in God to handle all other details other than studying and teaching.

Now from time to time a church leader or pastor has to ask for support if there is a pending bill or financial issue on the horizon but that is not a regular portion of the message coming from that pulpit.

Let’s move forward in Matthew 10.

Mat 10:9 “Do not acquire gold, or silver, or copper for your money belts,

[Mat 10:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/10/10/s_939010) or a bag for *your* journey, or even two coats, or sandals, or a staff; for the worker is worthy of his support.

/[Mat 10:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/10/11/s_939011)“And whatever city or village you enter, inquire who is **worthy** (*axios*)in it, and stay at his house until you leave that city.\

[Mat 10:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/10/12/s_939012) “As you enter the house, give it your greeting.

[Mat 10:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/10/13/s_939013) “If the house is worthy, give it your *blessing of* peace. But if it is not worthy, take back your *blessing of* peace.

[Mat 10:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/10/14/s_939014) “Whoever does not receive you, nor heed your words, as you go out of that house or that city, shake the dust off your feet.

[Mat 10:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/10/15/s_939015) “Truly I say to you, it will be more tolerable for *the* land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city.

Pretty serious statement if you read thru verse 9 into verse 15 and fully understand it.

That Greek adjective *worthy* in verse 11 is - OX-EE-US…meaning compatible or of the same value. Someone equally-minded in the word and someone who is equally yoked to your belief system.

So yes… it means staying with BELS but only those who have some doctrinal knowledge and will understand the nature of the Apostles new calling.

Meaning those positive Bels who respect the Apostles and make them feel comfortable and give them rest and support. After studying and teaching the last thing a pastor-teacher who is operating in his gift properly, wants….is a group of people badgering him with questions or observing every little thing he says or does….you want to be in a relaxed place with Royal Family members.

That is why I commend the Bels at that California Conference it was great to just teach and relax with positive Bels.

The Lord then tells them to bless the house which is really praying as you break bread and being respectful toward those who own the home keeping them in your prayer.

Having a man of God in that house will have a blessing while that fellowship is active there and even afterward.

Blessing by association.

You often hear the term God blesses His people out with homes and wealth…such as Psa 23-The Lord is my Shepherd. I will have everything I need.
For sure, You will give me goodness and loving-kindness all the days of my life. Then I will live with You in Your house forever.

In heaven the blessings will surpass any human form of wealth we could ever think of!

David said in Psa 23:5 - You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; **My cup overflows**.

That overflowing cup means blessing from a positive Bel will touch the lives of other Bels in their periphery.

It doesn’t mean the Bel gets rich with wealth and homes it may mean…you get blessed thru association by other Bels.

/Psalm 5:12 (AMP)
For You, O Lord, bless the righteous man (the one who is in right standing with You); You surround him with favor as with a shield.\

Proverbs 10:22 tells us the blessings of God brings us riches without any suffering.

Problem is right now in time…in our world today…many Bels think they need a huge bank account and they don’t even realize that as they remain inside God’s plan… God is continually placing blessings around them.

Personal health is a form of wealth. What about Royal Family members who open their hearts and homes to us?

There are Bels who would hand you their car keys if you needed it…give you a warm meal and comfortable bed if you travel in their area. That’s wealth!

I have gotten jobs through church friendships.

I have gotten a great deal on a used car thru church connections.

But by the same token what are you willing to offer others?

The Apostles were learning to depend on the word of God to sustain them and also that positive Bels will always support other Bels and certainly a man of God.

Now on the flip side Jesus warns…

/[Mat 10:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/10/14/s_939014) “Whoever does not receive you, **nor heed your words**, as you go out of that house or that city, **shake the dust off your feet.\**

This has to do with Unbels…but more importantly Unbels who are antagonistic toward the gospel.

This has to do with Unbels who ridicule truth…this is the same as that saying –

*do not throw your pearls before swine* we already studied…(Mat 7:6).

/Psa 101:3 I will set no worthless thing before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not fasten its grip on me.\

This statement to *shake the dust off* was common for that era. It meant to clear yourself of that city…that family or that person, remove yourself quickly.

