

# LIVING AS EXILES

WORDS OF GRACE FOR TROUBLED TIMES



SHEPHERDING  
THE FLOCK OF GOD

1 PETER 5:1-5

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Introduction

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Peter's Self-Identification (1)

...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:

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Exhortation to the Elders/Shepherds/Overseers (2a)

So I exhort *the elders* among you  
...*shepherd* the flock of God  
that is among you,  
exercising *oversight*,

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Negative and Positive Shepherding (2b-3)

not under compulsion, but *willingly*,  
as God would have you;  
not for shameful gain, but *eagerly*;  
not domineering over those in your charge,  
but being *examples* to the flock.

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The Reward of Elders (4)

And when the chief Shepherd appears,  
you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

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To the Younger (5a)

Likewise, you who are *younger*,  
be subject to the elders.

Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. (Hebrews 13:7)

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you. (Hebrews 13:17)

We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. (1Thess 5:12-13)

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To All the Church (5b)

Clothe yourselves, *all of you*,  
with humility toward one another,  
for "God opposes the proud  
but gives grace to the humble."

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Response

- Shaping our ideas of pastors Biblically
- The primary work is relationship with God in prayer, the Word of God in teaching, the People of God among us, the Kingdom of God in the world
- Resist cultural ideas and pressures of what they are to be
- For those who are shepherded...
  - Does your walk with Christ and relationships in the church create joy in your pastors, or groaning?
- The appearing of our Chief Shepherd

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Prayer

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