

1 PETER
Counsel For Elders
1 Peter 5:1-4

Mac Williams, Pastor
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“It is for a far different _____ that the Pope makes presbyters, even that they may daily slay Christ, there being no mention made of feeding in their ordination. Let us then remember to distinguish between the institution of Christ and the confusion of the Pope, it being as different as light is from darkness.” - John Calvin

1. In light of the _____ that the believers were enduring, Peter gave attention to the Elders of the churches.

“It belongs in truth to the church of God to receive blows, such as do our brethren in France and elsewhere, but the church is an anvil that has worn out many _____.” - Theodore Beza

“Even in the midst of persecution, and while the Lord’s people are in exile and under the power of enemies to the truth, the Lord can keep up a standing ministry and His ordinances among them, in despite of Satan and all his instruments.” - Alexander Nisbet

- a. Peter identifies with them as a _____ Elder so he understands their responsibilities and the pressures they face.
- b. Peter speaks to them as one who is a _____ to Christ’s sufferings and also a partaker of the glory to come.

2. Peter makes it clear that the calling of the Elder is to _____ the flock the Lord has given them.

- a. The Elders are called to make sure God’s flock is fed with His _____.

- b. The Elders are called to _____ over God’s flock under His sovereign will in ways that are pleasing to Him.
- c. The Elders are called to reject the temptation to authoritarian rule, but should instead seek to be an _____ to the flock.

3. Peter encourages those who faithfully serve the Lord and His flock as Elders, that they will receive an unfading crown of _____ from Him.

*“Brother, be of good comfort, for we shall have a merry supper with the Lord this night, where all our pains will end in _____, and our warfare in songs of joy.”
- John Bradford’s words as he was burned at the stake on July 1, 1555*