"MEMBERS BEHAVING THEMSELVES IN THE HOUSE OF GOD"

I Tim. 3: 14 - 15

INTRODUCTION:
1. Paul told Timothy he had written unto him that he might know how he ought to behave himself in the House of God -- I Tim. 3: 14 - 15
2. The house of God is made up of "living stones" -- I Pet. 2:5
3. The body, the church, has many members -- I Cor. 12:14
4. Each member must behave him or herself in the church.
5. When each member behaves and does right, the church is pleasing in the sight of God.
6. Let us look at HOW members act when they behave themselves:

I. THEY RESPECT CHRIST'S AUTHORITY
   1. He has all authority -- Matt. 28:18
   2. He is God's spokesman -- Heb. 1:1 - 2; Matt. 17:5
   3. He is the Head of the church -- Eph. 1:22 - 23
   4. Whatsoever we do in word or deed must be done by His authority -- Col. 3:17
   5. We must not go beyond His authority -- II John 9; I Cor. 4:6
   6. We will practice nothing He has not authorized.

II. THEY HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST
   1. Phil. 2:5; I Pet. 4:1; Gal. 2:20
   2. They are willing to suffer -- I Pet. 2:21; I Pet. 4:16; Matt. 5:10 - 12; Acts 14:22
   3. They are humble -- Phil. 2:3 - 9; Col. 3:12
   4. They are obedient -- Phil. 2:8; Heb. 5:8 - 9
   5. They love all men -- Matt. 5:44; John 13:34 - 35
   6. They are willing to make sacrifice -- II Cor. 8:9; Rom. 12:1
   7. They are willing to forgive others -- Matt. 6:14 - 15; Eph. 4:32
   8. They are subject to the will of God -- John 4:34
   9. They hate evil -- Heb. 1:9
   10. They love the church -- Eph. 5:25; II Cor. 12:15

III. THEY LOVE SPIRITUAL THINGS
   1. They seek those things which are above -- Col. 3:1 - 2
   2. They seek first the kingdom of God -- Matt. 6:33
   3. They are spiritually minded -- Rom. 8:6
   4. They put the spiritual before the temporal.
IV. THEY DEFEND THE TRUTH AGAINST ALL ERROR
   1. I Tim. 3:15
   2. Jude 3
   3. Phil. 1:17
   4. Eph. 6: 10 - 17
   5. The importance of truth -- John 8:32; Prov. 23: 23; Matt. 13: 45 - 46

V. THEY DO NOT LET SIN REIGN IN THEIR MORTAL BODIES
   1. Rom. 8: 12, 22; I John 1: 1 - 2
   2. They have put to death the works of the flesh in their lives -- Col. 3: 5 - 6; Gal. 5: 19 - 21; Matt. 5: 28 - 30
   3. Tit. 2: 11 - 12

VI. THEY SEEK TO CONVERT OTHERS
   1. Christ's mission into the world was to save men -- Luke 19:10
   2. The Apostle's mission was to convert men to Christ -- Mark 16: 15 - 16; Acts 5:42
   3. Early disciples -- Acts 8:4
   4. I Tim. 3:15
   5. The only people God has to save the world is His church.

VII. THEY USE THEIR ABILITY FOR GOD'S GLORY -- Eph. 3:21
   1. Matt. 5:16
   3. II Tim. 2:21
   4. Eph. 1:12
   5. I Pet. 2:9
   6. Rom. 15:6
   7. I Cor. 6:20

CONCLUSION:
   1. Are you "behaving yourself in the house of God"??

Donald Townsley
(Hebron Lane 1985)