



“ the growing good of the world is partly dependent on unhistoric acts; and that things are not so ill with you and me as they might have been, is half owing to the number who lived faithfully a hidden life, and rest in unvisited tombs. ”

George Eliot (Middlemarch)

John Owen (1616–1683)



“I was bred up from my infancy under the care of my father, who was a Nonconformist all his days, and a painful laborer in the vineyard of the Lord.”



So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: ² shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; ³ not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. ⁵ Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

1 Peter 5:1–5



“Therefore let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.”

1 Peter 4:19



Don't abandon your flock!

“Peter answered him, ‘Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Truly I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.’ Peter said to him, ‘Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!’ And all the disciples said the same.”

Matt 26:33–35



*Do you love me? Feed my lambs.
Do you love me? Tend my sheep.
Do you love me? Feed my sheep.*



So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory to be revealed: shepherd the flock of God that is among you...

1 Peter 5:1–2



- 1. What is an elder/pastor?*
- 2. How do they lead?*



Elder
Overseer
Shepherd/Pastor

Three titles for one biblical office.



Biblical office: a position of trust or authority.



*All believers are mission essential.
All believers are priests (1 Peter 2:9)
Some will serve as pastors.*



Two biblical offices:

1. Elder

2. Deacons/Deaconess



The primary duty of elders is the faithful teaching/preaching of God's word.



² shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; ³ not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

1 Peter 5:2–4



1. Elders lead willingly, not under compulsion, and in accord with God's will.





I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

John 10:11



2. Elders lead eagerly, not out of greed.



Character formation requires a slow cooker, not a microwave.





*3. Elders lead exemplifying Christ's
humility.*



4. Elders lead as those accountable to God.



Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.'

1 Peter 5:5



An atmosphere of humility