

A BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF STEWARDSHIP
CE Fall, 2015
Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church
Class #7

The Church As Steward
Pre-Reading: Blomberg, Chapter 9

I) Introduction

II) Funding the Work of Ministry

1. Key: 1 Peter 2:1-10 (the holy priesthood of God's people)

2. The Old Testament Evidence:

1. Moses and Building the Tabernacle in the Wilderness

1. The need/call (Exodus 25:1-9)

2. The response by leaders and people (Exodus 35:2-29)

3. The need is met (Exodus 36:4-7)

4. God is glorified for the result (Lev. 9:22-24)

2. Other Examples:

1. King David and Building Solomon's Temple 1 Chron. 29:1-20

2. King Jehoshaphat and Repairing Solomon's Temple 2 Kings 12:1-12; 2 Chronicles 24:8

3. The New Testament Evidence: Paul and the Philippian Church (Phil. 1:3-7; 4:10-20)

1. The need/call (Phil. 1:3-7; 4:10)
2. The response by leaders and people (Phil. 4:14-16)
3. The need is met (Phil. 4:18-19)
4. God is glorified as the result (Phil. 4:20)

4. Application to the Modern Church

III) Debt and the Work of Ministry

A) Biblical warnings and freedom

- 1) Proverbs 22:26-27 (putting up security for debts)
- 2) Proverbs 22:7 (the borrower serves the lender)
- 3) Psalms 37:21-22 (obligation to repay)

B) Problems of debt in funding ministry

- 1) Tendency to enslave and determine priorities
- 2) Tendency to weaken the testimony of God's provision.

3) Presumption on the future.

4) Indicates lack of trust in God.

5) Can reflect discontentment with what God has provided.

C) Wisdom in Use of Debt to Fund Ministry Work.

1) When borrowing is permissible: application to church facilities

2) Nature of the debt contracted.

3) Obligation to repay.

IV) **Applications:** “Guidelines for Funding the Ministry of Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church” (attached).

What principles discussed this term are reflected in these guidelines issued by the Session of HTPC?