# ORDINATION SERVICE

# The Missionary Church International

Planting Churches and Serving Missionaries Around the World

Robert J. Coulter Senior Bishop

## THE SERVICE OF ORDINATION

The presbyters, or elders, of the New Testament exercised the POWER OF ORDINATION. Timothy was ordained by the laying on of hands of the presbytery or body of elders (1Tim 4:14).

There are two kinds of ordination:

- a. Divine
- b. Human

THE DIVINE is the call of God on one's life to preach the Gospel- The Savior called and sent the apostles out to preach. "Go ye..." Their ordination was the unction of the Holy Spirit.

HUMAN ordination recognizes this essential unction of the Living God in these present times - along with being assured by the Scriptures that all believers are really in direct apostolic succession. So human ordination is essentially and simply man's stamp of approval on that which God has already done

John Wesley: "When you have the two, the Divine Ordination and the Human Ordination, well and good; but if not, give us the Divine Ordination and let who will have the human"

The church - properly enough for the sake of order, down through the ages, has licensed and ordained men and women to do the work of the ministry. BUT no Ecclesiastical authority - however high and holy this authority may seem - can make a "minister of God" - the position cannot be purchased as is seen with Simon in Acts 8.

God's ordination must precede man's - man's ordination must follow the Holy action of the Living God or it is nothing.

A special called out and Divinely appointed presbytery has been placed in our presence this day - whose purpose it is to lay hands on these candidates for ordination for the impartation of continued and renewed anointing of our Lord.

We are gathered here as servants and priests of the Living God to ordain for special service in the building of the Kingdom of God here on this earth.

# [NAME OF PERSON (S) BEING ORDAINED]

whom we believe, after prayer and much examination, to be worthy of special consideration from (his) fellow servants of formal ordination into the priesthood in the Church of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ – the name of the official ordaining body being THE MISSIONARY CHURCH INTERNATIONAL established and authorized by the board of directors with corporate headquarters in Columbia, South Carolina.

The INITIAL AUTHORITY to participate in and conduct this Holy Service is made clear and outlined throughout the Bible and is fully established by the Words of our Precious Savior and Lord as He hands to all believers His Great Commission – making it clear that all of His followers are in DIRECT APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION and are commanded to "do His work" constantly and to "finish the work of Him who sent us."

Jesus assures us as He speaks to us in Matthew 28:18, "All authority and power has been given unto Me in Heaven and on earth" – He called us - His disciples - unto Himself in Matthew 18:1 and passed this power on to us - "power against unclean spirits, to cast them out and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease." We are assured in Mark 16:17-18 that great and wondrous "signs shall follow them that believe: in the Name of Jesus, they shall cast out devils, they shall speak with new tongues:... they are able to come in contact with the tools of the enemy without being hurt, and "they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.." – These things are for all believers and all believers are expected to "do the work of Him that sent" us and to "finish His work."

But, we believe that there are some who have a special calling beyond that of other believers. This is why we have come together this day to especially ordain (these) called out servant(s) of the Most High God – laying hands on (them) for the impartation of continued and renewed anointing according to the Divine pleasure of our Heavenly Father.

It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this because when our Savior speaks to (NAME) in John 15:16, "You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you and ordained you that you should go and bring forth fruit and that your fruit shall remain..." (NAME) has been obedient from the beginning of (their) ministry. (They) have brought forth fruit and that fruit remains wherever (they) (have) worked and the fruit continues to grow to the glory of God.

LET US PRAY

Almighty God, giver of all good things, who by your Holy Spirit have appointed diverse orders of ministers in your universal Church: mercifully behold (these) your servant(s); (ORDAINEE NAME/S), called to the office of Your royal priesthood; and replenish (them) with innocency of life, that, both by word and good example, (they) may faithfully serve you wherever (they) are pleased to be placed in your ministry – to the glory of Your Holy Name, and the edification of your Church; through the merits of our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with Your Divine Majesty on High - world without end. Amen

(At this point, have members of the presbytery or the congregation read the following Scriptures)

Ephesians 4:7-13

Matthew 9:36-38

John 10:1-16

Matthew 28:18-20

3

# (SPEAKING TO THOSE BEING ORDAINED)

You have heard the Scripture just read, (NAME). You have studied the Word of God for many seasons and you have diligently applied the Word in your ministry. You have examined your lives in the light of the Scriptures.

Now, we again exhort you, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you remember now - and keep constantly before you - how high a dignity, and how weighty an office and charge to which you are now called - that is to say, to be a Divine Messenger, Watchman, and Steward of the Most High God - to teach, to preach, and to feed and provide for the Lord's family - to seek for Christ's sheep that are dispersed abroad, and for His children who are in the midst of this wicked world - that they may be saved through Christ Jesus our Lord forever.

