



ASIA PACIFIC MESSIANIC FELLOWSHIP

A Florida 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Religious Educational Corporation EIN02-0750428

with **The OLIVE TREE MESSAGE!** Romans 11

2751 SE 150th Ave., Morriston, FL 32668 USA Ph 352-528-2740

Roger Walkwitz Roger@Walkwitz.com www.walkwitz.com/Roger

PO Box 212, 2600 Baguio City, PHILIPPINES

Dave Angiwan Dave@APMFInc.com www.APMFInc.com

We Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem! Psalm 122:6

APMF Position on Ordination

To me, Ordination is a recognition of proof of ministry. Ordination should not be given to recent graduates of seminaries or Bible colleges along with or soon after graduation. It is not a reward for academic achievement.

The Gospel Ministry is really for every born-from-Above Believer. It is not a job or a profession. Foreign missionary work is **a calling from the LORD**. It also is not a profession or a job to be chosen by a person as preferable to any other way to earn a living. It is not to be entered into lightly, not for money, and not for adventure. It is a lifetime calling.

While in college the LORD clearly led me into a professional degree in Chemistry, then provided a college teaching position without my asking for it. Later, while in the US Army, the LORD indicated a complete change of career: Go to the mountain tribes in the north of the Philippines and bring the Bible to them.

This we did, starting in 1958. The LORD blessed. Some traditionalist outsiders criticized the work we were pioneering, saying that I was not an Ordained Minister. We ignored this until many congregations were quite well established, based on a non-professional leadership.

When we came to the USA on home leave in 1980, I informed my home church Elder Board that if they wanted to ordain me now, I would accept it. They readily decided to do so, so at the age of 51 years I was ordained to the Gospel Ministry. I felt and still feel that I do not need this, but to silence critics, I decided to go ahead. I did not intend to attach any titles to my name or to change in any way, except to keep growing in the LORD.

After the laying on of hands ceremony, a retired missionary from Africa, a long time friend, told me to “never use the title ‘reverend,’ as that is for the LORD only, and to look up Psalm 111:9. *He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: **holy and reverend is his name.*** I felt the same way, and the verse confirmed it.

Later in my set of Spurgeon’s commentary on the Psalms I also found confirmation of my feeling. If others wish to use the term “reverend,” that is up to them, but I am happy with “Mr.” or “Sir” or just my given name, Roger.

make the tongue of the dumb sing. “Holy and reverend is his name.” Well may he say this. The whole name or character of God is worthy of profound awe, for it is perfect and complete, whole or holy. It ought not to be spoken without solemn thought, and never heard without profound homage. His name is to be trembled at, it is something terrible; even those who know him best rejoice with trembling before him. How good men can endure to be called “reverend” we know not. Being unable to discover any reason why our fellow-men should reverence us, we half suspect that in other men there is not very much which can entitle them to be called reverend, very reverend, right reverend, and so on. It may seem a trifling matter, but for that very reason we would urge that the foolish custom should be allowed to fall into disuse.