

THE CHRISTIAN IN A HOSTILE WORLD



How Elders Should Lead in Times of Persecution

When God's people are suffering persecution they need good leaders

1 Peter 5:1-5

<p>Introduction</p>	<p>Just as the past three sections have stressed how the Christian responds to persecution, so this section also should be considered in the light of Peter's overarching theme. Persecution demands that disciples have good leaders who will help them through the crises of suffering.</p>
<p>Bible Study</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In what three ways did Peter describe himself in v. 1? Why might this self-description be important at this point in his discussion? 2. What did Peter exhort the elders to do? How do elders define the flock allotted to their charge? 3. With what attitude should elders <u>not</u> accept the oversight of God's people? (v. 2-3) With what attitudes should they carry out their work? 4. What did Peter say elders would receive from the Chief Shepherd? 5. What exhortation is given to the "younger men"? To everyone? What is the reason for Peter's exhortation?
<p>Discerning Principles</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. What actions are involved in shepherding the flock of God? 7. Why is it important for elders to be properly motivated in their service? 8. How should the church respond to their shepherds?
<p>Applying the Message</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. How have good shepherds helped you in times of difficulty?