

THE PASTOR

Are there pastor today? Eph. 4:13 For what purpose were they given? Eph. 4: 11-12

a) The word pastor literally means, “Shepherd.” He has a heart of care towards the sheep.

A pastor is the shepherd of a local church flock. He is responsible to teach, exhort, protect, correct, comfort and discipline his flock. He has authority to watch over the flock (Hebrews 13:17) and to be an example (1 Peter 5:2-3). As a good shepherd, the pastor leads the sheep to pasture and water. One of his main duties is to feed the flock (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:2-3).

b) Characters of Pastors:

The most outstanding characteristic of a Pastor is **a shepherd's heart**. It is a gift from God to the local body.

According to John 21: 15-17, what a pastor should provide for Jesus’s sheep?

.....

The shepherd (Pastor) has oversight of the flock:

- *I Pe. 5: 1-4 To the **elders** among you, I appeal as a fellow **elder** and a witness of Christ’s sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.*

Overseer or, "bishop" used to refer to those who were called and anointed by God to stand in the pastoral office

Both "overseer" and "bishop" are translated from the same Greek word, *episkopos*

Elders: the Greek word *Presbuteroi* – elderly; a senior; specifically, and Israelite Sanhedrist

Elder: it is a general name, comprehending under it even the apostles themselves, who were elders, though every elder were not an apostle.

Peter called himself an elder:

- *I Peter 5: 1 “To the **elders** among you, I appeal as a fellow **elder** ...”*

John called himself an elder:

- *II John 1: 1 “The elder, To the lady chosen by God and to her children, whom I love in the truth.”*
- *III John 1: 1 “The elder, To my dear friend Gaius, whom I love in the truth.”*

c) Titus had a pastoral gift. In the letter addressed to him by the apostle Paul, what can you find in the following verses of Titus chapter two concerning doctrines and what type of people:

v.1 Must teach.....

v.2 Teach

v.3 Teach.....

v. 6 Encourage.....

v. 9 Teach.....

Paul gives a summary in verse 15 of a pastoral ministry. There are three specific definitions:

.....,

..... What Titus should avoid in the same verse?

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THE TEACHER - Eph. 4:11-14

Are there teachers in the church today? Eph. 4:13

For what purpose were they given? Eph. 4: 11-12

a) Characters of Teacher

- *Breaking down the word for everyone to understand.*
- *Their teachings are open to all.*
- *They have spiritual knowledge of the word of God-giving truth.*
- *Their teachings open the eyes and understanding of heart through divine anointing to explain the word.*
- *They set the foundation of the word of God to the new converts.*
- *They are close to Pastors helping the sheep to mature in the word of God.*

Every apostle is also a teacher:

- *Barnabas was an apostle and a teacher – Acts 11: 26; 13:1, 14:14*
- *Paul was a prophet and teacher-Gal. 1:12; 1 Tim. 2:7*

One can stand in the office of Pastor and teacher, or prophet and teacher, or evangelist and teacher

Read the following verses, Matthew 5:2, Matthew 7:29, Mark 6:34, Luke 4:15, Luke 5:3, John 7:14, John 8:2, and find out what would Jesus commonly do?.....

What title did Mary Magdalene call Jesus after his resurrection?.....(John 20: 16)

SUMMARY

Those entire five ministries must work together for the maturity of the Bride of Christ in this end time. Without five fingers the hand is disabled for specific work and missions. Without the fivefold ministry the Church is faulty and disable for the end times mission and the work of God in these days.

To overcome the enemy, we must use all those five fingers like how David defeated Goliath by choosing five stones for the fight. Unity is power.

All five ministries need to be fully active in the Church, especially for the purpose of equipping the saints to be participants in the coming return of Christ. Paul told the Ephesians that they had been brought into the Church and were built upon the foundation of the apostle and prophet, with Jesus being the cornerstone.

Think of them as the individual fingers on your hand. If one of your fingers was missing, it would decrease your ability to use that hand. It is equally important that the five offices of the five-fold ministry to stay in their places and working effectively in order for the church to mature and grow appropriately as it was meant to do.

1. The thumb is said to be the apostle. It touches every other ministry.
2. The forefinger is the prophet, for he can point things out that others may not see; pointing to the past, present, and future.
3. The third finger is the longest and reaches the farthest. This represents the ministry of the evangelist.
4. The fourth finger is the ring finger and stands for the pastor. The pastor can connect the flock with the heart of God.
5. And finally, we have the little finger that represents the work of the teacher. They can probe into areas that others cannot: the most important one: your ears!

