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.