

# Doing All Things Properly & Orderly

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*1 Corinthians 14:40 (NASB95) — 40 But all things must be done properly and in an orderly manner.*

## Proper Behavior

Thomas defines the adverb **euschēmōnōs**, derived from **euschēmōn** [comely], as “becomingly” [2156]. BDAG say it “(1) pertains to being proper in behavior, decently, becomingly; (2) pertains to being appropriate, correctly.” This word occurs 3x in the NT (Rom. 13:13; 1 Cor. 14:40; 1 Thess. 4:12).

- Proper behavior is needed in our private lives (Rom. 13:11-14; cf. Gal. 5:19-26).
- Proper behavior is needed in our public worship (1 Cor. 14:26-40; cf. Acts 2:41-47).
- Proper behavior is needed in our dealings with non-Christians (1 Thess. 4:9-12; cf. Rom. 12:14-18).

## Orderly Behavior

Thomas defines **taxis**, derived from **tassō** [to draw up in order, arrange], as “an arranging, order” [5010]. BDAG say it refers to “(1) an arrangement of things in sequence, fixed succession/order; (2) a state of good order, order, proper procedure; (3) an assigned station or rank, position, post (one has a responsibility in an ordered scheme of things; (4) an arrangement in which someone or something functions, arrangement, nature, manner, condition, outward aspect.” This word occurs 8x in the NT (Luke 1:8; 1 Cor. 14:40; Col. 2:5; Heb. 5:6, 10; 6:20; 7:11, 17).

- Orderly behavior is needed in our relationship with fellow Christians (Col. 2:1-7, esp. vs. 5).
- Orderliness was characteristic of worship offered in both the Old and New Testaments (Luke 1:5-23, esp. vs. 8; 1 Cor. 14:26-40, esp. vs. 40; cf. 1 Chron. 24:19; Eph. 4:11-12).
- Order is also seen in the ministry of Jesus Christ, who is a priest forever according to the **\*order** of Melchizedek (Heb. 5:5-14, esp. vs. 10; 6:19-20; 7:1-18, esp. vs. 11 & 17; cf. Gen. 14:18-24).

## Conclusion

There is a universal pattern for believers (1 Cor. 4:17; 7:17; 16:1-2). Deviations from the divine pattern must be corrected (1 Cor. 11:33-34; Titus 1:5). Accordingly, let us strive to do all things properly and in an orderly manner (1 Cor. 14:40).