

# The Apostle

1 Corinthians 12:27-30

“And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.”

Proton:--first in time place and rank

The first the get bloodied ...

**Apostles** (Apostolos) :--originally a secular term to describe special envoys sent out to establish the dominion of the empire. These envoys were sent to certain territories and charged to subdue, conquer, convert, instruct, train and establish the new subjects in the culture of the empire.

## Four Groups Of Apostles:

1. Jesus – Chief Apostle  
Hebrews 3:1
2. 12 Apostles of the Lamb  
Revelation 21:14
3. Transitional Apostles  
Set NT foundational doctrine.
4. Ascension Apostles Eph 4:11

## An Apostles Calling: 2 Fold

1. Perfect Appointment  
Galatians 1:1
2. Public Acknowledgment  
1 Corinthians 9:1-2  
Acts 13:1-2

## An Apostles Sphere:

2 Corinthians 10:13 “We, however, will not boast beyond measure, but within the limits of the sphere which God appointed us—a sphere which especially includes you.”

Metron:-- portioned off measure

Kanon:-- limit of jurisdiction

## An Apostles Ministry

### The Signs:

Power – 2 Corinthians 12:12

Passion – Romans 9:3-4

Vision – Acts 26:19

Virtue – 2 Corinthians 12:12

## The Seal:

|                                  |                     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Pioneer – Breaking through       | 1 Corinthians 16:9  |
| Architect – Building up          | 1 Corinthians 3:10  |
| Administrator – Binding together | 2 Corinthians 11:28 |

## The Service:

1. **Authentic Witness** – Acts 4:33  
They see and tell.
2. **Authentic Ministry** – Acts 6:4  
They Model
3. **Authentic Fathering** – 1 Corinthians 4:15-16

“For even if you had ten thousand others to teach you about Christ, you have only one spiritual father. For I became **your father** in Christ Jesus when I preached the Good News to you. So I urge you to imitate me.”

## Six qualities of a father (Mentor) in the Lord

### 1. A Father **Speaks** The Truth

Vs. 14 “I am not writing these things to shame you, but to warn you...”

A father must warn and correct with the truth. Not to shame or to expose but to build up and bring adjustments so that the child of God will not miss the mark.

### 2. A Father **Shares** His Heart

Vs. 14 “...you as my beloved children.”

A Father is secure enough to express genuine love. To pour himself into another.

### 3. A Father **Shows** The Way

Vs. 16 “So I urge you to imitate me.”

You can’t recreate in someone else what you don’t possess.

### 4. A Father **Sends** You Forward

Vs. 17 “That’s why I have sent Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord.”

A father equips and launches his children into their destiny.

### 5. A Father **Secures** Your Foundations

Vs. 17 “...remind you of how I follow Christ Jesus...”

A father makes sure you are established in the Word and spiritual disciplines.

### 6. A Father **Safeguards** Your Future

Vs. 21 “Which do you choose? Should I come with a rod to punish you, or should I come with love and a gentle spirit?”

A father will contend with you if your future is at risk. Discipline will be applied.

4. **Authentic Impartation** –

Romans 1:11-12 “For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established — that is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.”

Laying on of hands...

5. **Authentic Partnering**

2 Corinthians 1:24 NLT

“But that does not mean we want to dominate you by telling you how to put your faith into practice. We want to work together with you so you will be full of joy, for it is by your own faith that you stand firm.”

2 Corinthians 1:24 (**The Message**) “We’re not in charge of how you live out the faith, looking over your shoulders, suspiciously critical. We’re partners, working alongside you, joyfully expectant. I know that you stand by your own faith, not by ours.”

“Apostleship must always be a vital subject for the Church of Christ. The pages of the New Testament are covered with it; facts of apostleship confront us everywhere. It smites the eyes. Even a versatile imagination cannot depict...church with an “apostleless” ministry nor...“anonymous” order.”

**William A. C. Rowe**