

1 Peter Series

Lesson #150

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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbibleministries.org

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Servant Leaders in the Church

1 Peter 5:2–3



1ST PETER

LIVING IN LIGHT
OF ETERNITY

1 Pet. 5:1, “The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder.

**πρεσβύτερος *presbuteros*
acc masc plur comp older;
elder**

1 Pet. 5:2, “Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, servinq as overseers,”

**ποιμαίνω *poimainō* aor act impera 2
plur “to shepherd, feed”**

**ἐπισκοπέω *episkopeō* pres act part
masc plur nom to manage, oversee,
take care of**

Acts 20:17, “From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church.”

Acts 20:28, “Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.”

ἐπίσκοπος *episkopos*

Noun

acc masc plur

**overseer, bishop,
guardian**

ποιμαίνω *poimainō* Verb

pres act infin

to shepherd, feed

Questions

- 1. Terminology**
- 2. When did the Church begin?**
- 3. How did leadership develop in the early Church as described in Acts?**
- 4. How did leadership develop in the early centuries of the Church Age?
What are the 3 basic forms of Church government?**
- 5. What are the Scriptural terms used for biblical leaders?**
- 6. What are the roles of deacons and elders?**
- 7. How many elders should there be?**

What the Bible Teaches About

Elders and Deacons



Elder = Office, reference to spiritual maturity

Bishop = The function of the office

Pastor = The role and responsibility, to feed the sheep through teaching

- 1. The prototype for the role of elder/bishop/pastor-teacher is in Acts 6**
Acts 6:2, “Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, ‘It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables (*diakoneo*).
Acts 6:3, “ ‘Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business;
Acts 6:4, “ ‘but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.’ ”

1 Tim. 3:2, “A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach;”

2 Tim. 2:24, “And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient,”

διδακτικός (*didaktikos*), skillful in teaching. ~BAGD; NIDNTT;

“apt” is not adequate, indicating simply a “tendency to do something” ~OED, Collins

Titus 1:9, “holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.”

2 Tim. 2:2, “And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able [qualified, competent] to teach others also.”

2 Tim. 4:5, “But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry”

Eph. 4:12, “for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

Eph. 4:13, “till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect [mature] man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

Eph. 4:14, “that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

Eph. 4:15, “but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—”

Acts 6:4, “but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

Eph. 4:12, “for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,”

1 Tim. 3:1, “This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work.

1 Tim. 3:2, “A bishop ...”

1 Tim. 3:4, “one who rules his own house well, having ... [both singular participles]

1 Tim. 3:5, “(for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?);

1 Tim. 3:6, “not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.

1 Tim. 3:7 , “Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.”

1 Tim. 3:8, “Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given [pl ptcp] to much wine, not greedy for money,

1 Tim. 3:9, “holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience.

1 Tim. 3:10, “But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless. [pl ptcp]

1 Tim. 3:11, “Likewise, *their* wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things.

1 Tim. 3:12, “Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

1 Tim. 3:13, “For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.”

1 Pet. 5:1, “The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed:

1 Pet. 5:2, “Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly;

1 Pet. 5:3, “nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;

1 Pet. 5:4, “and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.”

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greedily, cf.,
1 Tim. 3:2 (MajT);
Titus 1:7

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ἑκουσίως *hekousiōs*
willingly, voluntarily

προθύμως *prothumōs*
willingly; with a
prompt response,
cheerfully ready to
do the job

1 Pet. 5:3, “nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;”

1 Pet. 5:3, “nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but by becoming examples to the flock;”

**κατακυριεύω *katakurieuō*
pres act part masc plur nom
to have power over
cf., Matt.**

Matt. 20:25, “But Jesus called them to Himself and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them.

Matt. 20:26, “ ‘Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.’ ”

Matt. 20:27, “ ‘And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—

Matt. 20:28, “ ‘just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.’ ”