LAMPLIGHTER CLASS – Summer Quarter

**First Peter: “Living in Hostile Territory by the Grace of God”**

Date: August 28, 2022

Text: 1 Peter 5:1-5

INTRODUCTION:

1. In the Bible, God’s people are referred to as “sheep” or a “flock” **OT** (Isa. 40:11; Eze. 34:1-10; Ps. 23); **NT** (Jn. 10:1-30; Acts 20:28-31)
2. This metaphor is no \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!
3. Sheep need shepherds to guide them, provide for them, protect them, and sometimes also to rescue them from harm.
4. Jesus is the **Shepherd** (*poimen*) and Overseer (*episcopus*); 2:25.
5. In John 10:11, 14 … Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Shepherd.
6. In Hebrews 13:20 … Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Shepherd.
7. In 1 Peter 5:4 … Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Shepherd.
8. The ascended Lord Jesus Christ has not abandoned His Church.
9. He’s given to us His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (local churches, assemblies).
10. He’s also given us \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ shepherds to lead (guide), protect, rescue, and provide for God’s sheep (Eph. 4:7-16).

CONTEXT:

“To the elders among you” - seems at first unrelated to the previous section, but there is a word in the Greek text that is left untranslated by the NIV & also the NKJV. It’s the word “oun” and is translated “therefore” in the NASB & HCSB and “so” (ESV). The conjunction “oun” suggests that this section fol-lows logically on fr. the previous one. “Times of persecution demand that God’s people have adequate spiritual leadership” (W. Wiersbe, Be Hopeful).

**THE ELDERS’ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (vss. 1, 2a)

1. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 1)

“a fellow elder, a witness . . . , one who’ll also share in the glory to be revealed”

1. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 2a)

“Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, serving as overseers”

What does “shepherding” . . . “exercising oversight” look like?

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ his relationship with God and others

Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:3 (examples); 1 Tim. 3:2-7 (cp. 4:16)

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God’s people His Word

1 Tim. 4:13; 2 Tim. 3:16-4:3; Acts 20:20, 27-31; Eph. 4:11-16

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God’s people to do the work of ministry

Ephesians 4:11-12

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God’s people from wolves

Acts 20:28-30; Tit. 1:9-11; 2 Tim. 3:16-4:3

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ over the affairs of the church

1 Tim. 5:17-18; 1 Tim. 3:1, 4-5 (“episcopos” … overseeing, managing)

**THE ELDERS’ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (vss. 2b, 3)

Being a shepherd (elder, overseer, pastor) has its dangers!

1. The first is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. The second is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. The third is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**THE ELDERS’ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (vs. 4)

This serves as motivation for shepherding the flock of God when it is hard, when it is inconvenient, and when it brings suffering or persecution.

MAKING IT PERSONAL

What are the biblical responsibilities of congregations (assemblies) to Jesus’ human under-shepherds God has given?

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Thess. 5:12-13)
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their faith (Heb. 13:7)
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them (1 Cor. 9:7-12a; 1 Tim. 5:17-18)
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to them (Heb. 13:17)
5. When needed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them (1 Tim. 5:19-20)