

Elders In Every Church

Understanding the role they
ought to have in every church

Words Used For Elders

- **Acts 20:17 (NKJV)**
17 From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church.
- **Acts 20:28 (NKJV)**
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.
- πρεσβυτερος ~ Older or An official; translated as **Elder** or **Presbyter**
- ποιμαίνω ~ One who has the responsibility of safeguarding or seeing to it that something is done in the correct way, guardian; translated as **Bishop** or **Overseer**
- ποιμαίνω ~ To herd or act as a shepherd; translated as **Shepherd** or **Pastor**

A Gift From Christ

□ Ephesians 4:11-13 (NKJV)

11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

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- **Acts 11:30** "This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul."
- **Acts 14:23** "So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed."
- **Something to notice when reading the book of Acts is that every time Elders are mentioned it is as a plurality.**

What Is The Job of Elders?

Acts 20:28-35 (NKJV)

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.

... 31 Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.

32 "So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

33 I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel.

34 Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me.

35 I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

What Is The Job of Elders?

□ 1Peter 5:1-4 (NKJV)

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:

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

3 nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;

4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

Who Made Them Elders?

□ Acts 20:28 (NKJV)

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.

□ Acts 14:23 (NKJV)

So when they (Paul and Barnabus) had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

□ Titus 1:5 (NKJV)

For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you—