

[Special Series: Church Priesthood Ministry]

CHURCH PRIESTHOOD MINISTRY

We are currently studying a special series on Church Priesthood Ministry. All of these Church Priesthood Ministry lessons come from Paul's use of the present imperative (command) taken from Galatians Chapter Six.

(Gal.6:1)	Restore	(katartizo)	Restoring trespass believers in the spirit of gentleness.
(Gal.6:2)	Bear	(bastazo)	Bearing one another's burdens in the love of Christ.
(Gal.6:4)	Examine	(dokimazo)	Examining one's priesthood regarding boasting in the Lord.
(Gal.6:6)	Sharing	(koinoneo)	Mutual sharing of all of God's goodness.
(Gal.6:7-10)	Deceived	(me planao)	Don't be deceived, the Believer will reap what he sows.

We will examine three points while reading our lesson text.

- **Trespass:**
 - "Brethren, even if (3cc - possible) a man is caught (prolambano/ p.a.subj 3ms) **in any trespass** (paraptoma),
- **Technique:**
 - you who are **spiritual** (hoi pneumatikos) **restore** (katartizo/ p.a.impv.2pl) such a one in a **spirit of gentleness** (prautes) (Gal.5:22-23);
- **Tempted:**
 - Each one looking (skopeo/ p.a.ptc.nsm) to yourself, lest **you too be tempted** (peirazo/ a.p.subj.2ps)."

Note that Paul was not discussing a specific case but rather a **priesthood policy** for restoring a believer who has broken fellowship with the Godhead and with the body of Christ by being "caught in any trespass."

This lesson will study five aspects of spiritual mature believers Priesthood Ministry to the Church.

1. One of the twenty status privileges of every Church Age Believer (CAB) is Priesthood ([50 Things](#)).

(1 Pet.2:5) "You also, as living stones, are being built up as a **spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.**"

(1 Pet.2:9) "But **you** (your name) are a Chosen Race, a **Royal Priesthood**, a Holy Nation, a People of God's Own Possession, so that **you** may proclaim the excellences of Him who has called **you** out of darkness into His marvelous light." (Rev.1:6; 5:10)

Our priesthood is under the High Priesthood office of Jesus Christ (Heb.4:14-10:39).

(Heb.5:10) "Being designated by God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek."

2. Paul is instructing on priesthood ministry within the church body of the spiritual restoration of any Church Age Believer (CAB) "caught (prolambano) [overtaken / caught by the trespass] in any trespass (paraptoma) [deviation from uprightness and truth / breach of a known law] (Rom.3:20)."

A trespass sin is like all personal sins in that it breaks fellowship with the Godhead until confessed (1 John 1:8-9).

Trespass sins are a danger to five Divine Institutions of a nation (freedom, employment, marriage, family, and nation) (Gen.1-10).

Paul outlined some of the trespass sins attacking laws of Divine Establishment that can destroy Divine Institutions. He called them “deeds of the flesh” in (Gal.5:19-21) and (Rom.1:18-32). Today, we referred to them as cultural sins of the Greco-Roman Empire.

3. The Greek word for “restore” is katartizo (p.a.impv.2pl) [A command or the Directive Will of God]. It means to mend something broken (Matt.4:21) [Mending fishing nets] (Matt.4:18-22).

Paul used it as a metaphor in (Gal.6:1) to refer to mending broken fellowship with the Indwelling Holy Spirit and with the Lord as head of the Church. (Eph.5:23) Also with the local body of Christ church (Gal.1:1-2).

A broken arm is still part of the body and needs the rest of the healthy body to help heal it (1 Cor.12:12-27).

(1 Cor.12:26) “And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.”

Notice that Paul made the spiritual ones (**plural**/ hoi pneumatikos/ nplm) responsible for the restoring.

4. Spiritually mature believers are commanded to restore “in the spirit of gentleness (prautes) [The agent of] (praus) [meekness is grace orientation mental attitude] “which is precious in sight of God”. (1 Pet.3:4)

It is part of the ministry essence of Christ (Matt.11:29).

Jesus showed it to the woman in contrast to the legalism in John 8:1-11.

- This ministry is exercised in the CAB’s life by walking by means of the Indwelling Holy Spirit (Gal.5:16, 25).
- It is the 8th fruit of the Spirit listed in (Gal.5:22-23).
- Prautes operates from the Indwelling Holy Spirit and not from the indwelling flesh (OSN) [Self].
- It operates like the Father in the parable of the Lost Son (Luke 15:20-24) and not like the Older Son (Luke 15:28-30).

The spiritually mature believer who takes responsibility for restoring **should not focus on** the “how caught” or the “what” of the trespass. Rather, the spiritually mature believer should focus on the “one” [fellow believer] needing restoration and the “how” of the restoring process.

5. A warning is issued to those spiritual mature believers (CABs) who will engage in spiritual restoration.

“Each one looking (skopeo/ p.a.ptc.nsm) [mental consideration] to yourself lest you TOO be tempted (peirazo/ a.p.subj.2ps)”

(Heb.2:18) “For since He Himself was tempted in which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.”

(Heb.4:15-16) “For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

(Gal.6:1) “Where one who would restore an erring brother is not to act as his judge, but as being one with him in liability to sin, with the possibility of finding himself in similar circumstances,. (Jms 1:13-15).”
(Vine’s Expository Dictionary, pg.622)

Remember all sin is between the believer and the Lord. How you think is more important than how you feel
(Luke 15:21; Ps.51:4; 1 John 1:9).