

LEADING IN EXILE // 1 PETER 5:1-4

1 Leaders In Exile Are

Verse 1 *"The elders who are among you I exhort"*

God uses three concepts within this passage to describe the same level of leadership and responsibility within an established community of believers...Elders, Shepherds, and Overseers. So let's look at the first one mentioned:

Elder (ηρεσβυτερος) from (ηρεσβυς) - age, old, mature

Alright...let's look at what this means...and what it doesn't mean...

It doesn't mean that an elder has to be 'aged'...it does mean that this person must be 'mature'

1 Timothy 3:6 *"not a novice"* (νεοφυτος) - "newly planted"

Not a newly planted Christian. Why not...if they are gifted?

"lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil" (pride, Satan's issue)

"among you" (εν) fixed position. Leaders are to remain in a fixed position among the "exiled ones"

1. "I exhort" (παρακαλεω) encourage, strengthen, comfort, call out (We need to get busy with this)
2. "I who am a fellow elder" (συμηρεσβυτερος) mature / with
3. "witness of the sufferings of Christ" "witness" (μαρτυς) became synonymous with lives lost
4. "and also a partaker of the glory" Suffer and then glory...always in that order.
5. "that will be revealed" Personal advancement may never come in this lifetime.
"partaker" (κοινωνος) comrade "glory" (δοξα) esteem "reveal" (αποκαλυπτω)

2 Leaders In Exile Do

Verse 2 *"Shepherd the flock of God"*

Leaders in exile are a certain way and they do certain things.

As believers, we are called a "flock"...which is not necessarily the most 'win the day' / 'crush the darkness' concept imaginable!

So what are flocks like? _____

This is why a shepherd is so important. Notice: *"Shepherd" is not a noun...it is a verb*

Shepherd (ποιμαινω) (aor / act / imper) (ποιμανατε) to feed, provide pasture

Shepherds are to do, and there is a lot to do! *"which is among you"* εν (again, fixed position)

"serving as overseers" Ok, here's the third description of a leader...

Overseer επισκοπεω (pres / act / part) επι around σκοπεω fix eyes upon / direct attention to

So we have three descriptions of the same leadership office: ηρεσβυτερος ποιμαινω επισκοπεω ... And these three represent the same leadership opportunity. Acts 20

"not by compulsion" (αναγκαστως) force (Spiritual leaders in exile should not feel artificially pressured)

"but willingly, not for dishonest gain" (dishonest: root αισχυω to disfigure)

"but eagerly" (ηροσθυμος) (θυμος; passion / heat) So...toward passion, toward heat Mt 26:41 Ro 1:15

Verse 3 *"nor as being lords over"* κατακυριεω (emphatic dominion)

Leaders are still part of the flock.

"those entrusted to you" κληρος allotment / portioned

People are entrusted to leaders...it is a trust issue

"but being examples to the flock" τυπος

impression...what kind of impression should a leader make?

3 Leaders In Exile Eventually Get Compensated

Verse 4 *"and when the Chief Shepherd appears"* (Notice: not 'if' but 'when')

"Chief Shepherd" αρχιποιμην (modern Greek - tribal chief) "appears" φανερω make visible, realize

"you will receive a crown of glory" "receive" (κομιζω)

to possess for safe keeping "crown" (στεφανος)

The theology of crowns: 1Cor9:25, Phil 4:1, 1Thes 2:9, 2Tim4:8, James 1:12

"that does not fade away" (αμαραντινος) α - not μαραινω - to extinguish

These will be rewards that no one will ever be able to extinguish...ever!