

AN EXPOSITION OF 1 PET 5.1-5 AND OF PASTORING

1. How are pastors provided? What is the source?

A. God does it

- 1) Acts 20:28 Take heed therefore to yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers
- 2) Eph 4:11 And He (Christ) gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors (shepherds) and teachers
- 3) Acts 13:2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

B. The candidate does it

- 1) 1 Tim 3:1 If a man desire the overseership, he desires a good work
- 2) Is that selfish ambition? the attitude of a true candidate is to serve the saints, not promote self

C. The leadership does it

- 1) Titus 1:5 For this cause left I you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed you
- 2) 1 Tim 4:14 Neglect not the gift that is in you, which was given you by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery (elders)
- 3) 2 Tim 1:6 Wherefore I put you in remembrance that you stir up the gift of God, which is in you by the putting on of my hands
- 4) DEACONS appointed: Acts 6:6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them
- 5) Num 27:18ff And the Lord said unto Moses, Take Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay your hand upon him; And set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge (command) in their sight. And you shall put some of your honor (authority, NAS) upon him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient

D. Church does it

- 1) Note above verse *before all the congregation*
- 2) Acts 15:22 Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company
- 3) Num 8:10 And thou shalt bring the Levites before the Lord: and the children of Israel shall put their hands upon the Levites

2. Is public appointment valid, or are elders merely non-positional and only functional, that is, are elders just mature men?

- A. Acts 14:23 And when they had ordained (appointed, stretch hand) them elders in every church
- B. Titus 1:5 For this cause left I you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed you
- C. Acts 20:17 he called for the elders

3. What is the need to appoint, ordain, install?

A. For order

- 1) Titus 1:5 For this cause left I you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and ordain elders
- 2) Order is an attribute of God
 - ³⁵₁₇ 1 Cor 14:40 Let all things be done decently and in order (*taxis*)
 - ³⁵₁₇ 1 Cor 14:33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace

B. To feed and oversee, 1 Pet 5.1ff

1. THEREFORE

- A. Continuing the theme of suffering and glory
- B. See: 4.12f, 5.11, Rom 8.17, 2 Cor 4.17

2. EXHORT

- A. Parakaleo = call near, invite, invoke, implore, beseech
- B. Note Peter's gentleness, not drive
- C. Note Peter's humility – *fellow-elder*, not apostle; on same level

3. ELDERS

- A. Note: interchangeable terms
 - 1) Elder = Presbyteros, older
 - 2) Shepherd or pastor = poimaino, feeder, ruler
 - 3) Overseer = episkopeo, rule, manage, supervise
 - 4) Interchangeableness seen also in Ac 20.17, 28
- B. Note: plurality: Ac 14.23, 20.17, Php 1.1, Tt 1.5

4. WITNESS OF SUFFERINGS

A. Peter an eye witness; he saw the Lord Jesus suffer when ...

- 1) Under temptations, Heb 2:18 he himself hath suffered being tempted
- 2) In the agony of Gethemene
- 3) Judas offered a traitorous kiss
- 4) Slugged by Annas' men
- 5) Slapped, slugged, spit upon, and lied about by Caiaphas' men
- 6) Pilate had him whipped
- 7) Mocked, spit on, crowned with thorns and clubbed by soldiers
- 8) When bearing cross
- 9) When nailed on cross as a felon and mocked, Heb 13:12

B. An elder must be a faith witness

- 1) Could have the eye witness and perish as Pilate, Caiaphas
- 2) Must have seen something, eyes opened,
 - a) 2 Cor 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded
 - b) Acts 26:18 To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light,
 - c) Heb 10:32 the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated
- 3) That there is a Christ, came into world, came to save sinners by substitutionary death, Gal 2.20

5. PARTAKER OF THE GLORY COMING

A. Does not say 'glory that was revealed'

B. The Lord Jesus was raised, glorified and will appear again in glory

- 1) Luke 24:26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory
- 2) Mat 16:27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father
- 3) Mat 19:28 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory
- 4) Mat 24:30 and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory
- 5) Mat 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory

C. PARTAKER

- 1) Col 3:4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory
- 2) Rom 8.17 the glory that is to be revealed in us

D. Why these phrases inserted?

- 1) This is the basis and essence of the pastor's message
- 2) Shepherd the flock in view of the price that was paid to redeem, Ac 20.28

6. First duty, SHEPHERD

A. Sometimes poimaino = to feed

- 1) As seen Jude 1:12 These are spots in your love feasts, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear
- 2) So pastors are feeders, pasturers, teachers ...
 - a) Eph 4.11,12 pastors and teachers for the equipping of the saints
 - b) 1 Th 5:12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you
 - c) 1 Tim 3.2 able to teach
 - d) 1 Tim 5:17 Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine
 - e) Titus 1:9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.
 - f) Mark 6:34 And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things
 - g) Ac 2.42 the apostles' teaching
 - h) Ezek 34:2 Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks? Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: but ye feed not the flock
- 3) Meetings should be a pot luck meal with pastors normally bringing the main dish

B. Sometimes poimaino = to rule, to oversee, to lead, to protect

1) **To rule,**

- a) As seen in Rev 2:27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron
- b) So ...
 - i. 1 Tim 3:5 For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God
 - ii. 1 Tim 5:17 Let the elders that rule well

2) **Ruling, managing, overseeing includes leading**

- a) Heb 13:17 obey your leaders and submit to them
- b) Isa 40:11 He shall feed his flock like a shepherd ... and shall gently lead
- c) Psa 23:1,3 The Lord is my shepherd ... he leads me in the paths of
- d) Num 27:17 Which may go out before them, and which may go in before them, and which may lead them out, and which may bring them in; that the congregation of the Lord be not as sheep which have no shepherd

