



HAVE YOU BEEN ORDAINED?

Next Saturday we will be having an ordination service for Rod Morabito and Daryl Jessup. This is a

good time, then, to look at ordination.

First, it is Scriptural. *And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.* Acts 14:23

For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:

Titus 1:5

I have cited the old KJV here as the newer translations do not use the word “ordain.” Also, the words translated in the old KJV come from a number of Greek verbs. Nevertheless, it is a sound Biblical practice.

To be ordained, a person must have knowledge of a lot of “ologies.” I have several Systematic Theology books on my shelf. The “best” one, divides what one must know into 10-ologies. These are (with percentages of the book):

Bibliology (10%) : The study of how we got our Bible and its inspiration.

Theology (10%) (The stricter use of this word) : The study of God - the Trinity and God the Father in particular.

Angelology (5%) : The study of angels.

Anthropology and **Hamartology** (15%) : The study of man and of sin.

Christology and **Sotorology** (20%) : The study of Christ and our means of salvation.

Ecclesiology (10%) : The study of the Church and

Eschatology (20%) : The study of last things (or times).

Also, spread throughout the book is **Pneumatology** : The study of the Holy Spirit.

Just for the record, “ology” comes from the Greek λόγος (logos) which is found in John 1:1 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* “Ology” is the “words about something” (i.e. the study of it).

So, then, we have these -ologies:

Bibliology: Βίβλος = a book or scroll = “The Book”

Theology: Θεός = God

Angelology: Αγγέλος = messenger or Angel

Anthropology: Ανθρωπος = Mankind

Hamartology : Αμαρτία = Sin, “missing the mark”

Christology: Χριστός = Christ, Messiah

Sotorology: Σωτηρία = Salvation

Ecclesiology : Εκκλησία = Church or assembly

Eschatology : Εσχατος = The Last (things)

Pneumatology : Πνεύμα = Spirit (Holy)

There is one we have not yet mentioned. We will look at it next week:

Demonology : Δαιμόνιον : Demon (Devil in KJV)

I suppose I am a few weeks late in covering this topic, but better late than never!

Now, what about you? When were you ordained? According to the Bible, if you are a believer, you have been ordained.

Acts 13:48 *Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed (ordained) to eternal life believed.*

Ephesians 2:10 *For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared (ordained) beforehand that we should walk in them.*

You will receive no ordination certificate to hang on your wall like Rod and Daryl but you have been called (ordained) to a work, just as they have. According to Paul in the passage above, you have been “ordained” to do good works. This is now your responsibility to do. We trust that Rod and Daryl will fulfill the ministry they are being ordained for - are you fulfilling yours?

Wayne

