

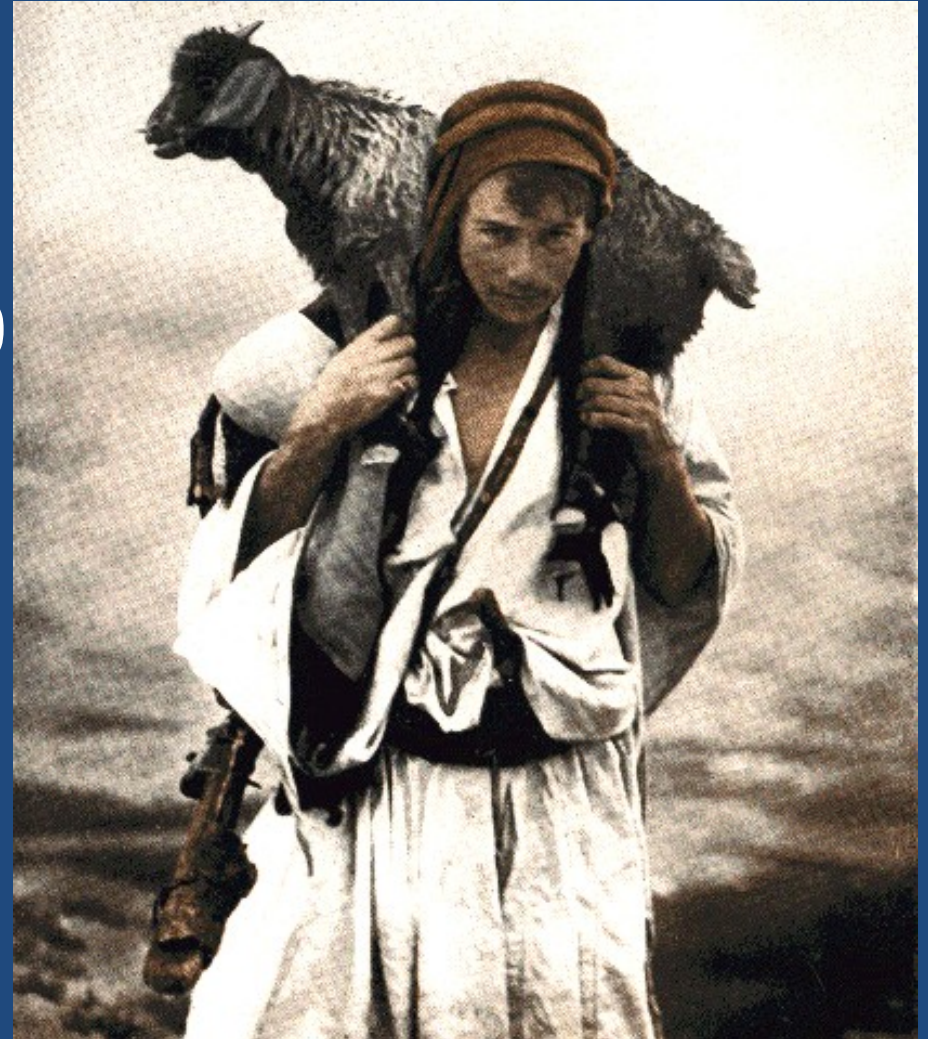


From Where Do Elders Come?

Ephesians 4:1 - 15

From Where Do Elders Come?

- From being in Christ:
 - John 3:3 – 6
 - 1 Corinthians 6:19 – 20
 - Romans 12:1 – 2
 - Galatians 2:20



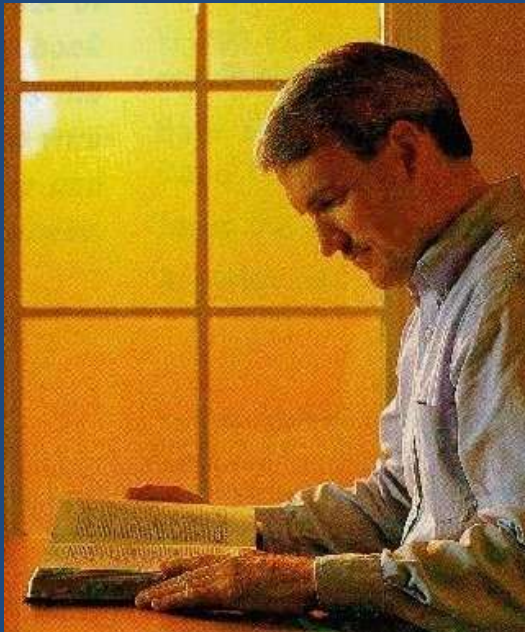
From Where Do Elders Come?

- From Christians who are men:
 - 1 Timothy 3:2
 - Acts 4:4 “5,000 men”
 - 5:14 men and women
 - 6:7 great many priests
 - 8:12 men and women



From Where Do Elders Come?

- From Christians who are mature men:
 - 1 Timothy 3:6 – 7
 - Titus 1:6 – 9
 - Ephesians 4:13



From Where Do Elders Come?

- Not from Christians who are immature men:
 - “no more than would be expected in any mature disciple: “... sober-minded, orderly, given to hospitality ... no brawler, no striker; but gentle, not contentious, no lover of money ... good testimony from them that are without ... ” (1 Timothy 3:7) “... not self-willed, not soon angry ... a lover of good ... just, holy, self-controlled; holding to the faithful word ... ” (Titus 1:6-9).

From Where Do Elders Come?

- Not from Christians who are immature men:
 - Hebrews 5:12 – 14 “For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, 13 for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.”

From Where Do Elders Come?

- From mature married men who serve Christ:
 - 1 Timothy 3:2
 - Titus 1:6



From Where Do Elders Come?

- From mature married men who serve Christ:
 - Titus 1:6 “with faithful children who cannot be charged with dissipation or rebellion.”
 - 1 Timothy 3:4
 - Acts 10:24; 16:31,33



From Where Do Elders Come?

- From mature Christians, married men who have children and are effective teachers:
 - 1 Timothy 3:2 “able to teach”
- Protect from Predators:
 - Titus 1:9
 - Acts 20:28
 - 1 Peter 5:2



From Where Do Elders Come?

- Protect from Predators:
 - Titus 1:9 “He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.
 - Acts 20:28 “Watch out for yourselves and for all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son.” (NET)

From Where Do Elders Come?

- Protect from Predators:

- 1 Peter 5:2-5 “Give a shepherd’s care to God’s flock among you, exercising oversight not merely as a duty but willingly under God’s direction, not for shameful profit but eagerly. 3 And do not lord it over those entrusted to you, but be examples to the flock. 4 Then when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that never fades away. 5 In the same way, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. And all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because God *opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.*”

From Where Do Elders Come?

- “In the case of elders, it is the unqualified devotion that these men have to Christ that gives meaning to their family relationships and to their God-given skills.” Paul Earnhart

The Holy Spirit Makes Elders

- From Devoted Christians
- The answer to the shortage of **every kind of worker** in the kingdom of God is to get each child of God among us to be totally committed.



The Holy Spirit Makes Elders

- What can we do?
 - We can teach young people the will of God.
 - We can model love and devotion in family.
 - We can pray for young families to grow in service to the Lord.
 - We can mentor young people as servants of the King.
 - Acts 20:32

