

Seeking God after the Due Order

1 Chron. 15:12-13

Introduction:

- A. The ark of God.
 - 1. It's description (Ex. 25:10-15; Heb. 9:4)
 - 2. It's means of transportation.
 - 3. It's capture by the Philistines.
 - 4. David's first attempt to recover it.
 - a. The new ox cart.
 - b. The death of Uzza. (cf Num. 4:15)
 - c. Ark left behind (1 Chron. 13:12-14)
 - 5. David's second attempt to recover it.
 - a. "After the due order" (1 Chron. 15:13)
 - b. "According to the word of the Lord." (1 Chron. 15:15)
- B. The Lord's work must be done "after the due order" or "prescribed way" (NIV).
 - 1. It is not enough to do something in the name of the Lord - must be done lawfully (Matt 7:22, 23)
 - 2. "What difference does it make as long as the job gets done?"
 - 3. The end does not justify the means.
- C. Let's apply the "due order" principle to our religious activities today.

Discussion:

I. Worship and Praise to God.

- A. Avenues of worship after the due order.
 - 1. Personally and congregationally – sing (Jas. 5:13; Col. 3:16), pray (Jas. 5:13; Acts 12:5), teach/preach (Acts 8:4; Acts 20:7)
 - 2. Congregationally – Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7), Giving (1 Cor. 16:2).
- B. All to be done in an orderly and decent manner (1 Cor. 14:27, 31-33, 40).

II. Church organization.

- A. Elders and deacons when qualified (1 Tim. 3:1-13)
- B. No organization but local church (Acts 14:23; 1 Pet 5:1-4).
- C. No organization larger than, smaller than, or other than local church.

III. Church Evangelism.

- A. Preachers supported directly by the local church (2 Cor. 11:8; Phil. 4:15-16)
- B. Preaching done by the local church (Acts 20:7).
- C. The "due order" does not call pooling of funds, central organization, or missionary society.

IV. Church Benevolence.

- A. A local church takes care of its own needy. (Acts 6)
- B. A local church receives from other churches when cannot care of its own (Acts 11:27-30; Rom. 15:26).
- C. If other means of support, the church should not be charged. (1 Tim. 5:14-16).
- D. Church benevolence is limited to saints (cf. 1 Cor. 16:1, etc.)
- E. The "due order" calls for no human institution, sponsoring church, for benevolence society.

V. Church Edification.

- A. Church to edify itself (Eph. 4:16).
- B. The order calls for no "Sunday school board" or any other edification society.

Conclusion:

- A. Like moving the ark, it is not enough to get the job done, it must be after the "due order."
- B. If it not after the "due order" it will eventually fail, as moving the ark failed.

