

4.6 4. The Participant: leading in ministry (edification)

a. What will he do?

- 4.7
- (1) He will offer something from the Word of God that will edify the Lord's people. It might be a simple reading of the Scripture. It might also be the Scripture and some edifying comment.
 - (2) In so doing, he will stimulate worship and thanks in others.
 - (3) Emotionally he will draw forth the Lord's Person
 - (4) He will not, under the previous discussion of meetings and limitations, exhort, denounce or preach the Gospel. These expressions are all in order in various ministry meetings and, if we had the Corinthian meeting concept, would have some place in the present structure. But normally they are "out of place" in this meeting in that they tend to make the believer concentrate on himself and not the Lord; his weaknesses and not the Lord's beauty; his lot in life and not the Lord's work at Calvary or his place in heaven.

It should be said that this is advice...we can hardly make rules...but it seems to be the practical and useful advice.

In a later talk we will discuss the giving of the above in connexion with other meetings.

- (5) He will not give a "testimony" (generally speaking) save as it relates to the edification of the Biblical passage and some pronounced truth about the Lord.

b. What is his ministry?

- 4.8
- (1) It is something Christ-centered....to meet the desired standards above.
 - (2) It is biblically sound...
 - (3) it is not a relation of personal experiences
 - (4) It is not a diatribe or a hobby of his on which he harasses the saints (something like coming on time to meeting or why the sisters should be covered)..not an argument or a settling of issues.

- 4.9
- c. His conduct...like the one leading in worship, should be dignified and simple. He does not have to worry much about himself, but should not be bizarre or do anything to detract from the worshipful setting.