

regard to his status in relation to other people. "How do I stand with my wife, my family, my boss, my friends at work?"

In any human encounter, the data bank is drawn upon to assess one's status with respect to the other person. In some languages there is even a different way of addressing those above you and those below you. The human mind finds ingenious ways of grasping some advantage that will satisfy the desire for higher status.

The term "status symbol" is a well-worn cliché in our society. A new expensive car, fashionable clothes, a new house in the suburbs, are supposedly the symbols of success. The heads of many large corporations are so conscious of the importance of these symbols that they insist that their executives evidence them.

During the 60's many young people adopted the status symbols of protest; worn clothes, long hair, and a back to nature life-style. Every group has a set of symbols which identify them in relation to the rest of society. In addition, there are "in-group" symbols which set them apart from one another.

Ministers are often no different than others in that they also seek for status within their profession. In some circles, the size of one's church is the key symbol of success or it may be his salary or his education. In some cases, it can be his theological point of view that is thought to be superior to that of all others. The question "who is the greatest?" is still being asked by the Lord's servants and many are open to being nominated.

When several ministers work closely together in a team situation the matter of status, though often hidden, is a real factor in their