

Ordination By The Laying On Of Hands

- I. ordain: To appoint, decree, destine, order. To appoint (a person, etc.) to a charge, duty, or office.
- II. The ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ is perpetuated by one elder/bishop/pastor/minister/steward instructing qualified able men and ordaining them. **2TI 2:2 c/w TIT 1:5-9.**
 - A. The office of N.T. ministry began with Jesus Christ ordaining the apostles (**MAR 3:14**) who were also *elders* (**1PE 5:1**) as well as seventy others. **LUK 10:1.**
 - B. The N.T. shows the apostles doing the work of elders, including ordaining others.
 - C. An elder has received a gift by prophecy. **1TI 4:14.**
 1. The gift bestowed is the office of pastor and teacher. **EPH 4:8-11.**
 2. By the prophecy (divinely inspired utterance) of Scripture, a potential elder is identified and called.
 - D. **TIT 1:5-9** shows that a single elder can ordain.
 1. Paul takes credit for the ordination of Timothy, his special son in the faith. **2TI 1:6 c/w ACT 16:1-3; 1CO 4:17.**
 2. Paul described this as being done by the *presbytery*. **1TI 4:14.**
 - a. presbytery: The office of a presbyter; eldership or priesthood.
 - b. If one has the office of a presbyter (elder), he has what is needed to confer that office upon another.
 3. This accords with the fact that a single steward may rule his lord's house. **LUK 12:42.**
 - E. Ordination may also be performed by multiple elders. **ACT 13:3.**
 - F. Whether ordination be by one or by multiple elders, the Holy Ghost makes a man an *overseer* (bishop) or elder of the church. **ACT 20:28.**
 - G. Mind that the foregoing demands faith in a preserved ministry outside of which there is no legitimate ordination.
- III. Ordination is performed by the laying on of hands with prayer. **ACT 14:23; 13:1-3; 6:3-6.**
- IV. Paul speaks of the laying on of hands as being one of the foundational principles of the doctrine of Christ. **HEB 6:1-2.**
 - A. *Laying on of hands* denoted or was associated with various other things, such as:
 1. conferral of blessing. **GEN 48:14.**
 2. conferral of authority. **DEU 34:9.**
 3. giving mortal sentence. **LEV 24:14.**
 4. arrest. **ACT 4:3.**
 5. healing. **MAR 16:18.**
 6. a gift of the Holy Ghost. **ACT 19:6.**
 7. devotion to God for sacrifice. **LEV 4:15.**
 - B. These elements have correspondence with the ministry of Jesus Christ.
 1. The blessed God has committed a blessing gospel to them. **1TI 1:11; ACT 3:26.**
 2. They are given authority. **HEB 13:7.**
 3. They may have the sentence of death in themselves. **2CO 1:9; 4:10-11.**
 4. They may be arrested and made Christ's prisoner. **ACT 26:9-18; EPH 4:1.**
 5. They minister and proclaim healing. **LUK 4:18; 1PE 2:24.**

6. The Holy Ghost makes them overseers in their gift of office. **ACT 20:28.**
 7. They are devoted to God as living sacrifices. **ROM 12:1; PHIL 2:17.**
- C. To allay their fear, Christ's ministers have the assurance that His hand is laid upon them.
REV 1:17; ISA 41:10; 54:17.