

“Things That Can Kill a Pastor’s or Churches’ Ministry”

Compiled by Rev. David J. Bauer

Stubbornness or Self-Will - 1 Sam. 15:22-23 *“For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry...”*

Dishonesty - 2 Cor. 8:21; 1 Thess. 4:12 *“Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.”*

Broken Promises - Eccl. 5:4-5; Matt. 5:37 *“... pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldst not vow, than that thou shouldst vow and not pay.”*

Overnight Reform - Phil. 4:6 *“Be careful (anxious) for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.”*

Misuse of (Pastoral) Power - 1 Pet. 5:3; 2 Tim. 2:24-26 *“Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.”*

Misuse of Church Finances - 1 Tim. 3:3-7; 1 Tim. 6:10-11; 1 Pet. 5:2 *“...not greedy of filthy lucre...”*

Church Politics - Rom. 2:11 *“...for there is no respect of persons with God.”*

Narrow Margins in a Vote Count - Acts 23:7 *“...there arose a dissension between the Pharisees and the Sadducees: and the multitude was divided.”*

Bad Advice from People - 1 Kings 12:13-14 *“And the king answered the people roughly, and forsook the old men's counsel that they gave him; and spake to them after the counsel of the young men...”*

Pastors Being Ruled (or Coached) By Their Wives - 1 Tim. 2:11-12 *“Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.”*

Fear (or Lack) of Confrontation - 1 Sam. 3:13 *“For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.”* 1 Cor. 5:2 *“And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.”* (See Matt. 18:15-20)

Misuse of Church Discipline - Gal. 6:1 *“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such a one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.”*

The Lure of Bigness - Zech. 4:10; Haggai 2:3 *“For who hath despised the day of small things?”*

Elder Rule without Accountability - 1 Tim. 5:19-20 *“Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses. Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.”*

Extreme Differences in Personality or Leadership Style of Pastoral Staff – Acts 15:38-40 *“The disagreement became so sharp that they parted company...”*

Extreme Differences between Church Profile and Pastoral Personality - 2 Cor. 4:7 *“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.”*

Transfer Members and Church Hoppers - Philemon 11 *“Which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me:”*

Lack of Evangelistic Outreach (Led by Personal Example) - 2 Tim. 4:5 *“...endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.”*

Prayer Meetings Not Done Right - Luke 18:1 *“...that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;”*

Reducing the Support of any Part of Church Missionary Program - Phil. 4:15-20 *“Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.”* Matt. 6:21 *“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”*

Youth Program in the Church - 1 Tim. 4:12 *“Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.”*

Moral Fall of a Leader - Prov. 6:24-33 *“A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away.”*(v. 33)

Building Programs - Nehemiah 6:15-16 *“So the wall was finished... in fifty and two days. ...for they perceived that this work was wrought of our God.”*

Lawsuits and Lawyers - 1 Cor. 6:1-8 *“Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because ye go to law one with another. Why do ye not rather take wrong? Why do ye not rather suffer yourselves to be defrauded?”* (v. 7)

Lack of Standards or Lack of a Church Policy in Writing - 1 Tim. 3:1-15 *“...that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”*(v. 15)

Music - Exo. 32:17-18 *“And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said unto Moses, There is a noise of war in the camp. And he said, It is not the voice of them that shout for mastery, neither is it the voice of them that cry for being overcome: but the noise of them that sing do I hear.”*
Ephes. 5:19; Col. 3:16 *“Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;”* *“...teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”*



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