

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.
 - A. In John 10:11, 14 ... Jesus is the _____ Shepherd.
 - B. In Hebrews 13:20 ... Jesus is the _____ Shepherd.
 - C. In 1 Peter 5:4 ... Jesus is the _____ Shepherd.
5. The ascended Lord Jesus Christ has not abandoned His Church.
 - A. He's given to us His _____, His _____, and _____ (local churches, assemblies).
 - B. 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 follows 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"

2. 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)
- 2) _____ God's people His Word
1 Tim. 4:13; 2 Tim. 3:16-4:3; Acts 20:20, 27-31; Eph. 4:11-16
- 3) _____ God's people to do the work of ministry
Ephesians 4:11-12
- 4) _____ God's people from wolves
Acts 20:28-30; Tit. 1:9-11; 2 Tim. 3:16-4:3
- 5) _____ 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)