

~MINISTRY (248)

- The work and service performed by a **minister**, servant, or attendant responsible to a superior authority. In ancient Israel, the Levites served as Yehowah's ministers. Prophets were also used to minister in a special way.
- At that particular time Yehowah separated the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of Yehowah's covenant, to stand before Yehowah for **ministering** to him and to bless in his name until this day. (**Deuteronomy 10:8**)
- And the priests the sons of Levi must approach, because they are the ones Yehowah your God has chosen to minister to him and to bless in the name of Yehowah and at whose mouth every dispute over every violent deed should be disposed of. (**Deuteronomy 21:5**)
- However, with the coming of Jesus Christ to the earth, a new **ministry** began. He commissioned his followers to make disciples of people of all the nations.
- Go therefore and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (**Matthew 28:19**)
- Teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded you. And, look! I am with you all the days until the conclusion of the system of things. (**Matthew 28:20**)
- Accordingly, to a world alienated from God, Christians bore a message of reconciliation to God through Christ.
- But all things are from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the **ministry** of the reconciliation. (**2 Corinthians 5:18**)
- Namely, that God was by means of Christ reconciling a world to himself, not reckoning to them their trespasses, and he committed the word of the reconciliation to us. (**2 Corinthians 5:19**)

- We are therefore ambassadors substituting for Christ, as though God were making entreaty through us. As substitutes for Christ we beg; Become reconciled to God. (**2 Corinthians 5:20**)

See Also LEVITES

See Also MINISTER

See Also PRIEST

- Those who responded favorably to the **ministry** of the reconciliation.
- But all things are from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the **ministry** of the reconciliation. (**2 Corinthians 5:18**)
- Needed to be trained, taught, assisted, and directed in a proper way in order to become and to remain firm in faith, as well as to accomplish the disciple-making work themselves.
- I solemnly charge you before God and Christ Jesus, who is destined to judge the living and the dead, and by his manifestation and his kingdom. (**2 Timothy 4:1**)
- Preach the word, be at it urgently in favorable season, in troublesome season, reprove, reprimand, exhort, with all long-suffering and art of teaching. (**2 Timothy 4:2**)
- This witness is true. For this very cause keep on reproving them with severity, that they may be healthy in the faith. (**Titus 1:13**)
- Paying no attention to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn themselves away from the truth. (**Titus 1:14**)
- You, however, keep on speaking what things are fitting for healthful teaching. (**Titus 2:1**)
- Faithful is the saying, and concerning these things I desire you to make firm assertions constantly, in order, that those who have believed God may keep their minds on maintaining fine works. These things are fine and beneficial to men. (**Titus 3:8**)
- Therefore, after his ascension to heaven, Christ Jesus, as head of the congregation, **gave gifts in men**, apostles, prophets, evangelizers,

shepherds, and teachers, with a view to the readjustment of the holy ones, for **ministerial** work, for the building up of the body of the Christ.

- Now to each one of us undeserved kindness was given according to how the Christ measured out the free gift. (**Ephesians 4:7**)
- Wherefore he says; When he ascended on high he carried away captives, he gave gifts in men. (**Ephesians 4:8**)
- Now the expression, **he ascended**, what does it mean but that he also descended into the lower regions, that is, the earth? (**Ephesians 4:9**)
- The very one that descended is also the one that ascended far above all the heavens, that he might give fullness to all things. (**Ephesians 4:10**)
- And he gave some as apostles, some as prophets, some as evangelizers, some as shepherds and teachers. (**Ephesians 4:11**)
- With a view to the readjustment of the holy ones, for ministerial work, for the building up of the body of the Christ. (**Ephesians 4:12**)
- Until we all attain to the oneness in the faith and in the accurate knowledge of the Son of God, to a full-grown man, to the measure of stature that belongs to the fullness of the Christ. (**Ephesians 4:13**)
- In order, that we should no longer be babes, tossed about as by waves and carried hither and thither by every wind of teaching by means of the trickery of men, by means of cunning in contriving error. (**Ephesians 4:14**)
- But speaking the truth, let us by love grow up in all things into him who is the head, Christ. (**Ephesians 4:15**)
- From him all the body, by being harmoniously joined together and being made to cooperate through every joint that gives what is needed, according to the functioning of each respective member in due measure, makes for the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love. (**Ephesians 4:16**)

See Also GIFTS FROM GOD

- Another aspect of the **ministry** inside the congregation concerned caring materially for needy but deserving brothers. The **ministry** to which Stephen and six other certified men were appointed involved the distribution of food supplies to Christian widows.

