

To Whom Honor Is Due

1 Timothy 5:17-18

October 23, 2022

WHO

Elders who rule well

Elders: Overseer or Pastor

Ruling Well...

WELL: beautifully, excellently, no room for blame, truly

Ministry leaders come in all shapes and sizes but convictions should be the same.

Lazy, Lording, or Leading

I have seen people use ministry as a

- **Personal platform...** come to my event, come here what I have to say, etc.
- **A place of ease...** “can’t just take it easy.”
What you said did not offend me, it exposed you.
- **Not here to play games...** (We are in a season of preparation)
We are going to war against the spiritual hosts of wickedness and we are living in enemy-occupied territory. The only hope we have is Christ, the only power we have is through His Spirit and the only weapons available to us are the Word of God and Prayer.

Acts 20:28 (Ephesian Elders) “Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

Imagine The Chief Shepherd heading out and asking you to watch over His flock. There a new little lambs that will be born, older ones that I want you to care for as they prepare to enter into eternity and the whole time there will be an enemy who walks about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour and ravenous wolves who will creep in amongst the flock. (It is not a light calling)

Who rule well... it’s observable

Just because someone says they love the church does not mean they love the church.

Proverbs 20:6 Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, but who can find a faithful man? – one who put his hands to the plow and not look back.

Who lean into what they are called to do... not lean on...
NOT HERE TO PLAY GAMES!

What

Be counted worthy of double honor

Honor: The same exact word used to describe how we should view widows.
To fix a high value on. (**Get it appraised**)

Hebrews 13:17 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

Like a doctor...

- Do you accuse him of being self-seeking?
- In it for himself? Waiting room with more people than he can help.
- Hey doc... you don't know what you're talking about.

Especially those who labor in the word and doctrine

Labor: to grow weary or exhausted from work. To labor with wearisome effort.

Mark 6:31 And He said to them, "Come aside by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." For there were many coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat.

I am not saying that this is the model but it is the mindset (worth the exhaustion)

THE WORD IS WORTH IT

To Present something as approved: **evaluated and not a counterfeit**

2 Timothy 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved (not a counterfeit) to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Jeremiah 3:15 "And I will give you shepherds according to My heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.

At the end of a Sunday, on my way home... It's not so much how well did I present the truth of God's Word as it is, did I present the truth of God's Word.

(True expository preaching)

WHO: Overseers and Pastors... who lean in and do well.

WHAT: Honor what they do... counted worthy of double honor

WHY?

Should pastors/ministers get paid?

That depends... What is that minister doing? (Taking advantage of the flock?)

Starbucks and Ezekiel 34:1-11

Jeremiah 23:1-3 “Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture!” says the LORD. Therefore thus says the LORD God of Israel against the shepherds who feed My people: “You have scattered My flock, driven them away, and not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for the evil of your doings,” says the LORD. **“But I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all countries where I have driven them, and bring them back to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.**

Do you believe what they are doing matters... and is Biblical?

If there is a low value on

- Prayer
- The Word
- Discipleship & Mentoring
- Counseling,
- Comforting

Then there will be a low view and value of the pastoral calling.

Acts 6:4 “but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

I can work and not do what I am called to or WORK at what I am called to.

Romans 10:14-15a How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent?

READ - 1 Timothy 5:18

You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain... Deuteronomy 25:4

1 Corinthians 9:1-14

The laborer is worthy of his wages.

Matthew 10:9-10 “Provide neither gold nor silver nor copper in your money belts, “nor bag for *your* journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor staffs; for a worker is worthy of his food.

Double Honor: to show reverence or respect.

I will never NOT refer to my pastor as pastor (like Mr. or Mrs.)

(Not triple, quadruple, 10x)

Ministry should not be profit-driven but people-driven.

THE HEART...

Looking from Heaven...

When the Lord sets a pastor in place and He serves, loves, and cares for God's people... don't you think God is pleased?

When the Lord sets a pastor in place and the church loves and cares for their pastors and overseers... don't you think God is pleased?

Before this was said to you... this was said to Timothy.

Those who are under your leadership.

Wash their feet... know how they are doing... attend to their needs.

Proverbs 3:27 Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in the power of your hand to do so.

Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of *himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

Is the Word of God and His Church important to you?

It's important to Him!

If a man has failed you or pastors have mistreated you, I am sorry!
But don't let a few wayward men skew your view of what God has established.

There is a Chief Shepherd...

I, and others, may care for your soul but I will never be able to Save it.

It's always all about Jesus, THE Savior of your soul.

Hebrews 12:2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.