Remember always how great a treasure is committed to your charge - the sheep of the Lord that have been bought with His death and for whom He shed His blood. We charge you to labor tirelessly as though the salvation of all the world shall totally rest on your shoulders alone.

Since so much of your ministry will involve the teaching and nurture of the saints, we hereby charge you to spend much time in the STUDY OF THE WORD OF GOD "to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth." (2 Timothy 2:15) Search the Scriptures diligently - investigate and pour over the Word of God - because by so doing you learn to trust that you have eternal life yourself and are able to lead others into that same assurance.

We have good hope that you will have well weighed and pondered these things in your heart long before this time; and that you have clearly determined, by God's grace, to give yourself wholly to this ministry, into which it has pleased God to call you. We will pray and believe that you will stay before the Lord - drawing from Him instructions for your daily ministry and that you remain so in tune with His will that you will be constantly that Godly example and Christlike pattern for the people under your care to follow - day in and day out - offering yourself always to be judged by those who need to meet the Lord.

And now, that this present Congregation of Christ Jesus here assembled may also

understand your mind(s) and will(s) in these eternal things, we charge you to answer plainly the questions which we in the Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ - shall ask you at this time:

1. Do you, in your heart, believe that you are truly called according to the Will of our Lord Jesus Christ, into His public ministry?

#### I DO SO BELIEVE

2. Do you believe that the Holy Scriptures - the Holy Bible is THE WORD OF GOD - containing all Doctrine required to instruct the lost how to receive eternal salvation through faith in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ?

#### I DO SO BELIEVE

3. Are you determined to use these same Scriptures to instruct all people with whom you come in contact for the purpose of leading them into a saving knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord?

#### I AM SO DETERMINED

4. Will you be faithful always to minister the Doctrine and Sacraments and the Discipline of Christ as commanded by our Lord and clearly outlined in the Scriptures?

#### I WILL DO SO WITH GOD'S HELP

5. Will you be ready - and quick - with all faithful diligence, to take authority against - in the Name of the Lord - to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's Word?

# I WILL, THE LORD BEING MY HELPER

6. Will you be diligent in prayers, and the reading of the Holy Scriptures, and in such

studies as help to the knowledge of the same, laying aside all carnal and worldly lusts?

# I WILL, THE LORD BEING MY HELPER

7. Will you be diligent to frame and fashion your own life and the lives of your family - according to the instructions in the Bible?

### I WILL, THE LORD BEING MY HELPER

We now pray- and enter into agreement with you - that Almighty God who has imparted unto you His Own Anointing and Who has given you the will to enter into His Ministry and even to extend the boundaries of your own ministry in His Name - will grant also unto you the strength and power to perform the additional tasks that may be assigned to you by His Holy Commission in the future until the Lord shall return for His Church or until He shall take you into your everlasting rest in His Blessed, Eternal Presence.

– We shall continue to believe with you that He will accomplish His Work which He has begun in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

#### LET US PRAY

Almighty God and Heavenly Father, who through Your infinite love and goodness toward us, have given unto us Your Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and the Author of everlasting life; who after He had made perfect our redemption by His death, and was ascended into Heaven, He sent abroad His Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, and other ministers with His Own Charge and Anointing to "do His Will and to finish the Word of Him that sent us," we pray your special blessing upon (INSERT NAME), your faithful servant(s) that (INSERT NAME) may daily increase in love and devotion for Your Divine Majesty - going forward under Your Holy banner with renewed knowledge and faith in You, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, by Your Precious Holy Spirit.

We pray that through the work of (these) newly ordained minister(s), Your Holy Name may be forever glorified, and your blessed Kingdom enlarged in the Name of Your

Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end. AMEN

#### THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

And now, (NAME), being assured that you are the happy recipient of God's Salvation and knowing that you have been baptized in God's Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ our Lord – further being witnesses of the good work that our Lord has begun in you, we take great pleasure - in obedience to the instructions of our Lord - in LAYING OUR HANDS on you - participation in the continuance of HIS GOOD WORK - ORDAINING YOU AS A SERVANT OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST - in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN AND AMEN!! Take this Divine Authority to preach and teach the Word of God, and to minister the Holy Sacraments to all people everywhere you may be placed in ministry by the Living God - in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN

#### LET US PRAY

Most merciful Father, we beseech thee to send upon (these) your servant(s) your heavenly blessing; that (they) may be clothed with righteousness and that Your Word will be constantly imparted through (their) lips - being reminded of your precious promise that your Word will never return void. Send your prevenient grace before (them) to prepare the hearts fo the people to whom you send (them) to minister. Then, Lord God, let (them) witness the "signs and wonders" of Your Anointing. We pray that in all of (their) words and deeds, (they) will constantly seek Your Face and Your Glory and the increase of Your Kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And now, may the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord. May the blessings of Almighty God, be yours and remain with you now and forevermore in the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

#### AMEN AND AMEN