

1 PETER 5 vs 1

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¹ **So, I urge the elder servants among you** / men and women = **presbytery**; Titus the Greek student of Paul wrote: the **aged men**, the **aged women**... may teach the young women... and exhort the young men, Paul wrote: Do not rebuke the elder as father, the elder as mother, but ask the young as **brothers and sisters** -- in the early church where 2 or 3 gathered... both men and women were elders. This is the only office that is mentioned by Peter; not complicated is it?

And though traditions die hard -- and whether or not we like it... women were an equal part in the early church that Jesus said belonged to Him. If a gathering excludes either men or women it might be a good gathering, but it will not be a complete gathering of the church Jesus is building. Peter is a fellow-elder-servant, not looking for any big chair; on the same level ground as them, born of the dust of the earth;

and who witness / **a martyr**, as one willing to forfeit his life, to suffer death for Jesus Christ; not willing to renounce their faith. Peter is not talking about couch-potatoes; he is not talking about goofy people jumping around with joy for Jesus... that is not the word used here.

willing to suffer death for the Lord Jesus, since Christ suffered for us;

and also as a partaker of the glory that will be revealed / an ordinary member in the community of those Peter is writing to. Paul wrote: we all fall short of the glory of God -- **Jesus = the glory of God**;

² **Feed the flock of God that is among you** / Peter tells them what Jesus, told him; the flock belongs to God; and they were to feed them nutritious sustenance. Peter says: ensure the health of those who belong to God, who were purchased by Jesus Christ; so -- they fed on **the knowledge of God**,

overseeing not by constricting but gladly; / not like a restricting tightwad; or the Nazi running a concentration camp; or a superior over some dull monastic life,

not for shameful profit, / not for sleazy gain, but **eagerly**;

³ **not as lording over the inheritance but being examples to the flock of God** / the people of God are Christ's inheritance -- **Ephesians 1**; starting with what Peter recalled the night Jesus was betrayed when he impulsively protested loudly... as Jesus, like a common slave washed his feet.



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Then Jesus, the good Teacher of the first-grade class left them an elementary example, that they could trace, copy and do. I don't know about you, but if you've never washed another's stinking feet, you might add it to your experience and move to a higher level of service in the church Jesus said He is building. Jesus left us many examples.

4 And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive a crown of glory that does not wilt away / victorious marathon runners would receive a floral wreath to crown their heads in victory that quickly wilted. The crowns the Chief Shepherd will hand out will never droop.



5 In the same way, you who are younger, submit to the elders / men and women. submit: **as** the church is to Christ; **as** the Son is to His Father.

And all of you clothed yourself with humility / fashionably dress up free from boastful arrogance and self-assertive pride:

for God opposes the proud, and gives grace to the humble / to the lowly... **not** the lofty --
Proverbs 3.

6 Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time: / this we all can do, though it is what we naturally resist doing. That He came from glory and lived among us; is almost too profound to consider, that He in fact would come here tells us He is different.

7 Throw all your anxiety on Him; for it matters to Him.

8 Be sober, be alert your adversary the devil stalks around, like a roaring lion looking for anyone to devour: / your opponent in the lawsuit, like a slithering snake in the grass, with a loud mouth,

9 Resist him, firm in the faith, knowing that the brotherhood / God's household... **who are in the world experience the same afflictions** / and probably worse.

10 And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory in Christ Jesus, He will perfect, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

11 To Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

12 Through Silvanus, a faithful brother (as I consider him), I have written to you briefly, urging, and testifying that this is the true grace of God.

Stand firm in it!

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Italics indicates added by translators to help us understand but they missed the point of this next verse.

Isn't it curious? Peter never mentions: **ekklesia**, = **church**. But then it was Jesus who said: **I will build My church**, Jesus is building **the Love of His life**, and doesn't need anybody's help! According to the hocus pocus traditions... **Peter is supposed to be the head...** **of what he never talked about...** **and never wrote about**. Strange isn't it?

¹³ **Those ___at Babylon those elected** / chosen... **together with you, we greet you; as does Mark my son** / at that faithless, rebellious city... either a name referring to a place in old Persia; or more likely, a synonym for Rome – the mystery Babylon. We know little about the 12 disciples; but we know a lot about **Peter**: the name **Simon** appears 76 times, and the name **Peter** appears 162 times in the gospel record and Book of Acts, where he is often called Simon, and less often Simon Peter. Peter had: [1] a father, John [2] a brother Andrew [3] a wife and [4] a mother-in-law. Did Peter have a son, named Mark? Traditions are interesting but not always clear.



¹⁴ **Greet one another with a kiss of love.**

/ as Dr. Peter Williams says, they couldn't change the roman empire by legislation because they were too small, **but these servants of their Lord and Savior, could do what Jesus taught them, and show their love for one another; and doing that they could change the world.**

Peace to all of you who are in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Every Praise

God of Wonders

The Privileged Planet

Fibonacci in Nature; The Code of Life | We Came From Where?

We are grateful to God that the Saudi govt has preserved the Mountain of Moses

I Can Only Imagine

Where Your Heart Is