

1 Peter 5:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

Analysis

Peter commands faithful shepherding. Serve willingly, sacrificially, humbly. Elders are under-shepherds accountable to Chief Shepherd.

Historical Context

Peter contrasts godly eldership. These standards protect flock. Reformed tradition emphasized genuine call to ministry.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How can members discern whether leaders serve willingly?
2. What's the difference between proper authority and domineering?

Interlinear Text

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| ποιμάνετε | τὸ | ἐν | ὑμῖν | ποίμνιον | τοῦ | θεοῦ |
| Feed | G3588 | which is among | you | the flock | G3588 | of God |
| G4165 | | G1722 | G5213 | G4168 | | G2316 |
| ἐπισκοποῦντες | μὴ | ἀναγκαστῶς | ἀλλὰ | ἐκουσίως | μηδὲ | |
| taking the oversight | | thereof not | by constraint | but | willingly | not |
| G1983 | | G3361 | G317 | G235 | G1596 | G3366 |
| αἰσχροκερδῶς | ἀλλὰ | προθύμως | | | | |
| for filthy lucre | | but | of a ready mind | | | |
| G147 | | G235 | G4290 | | | |

Additional Cross-References

1 Timothy 3:8 (Parallel theme): Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;

Titus 1:7 (References God): For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;

1 Timothy 3:3 (Parallel theme): Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;

Titus 3:1 (Parallel theme): Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,

1 Corinthians 9:7 (Parallel theme): Who goeth a warfare any time at his own charges? who planteth a vineyard, and eateth not of the fruit thereof? or who feedeth a flock, and eateth not of the milk of the flock?

Hebrews 12:15 (Kingdom): Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;

2 Peter 2:3 (Parallel theme): And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

Ezekiel 34:31 (References God): And ye my flock, the flock of my pasture, are men, and I am your God, saith the Lord GOD.

Zechariah 11:17 (Parallel theme): Woe to the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock! the sword shall be upon his arm, and upon his right eye: his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye shall be utterly darkened.

Luke 12:32 (Kingdom): Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

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