



Date: April 26, 2020

Scripture: 1 Peter 5:1-7

First Peter is the Job of the New Testament because of its theme of undeserved suffering and steadfast submission to the sovereignty of God.¹ In all the suffering however, the assurance remains.

1 Peter 5:4 (ESV)

⁴And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

The Sheep's job

How many commands are in 1 Peter 5:1-7?

To whom does Peter give each command?

What does it look like for an Elder to shepherd the flock amidst the conditions of 1 Peter 4:12-19?

How would that look today?

What does it look like for the "younger" to be subject to the elders (Answer? See 1 Cor. 9:7-14; 1 Tim. 5:17, 18; Titus 3:1, 2; Heb. 13:7, 17)?

¹ Bruce Wilkinson and Kenneth Boa, *Talk Thru the Bible* (Nashville: T. Nelson, 1983), 473.



The Chief Shepherd

Please read the following Texts: Ps 23; Is. 40:11; Zech. 13:7; John 10; Heb. 13:20-21

Who is the Chief Shepherd?

How does it feel to know that He is your shepherd?

How should it affect your daily life?

How does it affect your attitude and demeanor?

Describe someone you've met who's displayed this kind of confidence.

Describe at least one concrete thing you can do when starting your day to demonstrate your confidence in the Shepherd's guidance for that day. ²

After doing that, consider reaffirming it with Him at the end. Come back at the end of the day, looking back on it, and asking yourself the questions -

- "How did God guide me through this day?"
- "Where did I see Him at work?"
- "Where did I follow him?"
- "Where might I have done better?"
- "How can I do better tomorrow?"

² For example - choose a verse, and make it your verse to live by for the day. Memorize a quote and try to live it out. Or ask God for a specific fruit of the Spirit and see how he provides opportunities for you to nurture and harvest it.



The Elder's job

After reading the following texts, describe the multiple tasks and various roles of a shepherd.

- 1 Samuel 17:34–37
- Acts 20:17–32 - *Paul Speaks to the Ephesian Elders*

What is the job of an elder?

Who should be an elder?

What are the qualifications for an elder (1 Timothy 3)?

Do you qualify?

Why or why not?

Are there any non-character or personal worth related factors which may disqualify one for the role of an Elder

Could God be calling you to serve in this capacity?

What's holding you back?

What steps would you need to take there?

What are some ways you can support the Elders in their tasks?