

Sunday, June 11, 2017
The Responsibilities *of* Church Leaders
Hebrews 13:7–8; 17--19; Exodus 18:21–22

- I. Elders Rule Heb. 13:7, 17
 - A. Ruling Is a Position of Official Authority
Matt. 2:6; Ac. 7:10; 1 Tim. 5:17; 1 Thess. 5:12; Exo. 18:21--22

 - B. Ruling Is a Position of Delegated Authority
 - 1. Delegated from Christ
Heb. 13:20; 13:17; Eph. 4:8–13; Rev. 4:10

 - 2. Delegated Through Christ's Church
2 Tim. 2:2; Ac. 13:2

 - 3. Delegated According to God's Word
1 Tim. 3; Lk. 22:24–30; 1 Pet. 5:3; Gal. 1:8, 12; Rev. 22:18--20

 - 4. Delegated by the Spirit
Ac. 20:28, 1 Pet. 5:3; 1 Tim. 3:1; Ac. 13:1

- II. Elders Teach Heb. 13:7
 - A. They to Bring the Word of God to the Church
1 Tim. 3:2; 1 Tim. 4:11; 2 Tim. 2:2

 - B. They to Bring the Church to the Word of God
1 Thess. 5:12--13; Col. 1:28; Tit. 2:15; Ac. 20:31; Eccl. 8:11; 2 Thess. 2:6–12

- III. Elders Model Heb. 13:7
 - A. As Christ Taught Jn. 13:13--15

 - B. As Paul Taught 2 Cor. 1:12; 1 Tim. 4:12; 2 Tim. 3:10; 2 Thess. 3:7

- IV. Elders Watch Heb. 13:17
 - A. Oversee from the Old Testament 2 Chron. 2:18

 - B. Oversee from the Military Heb. 13:17

 - C. To Be Overseen Is Our Need Heb. 3:13

- V. Elders Are Responsible. They must Give Account
Heb. 13:17; 1 Cor. 3:10--15; Jas. 3:1

Quotes

“All authority comes from the Lord and is exercised on his behalf. Ultimately it is his authority.” Timothy Wither

“Church authority, grounded in the Word of Christ, is also limited to it. Christian obedience to church rule is obedience in the Lord, for His Word governs the church, not the other way around.” —Edmund Clowney

“It is the Holy Spirit who has made them overseers, and they are delegated by [Christ,] the head of the church. It is the obligation of the people and the elders to recognize that the rule exercised by the latter is by delegation from Christ and to him they are responsible.” —John Murray

“The way to silence criticism and to win confidence is by earning respect through an exemplary life . . . When we take care of our character, our reputation takes care of itself.” ---Ajith Fernando

“In great measure, according to the purity and perfections of the instrument, will be the success. It is not great talents God blesses so much as great likeness to Jesus. A holy minister is an awful weapon in the hand of God.
---Robert Murray M'Cheyne

"Did I not die for these souls, and will you look after them? Were they worth My blood, and are they not worth your labor? Did I come down from heaven to earth to seek and to save that which was lost; and wilt thou not go to the next door, or street, or village, to seek them? How small is thy condescension and labor compared to mine! . . . Have I done and suffered so much for their salvation, and was I willing to make thee a fellow-worker with me, and will you refuse to do that little which lieth upon your hands?" —Richard Baxter

“First of all you need to have peers in grace that you authorize not just to be your buddies, not just to hang out with you, but stay away from any private stuff—don’t talk to me about [that]. Don’t hold me accountable, don’t ask me the reasons I’m making this decision, don’t talk to me about how I spend my money, don’t ask me anything about my sex life,—that’s for me, that’s private. If you live like that you have no shepherding in your life.” —Tim Keller

"Life is short, and we are dull, and eternal things are necessary and the souls that depend on our teaching are precious."
—Richard Baxter

“Take heed therefore, to yourselves first, that you be that which you persuade others to be, and believe that which you persuade them daily to believe, and have heartily entertained that Christ and Spirit which you offer unto others.
—Charles Spurgeon (addressing young men in training for the ministry)