The First Nation Building Principle Part II

"No nation can survive the nullification of their Pastors"

- Spiritual Leadership is the key to the function of the spiritual city
- Spiritual Leadership indirectly impacts the physical city
 - As souls are converted
 - As believers are discipled
 - As disciples impact marriages, families, workplaces and communities
- Therefore, spiritual leadership is a key target of the devil

The devil opposes spiritual leadership

- Opposing God Himself
 - Matt 4:8-9 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 9 "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." NIV

Impersonation of bona fide spiritual leadership

 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. 14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, NKJV

The devil opposes spiritual leadership

- Preventing the ministry of true spiritual leaders
 - 1 Thessalonians 2:18-19 Therefore we wanted to come to you--even I, Paul, time and again--but Satan hindered us. NKJV
 - Acts 13:8-11 But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. 9 Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him 10 and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? NKJV

- The devil opposes spiritual leadership
 - Generally opposing spiritual progress of believers
 - Eph 6:10-12 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. NKJV

True and False Teachers

 Then the word of the LORD came to me saying, 2 "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel. Prophesy and say to those shepherds, 'Thus says the Lord GOD," Woe, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flock? 3 "You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat sheep without feeding the flock. 4 "Those who are sickly you have not strengthened, the diseased you have not healed, the broken you have not bound up, the scattered you have not brought back, nor have you sought for the lost; but with force and with severity you have dominated them. NAS

True and False Teachers

- Strengthens the sickly by the frequent, accurate and systematic teaching of the Word and discipleship
- 2. Heals those with severe doctrinal error and spiritual malfunction
- 3. Those broken through the impact of sin are brought to spiritual health though teaching and ministry
- 4. Those who have left the church are restored to fellowship
- 5. Evangelism of the lost is a priority

- 1. Makes the sickly more so by erroneous teaching
- 2. Encourages commitment to erroneous doctrinal systems
- 3. The false teachers objective is to destroy the spiritual life of believers John 10.10
- Those who have left the church are maligned then forgotten
- 5. Evangelism is neglected or used as a front in order to deceive-great error has been perpetrated by "evangelistic movements"

The False Teacher

- False teachers damage the spiritual city by causing the malfunction of the church in a specific place at a specific time
 - The Invisible Church will not ultimately fail, because it is the bride, body and temple of Christ
 - However the local church can fail in a particular place at a particular time
 - When the local church malfunctions due to false doctrine, the nation suffers malfunction as well Matthew 5:13-16 Proverbs 11:10-11; 14:34
 - Therefore, the ministry of false teachers is critical in the obscuring of accurate bible doctrine and the nullification of the local church as a positive spiritual influence
 - The primary defense of the church and therefore of society is the man of God, who is called to teach accurate doctrine and to reveal and refute false teachers. The biblically accurate and spirit filled pastor is the mortal enemy of the devil.

- Homework
 - Study Jeremiah 5
 - What was the reason for the fall of Israel?
 - Who was in the position to rescue the people but failed to do so?
 - Identify some of the curses to come upon the people