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Concepts in Worship

IV. Analysis and discussion of some of the problems that rise with regard to a meeting for worship and the public participation roles.

(In Review...the last three discussions have been occupied with taking part in the public meeting...the believer giving himself in open participation in the meeting for worship. We have previously noted how these meetings came to be..growth from the Corinthian concept and why we have them broken down into categories today although we have also allowed that there is considerable freedom to amplify or expand this work in time to come and in different places. When, however, we discuss participation in the meetings, there are always questions that arise. With no further review, we move to discuss these.)

A. Introductory note:

- 6.1 1. That many of us are kept from taking part due to small and almost unworthy matters should be apparent. In the war (last statistics known to me were the Korean conflict) it was estimated that nearly 70% of the field soldiers never fired their respective pieces. I discovered the reason for that was that when you fired you drew the fire of fifty of the enemy! (I mean...that is what we were told.) But in most of our meetings...probably more than 70% of our brethren never exhibit the public priestly functions in worship. And no one fires back in this case. We cannot assail all of the problems in this but we do want to discuss some and our discussion is, of necessity, a combination of biblical ideas and some honest common sense.
- 2. The general categories of problems. Problems may be listed in these general classes.
 - a. Objections to the type of meeting:
 - 6.2 (1) external
 - (2) internal
 - b. Limitations in the understanding of the company
 - (1) Spiritual
 - 6.3 (2) Personal
 - (3) Social
 - c. Difficulties arising within the meeting itself...matters of order, etc.

Most of our treatment in this discussion deals with "b" and "c". Our taped lecture has already excluded "a".