

I Peter 5:1-4

EMC Wednesday Night Bible Study - 8-8-18

The Humble Oversight of Christ's Elders (vv. 1-4)

Final charge calls for 2 attitudes:

- _____ toward others
- Bold _____ to evil

Elders' Fellowship With Christ's Sufferings and Glory (v. 1)

Peter's ministry will soon be over

Addressing those who will continue to feed and guard the flock when he's gone

- Gk. "fellow elder," but not "fellow witness." **Why?**
 - As apostle, Peter was set apart, but in the witness of life he stood beside.
 - Cf. Paul's "fellow worker" (Rom. 16:3, 9, 21; Phil. 2:25; 4:3; Phm. 1, 24; Col. 4:11; II Cor. 8:23) and "fellow servant" (Col. 1:7; 4:12)
- Elders oversee the church
 - Received the _____ of the apostles
 - Taste Christ's sufferings and share in his glory
 - Cf. Paul's final charge to leaders in Ephesus (Acts 20:18-35)
 - Paul bore witness and endured trials
 - Pleads for them to remember his example
 - Paul and Peter: sharing in ministry = sharing in suffering (and glory)
- "as your fellow elder" = tactful wording. _____ the humility he is about to summon them to

Elders' Charge As Shepherds of the Flock (vv. 2-4)

The _____ of the shepherd

- "shepherd" alludes to Peter's calling (John 21:15-19 - "feed" and "tend" Christ's sheep)
- OT - shepherd figure charged to care for the people of God
 - Moses called from his flocks to lead God's people (Ex. 3:1)
 - David was God's royal shepherd (I Sam. 6:11)
 - False shepherds condemned (Isa. 56; Ezek. 34; Zech. 11)
 - Shepherd language primarily used for _____ and his _____
- Jesus = "Shepherd and Guardian of your souls" (2:25)
 - Had _____ on the "harassed and helpless" flock (Matthew 9:36)
 - _____ over the scattered flock (Matthew 23:37-39; Luke 19:41-44)
 - Calls his sheep by _____ (John 10:3)
 - Gathers "_____ " sheep, the scattered flock of the Gentiles (John 10:16)
 - Feeds and protects (Isa. 40:11; John 10:27-29; John 10:11)
 - _____ up faithful shepherds (Jer. 3:15; 23:4)
 - Those Peter is addressing = the _____ of this promise
 - Their care for the flock = proportionate to their _____ for the Lord (John 21)

The _____ of the undershepherd (vv. 2-3) - he leads:

- By _____ Jesus
- In _____ (v. 2 - "among" the flock "allotted to your charge")
 - Not old west cowherder, but 1st century shepherd
- " _____ " - v. 2
 - Love for Christ people moves ministry from the sphere of obligation to sphere of privilege
 - With " _____ " (v. 3)
- Without _____ interest (v. 3 - "not for sordid gain")
 - Pay is not shameful (Luke 10:7), but money as motive is.
- Not _____ - do not "lord" authority over (v. 3)
 - Not a stand-in for the Lord, but granted authority by the Lord
 - Must exercise authority according to the selfish mind of Christ (Mark 10:42b-45)
- By _____ (v. 3) - like Jesus (John 13:15) and Paul (II Thess. 3:9)

The _____ of the undershepherd (v. 4 - **read**)

- Undershepherds: minister as servants of Jesus, seek to be like Jesus, following the example of Jesus, minister in the name of Jesus, according to the word of Jesus, and await the return of Jesus.
- Faithful undershepherds receive a "garland of glory" = _____ (Isa. 28:5)