Seeking God after the Due Order
1 Chron. 15:12-13

Introduction:
A. The ark of God.
   1. Its description (Ex. 25:10-15; Heb. 9:4)
   2. Its means of transportation.
   3. Its capture by the Philistines.
   4. David’s first attempt to recover it.
      a. The new ox cart.
      b. The death of Uzza. (cf Num. 4:15)
      c. Ark left behind (1 Chron. 13:12-14)
   5. David’s second attempt to recover it.
      a. “After the due order” (1 Chron. 15:13)
      b. “According to the word of the Lord.” (1 Chron. 15:15)
B. The Lord’s work must be done “after the due order” or “prescribed way” (NIV).
   1. It is not enough to do something in the name of the Lord - must be done lawfully (Matt 7:22, 23)
   2. “What difference does it make as long as the job gets done?”
   3. The end does not justify the means.
C. Let’s apply the “due order” principle to our religious activities today.

Discussion:
I. Worship and Praise to God.
   A. Avenues of worship after the due order.
      1. Personally and congregationally – sing (Jas. 5:13; Col. 3:16), pray (Jas. 5:13; Acts 12:5), teach/preach (Acts 8:4; Acts 20:7)
      2. Congregationally – Lord’s Supper (Acts 20:7), Giving (1 Cor. 16:2).
   B. All to be done in an orderly and decent manner (1 Cor. 14:27, 31-33, 40).
II. Church organization.
   A. Elders and deacons when qualified (1 Tim. 3:1-13)
   C. No organization larger than, smaller than, or other than local church.

III. Church Evangelism.
   A. Preachers supported directly by the local church (2 Cor. 11:8; Phil. 4:15-16)
   B. Preaching done by the local church (Acts 20:7).
   C. The “due order” does not call pooling of funds, central organization, or missionary society.

IV. Church Benevolence.
   A. A local church takes care of its own needy. (Acts 6)
   B. A local church receives from other churches when cannot care of its own (Acts 11:27-30; Rom. 15:26).
   C. If other means of support, the church should not be charged. (1 Tim. 5:14-16).
   D. Church benevolence is limited to saints (cf. 1 Cor. 16:1, etc.)
   E. The “due order” calls for no human institution, sponsoring church, for benevolence society.

V. Church Edification.
   A. Church to edify itself (Eph. 4:16).
   B. The order calls for no “Sunday school board” or any other edification society.

Conclusion:
A. Like moving the ark, it is not enough to get the job done, it must be after the “due order.”
B. If it not after the “due order” it will eventually fail, as moving the ark failed.

Another Sermon by Mr. Edward O. Bragwell, Sr.