

We were speaking at the end of the hour about Number 3 - the church has an obligation to pay a reasonable salary to the teaching elder and we read from I Timothy 5¹⁸ and I Corinthians 9:13-14 which - this is not much stress in the New Testament. It is the Lord knows how easy it is for this point to be taken out of proportion and people to become seekers of money, seekers of personal gain, but on the other hand, He knows how necessary it is for the carrying on of His work that there be those who can devote themselves full time to it to give attention to the needs of the flock. My wife, before we were married, for a number of years helped - worked with a group which did not believe in having any hired ministers. They believed that the control of the church should be in the hands of laymen entirely and up to that point I think they are on Scriptural ground. I think that it is a great curse that has come into the church - the attitude that the minister runs the church and he bosses, he lords it over the church. Peter warned us very much against the danger of an overlord of the church instead of ministers and those carrying forth. It is a danger and one which we must watch against and I think a great part of the evil that comes into the church comes from this. But the Lord does desire that the work shall be done and shall be done by men who are able to give their full time to it. Now she worked with this group which went to that extreme of not having any teaching elder~~x~~ but having all the elders take a part in the teaching as they should and having itinerant men come in from time to time to speak but no-one there who had the opportunity and responsibility to care for the flock. And she had some very miserable experiences. She was working herself without compensation but with free-will gifts which I don't think paid more than half her keep maybe, but she was living with her family - there wasn't much expense involved. But she was giving the overwhelming mass of her time to working with the children and helping with the work of this group. And the Lord gave her some very ~~ble~~ experiences in connection with this. But also she had some very painful experiences because so often she had to try to step in to fill needs which were there which a regular pastor should be on hand to meet - and there was no pastor. The elders were all men who were employed - when the Sunday evening service was over they had to get home, they had to get in shape for the next day for their regular work and were at