- Now in these days, when the disciples were increasing, a murmuring arose on the part of the Greek-speaking Jews against the Hebrew-speaking Jews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution. (**Acts of Apostles 6:1**)

- So the twelve called the multitude of the disciples to them and said; It is not pleasing for us to leave the word of God to distribute food to tables. (**Acts of Apostles 6:2**)

- So, brothers, search out for yourselves seven certified men from among you, full of spirit and wisdom, that we may appoint them over this necessary business. (**Acts of Apostles 6:3**)

- But we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the **ministry** of the word. (**Acts of Apostles 6:4**)

- And the thing spoken was pleasing to the whole multitude, and they selected Stephen, a man full of faith and Holy Spirit, and Philip and Prochorus and Nicanor and Timon and Parmenas and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. (**Acts of Apostles 6:5**)

- And they placed them before the apostles, and, after having prayed, these laid their hands upon them. (**Acts of Apostles 6:6**)

- Later, the congregations in Macedonia and Achaia shared in a **ministry** of relief for the poor brothers in Judea.

- Now we let you know, brothers, about the undeserved kindness of God that has been bestowed upon the congregations of Macedonia. (**2 Corinthians 8:1**)

- That during a great test under affliction their abundance of joy and their deep poverty made the riches of their generosity abound. (**2 Corinthians 8:2**)

- For according to their actual ability, yes, I testify, beyond their actual ability this was. (**2 Corinthians 8:3**)

- While they of their own accord kept begging us with much entreaty for the privilege of kindly giving and for a share in the **ministry** destined for the holy ones. (2 Corinthians 8:4)
- Now concerning the **ministry** that is for the holy ones, it is superfluous for me to write you. (2 Corinthians 9:1)
- For I know your readiness of mind of which I am boasting to the Macedonians about you, that Achaia has stood ready now for a year, and your zeal has stirred up the majority of them. (2 Corinthians 9:2)
- In everything you are being enriched for every sort of generosity, which produces through us an expression of thanks to God. (2 Corinthians 9:11)
- Because the **ministry** of this public service is not only to supply abundantly the wants of the holy ones but also to be rich with many expressions of thanks to God. (2 Corinthians 9:12)
- Through the proof that this **ministry** gives, they glorify God because you are submissive to the Good News about the Christ, as you publicly declare you are, and because you are generous in your contribution to them and to all. (2 Corinthians 9:13)
- When the contribution was finally gathered together and Paul was preparing to take it to Jerusalem, he asked the brothers in Rome to pray along with him that this **ministry** of relief would be acceptable to the holy ones for whom it was intended.
- But now I am about to journey to Jerusalem to **minister** to the holy ones. (Romans 15:25)
- For those in Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to share up their things by a contribution to the poor of the holy ones in Jerusalem. (Romans 15:26)
- Now I exhort you, brothers, through our Lord Jesus Christ and through the love of the spirit, that you exert yourselves with me in prayers to God for me. (Romans 15:30)
- That I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea and that my **ministry** which is for Jerusalem may prove to be acceptable to the holy ones. (Romans 15:31)

- **Some years prior to this, a similar demonstration of love was made by the Christians of Antioch, in Syria, as they shared in a relief ministration for the brothers dwelling in Judea during a time of famine.**
- **One of them named Agabus rose and proceeded to indicate through the spirit that a great famine was about to come upon the entire inhabited earth, which, for that matter, did take place in the time of Claudius. ([Acts of Apostles 11:28](#))**
- **So those of the disciples determined, each of them according as anyone could afford it, to send a relief ministration to the brothers dwelling in Judea. ([Acts of Apostles 11:29](#))**
- **And this they did, dispatching it to the older men by the hand of Barnabas and Saul. ([Acts of Apostles 11:30](#))**