

RESPECT YOUR ELDERS
1 PETER 5:1-4 / 11-20-19 / WED

I. THE REASON FOR ADDRESSING ELDERS.

- A. Peter intends to remind elders what their responsibilities are in the churches where they serve—**5:1a— “To the elders among you, I appeal....”**
- B. Peter feels qualified to make this appeal for three reasons.
 - 1. First, he is a “fellow elder” (v.1).
 - 2. Second, he is “a witness of Christ’s sufferings” (v.1).
 - 3. Third, he will “also share in the glory to be revealed” (v.1).

II. THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF ELDERS.

- A. First, like shepherds, keep a watch over the flock—**v.2 “Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them”.**
 - 1. Why did Peter use the shepherd-sheep motif?
 - 2. Because Jesus used it with him—John 21:16.
- B. Peter proceeds to contrast the right and wrong motives for elders.
 - 1. The wrong motives....
 - “Not because you must”—v.2.
 - “Not pursuing dishonest gain—v.2.
 - “Not lording it over those entrusted to you”—v.3.
 - 2. The right motives...
 - “Because you are willing as God wants you to be”—v.2.
 - “But eager to serve”—v.2
 - “But being examples to the flock”—v.3.

III. THE REWARD FOR ELDERS.

- A. The Chief Shepherd will give them their reward—**v.4 “And when the chief Shepherd appears....”** John 1-:11.
- B. The reward will be imperishable—**v.4 “You will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.”** 1 Cor. 9:25.