

will show us the house in spiritual order. Titus 2 will give us the picture of aged women and aged men supervising the lives of the generation following them. Our behavior, as in 1 Timothy 3, is a manifestation of governmental order and the same may be said for the covering for sisters. The roles of men and women in the home will provide a foundation for this and help establish a precedent for the gathering that will allow the governance to be that of the Bible, not the invention of clever persons or politicians,

III. Conclusion..certainly we have not answered all the questions but if we will simply take the biblical materials as far as they are given to us and implement them, many of the questions and problems will disappear. The practical authority of the Bible will deliver us from the concept of "every man doing what is right in his own eyes" and our use of it as a tool for measuring every other enactment will enable us to live in peace and the joy of the Lord.

* * * * *

MESSAGE # 4: PRACTICAL AUTHORITY IN ORDER

Biblical Passages: 1 Corinthians 10-11

I. Introducing the Subject:

By order we mean the way we arrange ourselves, set our practices and rules and identify ourselves as well. Order indicates an gradation of activity so that what needs to be done is done and all things are accomplished in proper form. I can give more statements about disorder than order, I am afraid. Order does not mean absolute rigidity but suggests a procedure that takes things in turn understanding that a sudden emergency might make some change necessary. We understand order in a choir (the basses do not sing soprano and every member follows the conductor's direction) and I understood order in the army when I was instructed how to keep my foot locker and my appearance as a credit to the military. In this day and age when people feel the best possible thing is doing just what they want to do, order is often resisted and, if it is too tyrannic it may bring about its own downfall. But in the company of God's people order is a cherished possession and the Scripture tells us enough about it to make our witness meaningful while not pushing it to a constriction point.