 It had a hint of a curse attached to it and that is why TLJC mention Sodom and Gomorrah in the very next verse.

As soon as the angels removed Lot and his family from Sodom & Gomorrah the curse fell upon that area.

This is actually a very common curse and attitude coming from the men of God throughout Israel’s history.

/1Kin 13:8 But **the man of God** said to the king, “If you were to give me half your house **I would not go with you**, nor would I eat bread or drink water in this place.\

This unknown prophet is dealing with King JAR-AH-BOAM who has constructed alters to a foreign god.

And this is during the early period of the split between the northern and southern kingdom of Israel it is a very volatile time.

/1Kin 13:9 “For so **it was commanded me by the word of the LORD**, saying, ‘You shall eat no bread, nor drink water, **nor return by the way which you came**.’”\

This has the meaning of shaking the dust off your feet…it is a rejection and actually a curse that a prophet or spiritual leader would put on a household or a whole city.

Do not return to that area!

It was saying this is a heathen city or a dirty person or an area I need to be cleansed of and never return!

Turn to 1Corinthians chapter nine with me.

This curse was only applied if the Unbel was involved in something such as idol worship or attacking the people of God. This is not an excuse to treat all Unbels in such a manner.

Now we need to peel back the onion and look at the responsibility of the positive Bels.

In 1Corinthians chapter nine…

We will once again get a sense that the Apostle Paul is using a slight bit of divine sarcasm to the Bels at Corinth.

There were some questions from some legalistic Jews about Paul’s authority.

Which is really a joke…PAUL was responsible for the majority of the NT and mystery doctrine we study today.

1Cor 9:1 Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord?

Paul put great effort and about two years of work into developing a church in Corinth. And he asked for very little in return.

[1Co 9:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/9/2/s_1071002) If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

[1Co 9:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/9/3/s_1071003) My defense to those who examine me is this:

[1Co 9:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/9/4/s_1071004) Do we not have a right to eat and drink?

[1Co 9:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/9/5/s_1071005) Do we not have a right to take along a believing wife, even as the rest of the apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas?

KA-A-FISS is Peter…several of the Apostles were married and their wives needed support as well as the Apostles.

This is the part Bels don’t like to hear…they like to hear the lesson that Pastor’s should never be greedy and they should not constantly be tugging on your purse strings.

But this part…the responsibility of the Bel I’m sure will lose a few people.

/[1Co 9:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/9/6/s_1071006) Or do only Barnabas and I not have a right **to refrain from working**?\

The illusion many Bels have is that a pastor-teacher doesn’t really work…and that is a lie from the pits of hell my friend.

A pastor who is living in his calling is spending hours and hours studying and preparing messages and then teaching them. Try it sometime…a one-hour message…accurate in its context because you’re dealing with God’s word it is no joke.

Original language…historical context, scripture lined up against scripture.

See how many hours it takes from start to finish to study and gather information…mold the message as the HS guides you…do the slides and go over and edit it and then stand up and teach it for an hour.

Paul was not accepted early on by even the Apostles much less other Christians and so he continued working as a tent maker to survive.

Actually, from this point forward Paul was done with tent making and part time teaching…

he went full bore into the ministry and expected to be compensated for it!

Look at these examples Paul hits the church at Corinth with who by the way donate very little to Paul over the course of his teaching.

Some scholars say he received nothing from them early on and Paul never complained about.

Many teachers believe Paul was willing to prove himself and that is why he avoided seeking compensation at first.

/[1Co 9:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/9/7/s_1071007) Who at any time **serves as a soldier at his own expense**? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat the fruit of it? Or who tends a flock and does not use the milk of the flock?\

ELABORATE

[1Co 9:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/9/8/s_1071008) I am not speaking these things according to human judgment, am I? Or does not the Law also say these things?

/[1Co 9:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/9/9/s_1071009) For it is written in the Law of Moses, “**YOU SHALL NOT MUZZLE THE OX WHILE HE IS THRESHING**.” God is not concerned about oxen, is He?

(Deu 25:4) A legal statement of doing what is right & just.\

Do not cheat the wheels of justice or abuse the rights of another is another way to look at how it was used in OT.