3) **Ruling, managing, overseeing includes guarding**

- a) Acts 20:28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed [shepherd] the church of God ... grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.
- b) Heb 13:17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls
- c) Luke 2:8 shepherds ... keeping watch over their flock by night
- d) Ezek 34:12 As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day
- e) Mark 14:27 smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered

7. NOT COMPULSION, BUT VOLUNTARILY

A. Willingness is a great virtue, Rebekah ran, interrupted schedule, phone calls, etc.

- 1) Psa 51:12 uphold me with a willing spirit
- 2) Phil 2:20 For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's

B. WILL OF GOD

- 1) Power of God, word of God, son of God,
- 2) Not clever, learned, charismatic, nothing to prove but truth

8. NOT SORDID GAIN, BUT EAGERNESS

A. Greed – a mark of a false leader

- ³⁵₁₇ Isa 56:11 Yea, they are greedy dogs which can never have enough,
- ³⁵₁₇ Jer 6:13 For from the least of them even unto the greatest of them every one is given to covetousness;
- ³⁵₁₇ Micah 3:11 The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money: yet will they lean upon the LORD, and say, Is not the LORD among us? none evil can come upon us.
- ³⁵₁₇ 1 Tim 6:5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness:
- ³⁵₁₇ Jude 1:11 Woe unto them! and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward
- ³⁵₁₇ 2 Pet 2:3 And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you:
- ³⁵₁₇ 2 Pet 2:14 an heart they have exercised with covetous practices;
- ³⁵₁₇ John 10:13 The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.

B. In contrast

- ³⁵₁₇ John 10:11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.
- ³⁵₁₇ 2 Cor 12:17 Did I make a gain of you by any of them whom I sent unto you?

C. So...

- ³⁵₁₇ 1 Tim 3:3 not greedy of filthy lucre
- ³⁵₁₇ Titus 1:7 not given to filthy lucre

9. NOT LORDING OVER, BUT EXAMPLES

A. LORDING

- 1) A great challenge: to be a leader without being a lord
- 2) An attitude of ...
 - a) **a brother**, Mat 23:8 But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren

b) **a helper**, 2 Cor 1:24 Not for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand

c) a servant,

- i. 2 Cor 4:5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake
- ii. 1 Cor 3:5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but servants by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man
- iii. Luke 22:26 But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve

d) a steward, that is, the church is God's ALLOTMENT

- i. kleros, (clergy) translated lot and inheritance
 - ³⁵₁₇ Acts 8:21 part or lot
 - ³⁵₁₇ Acts 26:18 an inheritance.
 - ³⁵₁₇ Col 1:12 inheritance of the saints in light
- ii. As in Old Testament division of Canaan, Josh 14:2 By lot was their inheritance
- iii. It is God's heritage, not mine
- iv. There is a *chief Shepherd* and he can / must handle it
- v. **FLOCK / OF GOD**
 - a. Very tender, touching term
 - b. Speaks of unity
 - c. Speaks of ownership
 - ³⁵₁₇ Ac 20:28 purchased with his own blood
 - ³⁵₁₇ Jn 21:16 my sheep

3) In contrast

- a) **Loves preeminence**, 3 John 1:9 I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, receives us not.
- b) **A hypocrite, and not an example**, Luke 11:46 And he said, Woe unto you also, ye lawyers! for ye lade men with burdens grievous to be borne, and ye yourselves touch not the burdens with one of your fingers
- c) **Overload, church-ed-out** with expectations, unscriptural duties, and requirements

B. EXAMPLES

1) Also seen in

- a) 1 Cor 11:1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.
- b) Phil 3:17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.
- c) Phil 4:9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.
- d) 1 Th 1:5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.
- e) 2 Th 3:9 Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an example unto you to follow us.
- f) 1 Tim 4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.
- g) Titus 2:7 In all things showing thyself a pattern of good works:

2) In holiness, self-denial, diligence, devotion, love, wisdom, discernment

C. What is valid authority in the local church? It is not authority like the Gentiles. **Matthew Henry** on 1 Ths 5.12. "Ministers are to rule their people also, so the word is rendered in 1 Tim. 5:17. They must rule, **not** with rigor, but with love. They must **not** exercise dominion as temporal lords; but rule as spiritual guides, by setting a good example to the flock. They are over the people in the Lord, to distinguish them from civil magistrates, and to denote also that they are but ministers under Christ, appointed by him, and must rule the people by Christ's laws, and **not** by laws of their own. This may also intimate the end of their office and all their labour; namely, the service and honour of the Lord. They must also admonish the people, and that not only publicly, but privately, as there may be occasion. They must instruct them to do well, and should reprove when they do ill. It is their duty not only to give good counsel, but also to give admonition, to give warning to the flock of the dangers they are liable to, and reprove for negligence or what else may be amiss." Summary:

Not with rigor	But with love, goodwill and lowliness
Not as temporal lords	But as spiritual guides, especially by example
Not as civil magistrates under the king	But as servants, helpers, under Christ appointed by Him
Not by their own laws	But by Christ's laws
Not for their own honor, glory or benefit	But the honor and glory of Christ and His kingdom

A person has no more authority than God puts on him and no more than others see in him. It can't be self-claimed – Php 2.9, “*Wherefore God hath highly exalted...*” It dare not be self-promoted. The godly soul shuns that and looks for ways to be smaller.

10. RECEIVE UNFADING CROWN

- A. The labor is not in vain; a crown better than temporal gains
- B. Mat 25:21 Well done, thou good and faithful servant

11. BE SUBJECT – there is the place of more grace