

SHEPHERDS OF THE FLOCK

Pt 1

- I. A RIGHT VIEW OF GOD**
- II. A RIGHT VIEW OF MAN**
- III. A RIGHT VIEW OF SCRIPTURE**
- IV. A RIGHT VIEW OF THE CHURCH**
- V. A RIGHT VIEW OF LEADERSHIP**

Aspects of church leadership...

A. THE NECESSITY OF ELDERS

Examples of a *plurality of elders*:

Acts 14:23 - And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting, they committed them to the Lord in whom they believed.

Titus 1:15 - ...appoint elders in every town...

1 Peter 5:1-2 - I exhort the elders among you...shepherd the flock of God that is your charge...

Aspects of church leadership...

A. THE NECESSITY OF ELDERS

1 Tim. 5:17 - Let the elders who rule well be considered worth of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching.

Aspects of church leadership (*9Marks Ministries*)...

A. THE NECESSITY OF ELDERS

Important practical benefits of having a plurality of elders:

- 1. It balances pastoral weakness.*
- 2. It diffuses congregational criticism.*
- 3. It adds pastoral wisdom.*
- 4. It stabilizes leadership within the congregation.*
- 5. It enables corrective discipline.*

Aspects of church leadership...

A. THE NECESSITY OF ELDERS

B. THE FUNCTION OF ELDERS

- *presbuteros* – ‘elder’
- *poimen* – ‘pastor; shepherd’ - *Eph 4:1; Acts 20:28*
- *episkopos* – ‘overseer’ *Acts 20:28; 1 Tim 3:1-2*

1 Pet 5:1-2 - ...I exhort the elders [presbuteros] among you, as your fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed, shepherd [poimaino] the flock of God among you, exercising oversight [episkopeo] not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God.

Aspects of church leadership...

A. THE NECESSITY OF ELDERS

B. THE FUNCTION OF ELDERS

- *As overseers* – **RULING**
- *As shepherds* – **FEEDING** - *Eph 4:11; 1 Tim 3:2; 1 Tim 5:17; Titus 1:9* - **COUNSELING; DISCIPLESHIP; KEEPING; PROTECTING**
- *As mature* – **ORDAINING** - *1 Tim 4:14; 1 Tim 5:22; Titus 1:5*

Aspects of church leadership...

- A. THE NECESSITY OF ELDERS
- B. THE FUNCTION OF ELDERS
- C. THE QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS

1 Tim 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9 – must be godly

1 Tim 3:1 - It is a trustworthy statement, if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do.

1 Tim 2:12 - I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man...

C. THE QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS

5 categories...

1. PUBLIC REPUTATION

- His Reputation with Believers

1 Tim 3:2 - ...must be above reproach...

Titus 1:6 & 7

C. THE QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS

5 categories...

1. PUBLIC REPUTATION

- His Reputation with Believers
- His Reputation with Unbelievers

1 Tim 3:7 - ...And he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

C. THE QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS

5 categories...

1. PUBLIC REPUTATION

2. GENERAL LIFESTYLE

- A Faithful Husband

1 Tim 3:2 - ...the husband of one wife...

'a one-woman man'

C. THE QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS

5 categories...

1. PUBLIC REPUTATION

2. GENERAL LIFESTYLE

- A Faithful Husband
- A Clearheaded Thinker

1 Tim 3:2 - (An overseer must be)...temperate...

1 Tim 3:2 - ...prudent...

Titus 1:6 - sensible

1 Tim 3:3 - not addicted to wine...

Titus 1:8 - just

