**Living as Foreigners: Part 11**

**Being a Biblical Leader**

**1 Peter 5:1-7**

**• This is God’s Word.**

**• It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction.**

**• It has God for its author,**

**• salvation for its end,**

**• and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter.**

**• It is the supreme source of truth**

**• for what we believe**

**• and how we live.**

**We Must Raise Up Biblical Leaders**

**“And now, a word to you who are elders in the churches. I, too, am an elder and a witness to the sufferings of Christ. And I, too, will share in his glory when he is revealed to the whole world. As a fellow elder, I appeal to you: Care for the flock that God has entrusted to you. Watch over it willingly, not grudgingly—not for what you will get out of it, but because you are eager to serve God. Don’t lord it over the people assigned to your care but lead them by your own good example. And when the Great Shepherd appears, you will receive a crown of never-ending glory and honor. In the same way, you younger men must accept the authority of the elders. And all of you, serve each other in humility, for “God opposes the proud but favors the humble.” So, humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time he will lift you up in honor. Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.” 1 Peter 5:1-7**

**Biblical Elders are God called men entrusted by Him with the leadership of His Church.**

**The Bible Uses Three Words to Give Three Descriptions of one Office**

* **Elder refers to the spiritual maturity of a Pastor.**
* **Shepherd refers to the spiritual care of a Pastor.**
* **Overseer** r**efers to the spiritual leadership of a Pastor.**

**A Pastor is to be Spiritually Mature.**

**“This is a trustworthy saying: “If someone aspires to be an elder, he desires an honorable position.”**  **So, an elder must be a man whose life is above reproach. He must be faithful to his wife. He must exercise self-control, live wisely, and have a good reputation. He must enjoy having guests in his home, and he must be able to teach. He must not be a heavy drinker or be violent. He must be gentle, not quarrelsome, and not love money. He must manage his own family well, having children who respect and obey him. For if a man cannot manage his own household, how can he take care of God’s church? An elder must not be a new believer, because he might become proud, and the devil would cause him to fall. Also, people outside the church must speak well of him so that he will not be disgraced and fall into the devil’s trap.” 1 Timothy 3:1-7**

**“An elder must live a blameless life. He must be faithful to his wife, and his children must be believers who don’t have a reputation for being wild or rebellious. For an elder must live a blameless life. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered; he must not be a heavy drinker, violent, or dishonest with money. Rather, he must enjoy having guests in his home, and he must love what is good. He must live wisely and be just. He must live a devout and disciplined life.” Titus 1:6-8**

**Mature is not perfect but rather being perfected.**

**A Pastor is to Provide Spiritual Care.**

**“So, guard yourselves and God’s people. Feed and shepherd God’s flock—his church, purchased with his own blood—over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as elders.” Acts 20:28**

**A Pastor is to Give Spiritual Leadership.**

**“Lead Like Jesus”**

* **Willingly not grudgingly.**
* **Not for what you will get out of it but because you are eager to serve God.**
* **Don’t lord over people but lead by example.**

**“There will be a reward for a job well done.**

**And when the Great Shepherd appears, you will receive a crown of never-ending glory and honor.” 1 Peter 5:4**

**How Should the Church respond to spiritual leadership?**

**“In the same way, you younger men must accept the authority of the elders. And all of you, serve each other in humility, for “God opposes the proud but favors the humble.” 1 Peter 5:5**

**“Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives and follow the example of their faith.” Hebrews 13:7**

**“Obey your spiritual leaders and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they are accountable to God. Give them reason to do this with joy and not with sorrow. That would certainly not be for your benefit.” Hebrews 13:17**