

# MINISTERS OF THE NEW COVENANT

2 Corinthians 3:5b-6a

...Our qualification comes from God. He has enabled us to be ministers of his new covenant...

# STUDY

- **Study the following chapters in 2 Corinthians**

- Chapter 2**

- Chapter 3**

- Chapter 4**

- Chapter 5**

## Genesis 1:26–28 (NKJ)

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

<sup>27</sup> So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him, male and female He created them

<sup>28</sup> Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, fill the earth and subdue it; **have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.**”

# Who is a Minister?

- **diakonos: a servant, minister**
- **Original Word:** διάκονος, οἱ, ὁ, ἡ  
**Part of Speech:** Noun, Feminine; Noun, Masculine  
**Transliteration:** diakonos  
**Phonetic Spelling:** (dee-ak'-on-os)  
**Definition:** a servant, minister  
**Usage:** a waiter, servant; then of anyone who performs any service, an administrator.

# diákonos

- 1249 diákonos – two words put together
  - from 1223 /diá, "thoroughly" and konis, "dust"
    - "thoroughly raise up dust by moving in a hurry, and so to minister"
    - to kick up dust, as one running an errand
  - "probably connected with the verb diōkō, 'to hasten after, pursue' (perhaps originally said of a runner)".

# Therefore,

- Any opportunity given to you, to minister, is an opportunity to
  - Wait on the King patiently
  - Administrate on His behalf with determination and enthusiasm
  - Serve the people energetically and carefully

# Ministers of the New Covenant...

1) Are triumphant in Christ.

2 Corinthians 2:14a (NKJ)

<sup>14</sup> Now thanks *be* to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ,

# Ministers of the New Covenant...

2) Are used by God to spread the knowledge of Christ.

## 2 Corinthians 2:14-16 (NLT)

<sup>14</sup> But thank God! He has made us his captives and continues to lead us along in Christ's triumphal procession. Now he uses us to spread the knowledge of Christ everywhere, like a sweet perfume.

<sup>15</sup> Our lives are a Christ-like fragrance rising up to God. But this fragrance is perceived differently by those who are being saved and by those who are perishing.

<sup>16</sup> To those who are perishing, we are a dreadful smell of death and doom. But to those who are being saved, we are a life-giving perfume. And who is adequate for such a task as this?

# Ministers of the New Covenant...

3) Preach the word with sincerity and with Christ's authority

2 Corinthians 2:17 (NLT)

<sup>17</sup> You see, we are not like the many hucksters who preach for personal profit. We preach the word of God with sincerity and with Christ's authority, knowing that God is watching us.

# Ministers of the New Covenant's..

4) Letter of recommendation will be the lives that have been changed and that are being changed.

2 Corinthians 3:1-3 (NLT)

<sup>1</sup> Are we beginning to praise ourselves again? Are we like others, who need to bring you letters of recommendation, or who ask you to write such letters on their behalf? Surely not!

<sup>2</sup> The only letter of recommendation we need is you yourselves. Your lives are a letter written in our hearts; everyone can read it and recognize our good work among you.

<sup>3</sup> Clearly, you are a letter from Christ showing the result of our ministry among you. This "letter" is written not with pen and ink, but with the Spirit of the living God. It is carved not on tablets of stone, but on human hearts.

# Ministers of the New Covenant...

5) Are qualified by God, first.

2 Corinthians 3:4-6 (NLT)

<sup>4</sup> We are confident of all this because of our great trust in God through Christ.

<sup>5</sup> It is not that we think we are qualified to do anything on our own. Our qualification comes from God.

<sup>6</sup> He has enabled us to be ministers of his new covenant. This is a covenant not of written laws, but of the Spirit. The old written covenant ends in death; but under the new covenant, the Spirit gives life.

# Ministers of the New Covenant...

6) Do not use deception or distort the Word of God. Rather, tell the truth.

2 Corinthians 4:1-2 (NLT)

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since God in his mercy has given us this new way, we never give up.

<sup>2</sup> We reject all shameful deeds and underhanded methods. We don't try to trick anyone or distort the word of God. We tell the truth before God, and all who are honest know this.

# Ministers of the New Covenant...

7) Do not preach about self! Rather, about Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:5 (NLT)

<sup>5</sup> You see, we don't go around preaching about ourselves. We preach that Jesus Christ is Lord, and we ourselves are your servants for Jesus' sake.

# Ministers of the New Covenant's...

**8) Power is from God not from self!**

**2 Corinthians 4:7-10 (NLT)**

**7** We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves.

**8** We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair.

**9** We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed.

**10** Through suffering, our bodies continue to share in the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus may also be seen in our bodies.

# Conclusion

## 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 (NV)

<sup>1</sup> Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand.

<sup>2</sup> By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup> For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>(1)</sup>

<sup>4</sup> that he was buried, <sup>(2)</sup> that he was raised <sup>(3)</sup> on the third day according to the Scriptures,

# Conclusion

## Ephesians 2:8–9 (NIV)

<sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—

<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast.,



YOU ARE MINISTERS OF THE  
NEW COVENANT!!