

## Glossary of the Privileged Class: Gentleman: Protocol's Log Established Code; Characteristics of Chivalry; Original Definition of Chivalry

**Protocol Plan of God:** A rigid, long-established code, prescribing complete deference to superior rank and authority, followed by strict adherence to due order of precedence, coupled with precisely correct procedure.

- a. Protocol tells us that there is a precisely correct procedure that God has provided for every part of His plan for our lives.
  - b. God has a way of doing things. His way is the right way and the only way.
  - c. A right thing done in a right way is right in God's plan.
  - d. Man's way of doing something is called the wrong thing, usually done in a wrong way.
  - e. The phrase "precisely correct procedure" means a wrong thing done in a wrong way is wrong; a right thing done in a wrong way is wrong; a wrong thing done in a right way is wrong.
  - f. Under the protocol plan of God for the Church, a right thing must be done in a right way to be right.
  - g. There is always a system of order in the plan of God and there is a system of precedence.
  - h. Our precedence is based on the modus operandi of the humanity of Christ in the Incarnation.
  - i. Man is inclined to follow his own instincts, therefore, God's way of doing something and man's way of doing something come into conflict. (Isaiah 55:8)
  - j. This conflict is resolved by what the Bible advises. Therefore Bible doctrine must be number one priority in the life of the believer.
  - k. The absolute criterion is not what we feel or think, but what the Bible has to say.
- (9) These "appropriate qualities and behavior" applied to a gentleman are defined as being "chivalrous instincts and fine feelings."
- (10) These "qualities and behavior" are disclosed and evaluated in Scripture. The protocol of a Christian gentleman can be expressed by words that define the characteristics of chivalry:
- a. Gallant: brave, intrepid, fearless, and bold. (No fear: Joshua 1:9)
  - b. Courteous: well-bred; polite and gracious; considerate of others; respectful. (2 Peter 1:5-7)
  - c. Honorable: scrupulous regard to probity and rectitude. Procured by noble deeds; worthy of respect; regarded with esteem; characterized by honesty and integrity; without hypocrisy or deceit.
  - d. Generous: Originally of noble birth; gracious; magnanimous; unselfish.
  - e. Heroic: A synonym for gallant. [Implies superlative courage especially in fulfilling a high purpose against odds (*The Merriam-Webster Dictionary of Synonyms and Antonyms*, 1992)].
  - f. High-minded: Having or showing high ideals, principles, and feelings.
  - g. Nobility: Having or showing high moral qualities or ideals; greatness of character.
- (11) Chivalry thus takes on quite a number of characteristics but it should also be defined in the context of its original use in the eleventh and twelfth centuries. For this we turn to:

"Chivalry" In *Webster's Third New International Dictionary, Unabridged*. (Merriam-Webster, 2002. <http://unabridged.merriam-webster.com>) 2 Sep. 2006:

**1 a:** Mounted men at arms: heavy cavalry of the middle ages; also: a medieval army whose strength was in its mounted men; **b:** cavalry of ancient times.

**2 archaic a:** The rank, position, or characteristics of a feudal knight; especially: martial valor; **b:** a gallant deed; knightly skill: dexterity in arms.

**3 : a:** gallant and distinguished warriors or brave gentlemen.

**4:** The dignity or system of knighthood: the manners of knighthood.

**5:** The qualifications or character of the ideal knight of the age of chivalry according to the romantic traditions (as honor, protective kindness to the weak, generosity to foes, and gallantry).