

## SERMON OUTLINE/NOTES

### *"Shepherding in Times of Suffering"*

#### **1 Peter 5:1-4 (1 Peter 5:1-11)**

#### **Introduction**

- Many leaders in churches see themselves as lords, rather than shepherds – power and self-importance have become idols
- Leaders, oftentimes, follow the counsel of self-serving advisors (Esther 3); resulting in a dictatorial style of leadership (Matthew 23)
- The authority of leaders is not absolute; it's a limited delegated call (Acts 20:28)
- In the church, elders are overseers (1 Peter 5:2a; Acts 20:29-31; Ephesians 4:11-16; 2 Corinthians 10:3-6; Hebrews 4:12)

#### **I. The Mindset of the Elder – especially in times of suffering (v. 2b)**

1. A willing heart, not by compulsion (Galatians 6:3; 2 Corinthians 2:16; 3:5-6; 1 Timothy 3:1)
2. Not for "dishonest gain" – not to benefit himself (Matthew 23)

#### **II. The Manner Employed by the Overseer (vs. 3-4)**

- Lead by Example
  - The Apostle Paul (1 Corinthians 11:1; 2 Timothy 3:10-12; Philemon 8-9)
  - Jesus Christ – follow His manner (Matthew 14:14; 11:28-30)

#### **Conclusion/Application (v. 4)**

- In times of suffering it cannot be overstated that wearing the mantle of Jesus Christ's mindset and manner to shepherd God's redeemed sheep is best way to lead by example
- Wearing the cloak of a servant shepherd now the elder will be given the crown of glory that doesn't fade in the world to come