

Sermon 01-10-09

Elders, Shepherds, Overseers, Pastors, Leaders

Introduction:

Ecclesiology – From the Greek *ekklesia*, “church,” and *logos*, “the study of.” In theology it is an examination of the Church with particular concern to her origin, distinctive nature, mission, function, government, offices, ordinances and destiny.

New Testament Scripture sets forth a governmental model where the church is to be congregationally governed yet led by a plurality of elders who are to devote themselves to the ministry of the Word and prayer. They are able to devote their time to the Word and prayer when the deacons of the church serve the other needs of the church.

Biblically, the focal point of all church leadership is the elder. It is elders that have the primary responsibility to teach, feed and protect the church and the elders are held accountable to God.

1. Why study about Elders?
2. Is eldership a non-Baptist thing to do? No.
3. What role does the congregation have in church leadership according to the Bible?
4. **How is the term “elder” used in the New Testament?**
On 01-10-10 this is what we studied. See Acts 20:17-38.
5. **What are elders to do?**
6. **What are the requirements to be an elder?**
7. **Is the office of deacon and elder the same?**
NO, elders need deacons to serve practically, and deacons need elders to lead spiritually.
8. **Are elders simply the members of the pastoral staff?**
9. **How are elders selected?**
10. **How is a church benefited by elders?**