REPEAT

[1Co 9:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/9/10/s_1071010) Or is He speaking altogether for our sake? Yes, for our sake it was written, because the plowman ought to plow in hope, and the thresher *to thresh* in hope of sharing *the crops.*

/[1Co 9:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/9/11/s_1071011) If we sowed spiritual things in you, is it too much **if we reap material things from you**?

The lesson is that the pastor feeds the Bels spiritual meals for growth while you supply his material needs for his life.\

[1Co 9:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/9/12/s_1071012) If others share the right over you, do we not more? Nevertheless, we did not use this right, but we endure all things so that we will cause no hindrance to the gospel of Christ.

Paul was willing to work without compensation for a period of time for the sake of saving souls but at some point it should become a full time ministry.

[1Co 9:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/9/13/s_1071013) Do you not know that those who perform sacred services eat the *food* of the temple, *and* those who attend regularly to the altar have their share from the altar?

Reference to OT Levitical priest who by the way did nothing but take care of the temple and teach BD and the nation of Israel supported these men in full time positions. In fact the OT doctrine of tithing was a form of taxation for situations just like that.

But in the CA today we give with proper motivation not under the law of tithes.

/Cor 9:14 So also the Lord directed those who proclaim the gospel to get their living from the gospel.\

Same statement in Luke chapter 10.

Also the Apostle Paul brings this point up to the Galatians as well.

/Gal 6:6 The one who is taught the word is to share all good things with the one who teaches *him.*\

In ancient times food and livestock, or clothing items were equivalent to money today. Those farmers, clothing makers and trade-smith’s would give either cash or whatever the need was to help the Apostles.

Paul taught his protégé Timothy the same principle.

/1Ti 5:17 **The elders** (*presbyteros*) who rule well are to be considered worthy of double honor, **especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching**. 18 For the Scripture says, “YOU SHALL NOT MUZZLE THE OX WHILE HE IS THRESHING,” and “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”\

ELDER is that term PRESS-BOO-DO-ROSS

This word gets taken out of context by certain denominations today who have elders running their churches usually a group of older folks who make all the church decisions. It was being used for pastor-teachers whom the Apostles ordained.

Though it has a definitive term for age used in its description…it also has a definition that falls under rank or authority which has nothing to do with age and that is how Paul is using here.

The pastor teacher should be worthy of his labor. And his authority is not an age issue it is a title issue….God ordained him you respect and honor that office.

/2Tim 2:15 Be **diligent** (*spoudazō*)to present yourself approved to God **as a workman** (*ergatēs*)who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.\

SPOO-DAZ-OH - Greek verb meaning to exert oneself and give intense attention to something.

AIR-GOT-TAZ-masculine noun for a laborer someone who does physical or mental work that is strenuous.

The pastor should work hard to uncover the truth and listen to what the HS is telling him to teach…this is clear in scripture.

Paul actual tells Timothy don’t let anyone look down on you because of your youth. (1Tim 4)

He tells Timothy that the pastor teacher should labor and strive.

/1Tim 4:14 Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery.

[15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1ti/4/15/s_1123015) **Take pains with these things; be absorbed in them,** so that your progress will be evident to all.\

Don’t allow anyone to question your spiritual gift if you are confident that God has his hand on you….I don’t care what the gift is!

But also take it serious and study and prepare yourself for that ministry.

/2Cor 10:18 For it is not he who commends himself that is approved, but he whom **the Lord commends**.\

The principles in these last two lessons are these following points;

/The pastor-teacher is ordained to focus on the accuracy of teaching scripture and adhering to spiritual guidance under the power of the Holy Spirit. This almost always is a full-time job, with great expectations put upon that man to be academically honest and unselfish concerning profit.\

REPEAT also emphasize hard work.

/The Bel’s responsibility is to respect the office of Pastor and make themselves available to accept the teaching of their right pastor-teacher. In that responsibility they are to ensure the pastor has a living wage.\

ELABORATE

It is the congregation who promotes the word out into the world the pastor simply teaches….you guys launch it out there with your support.