



1 Peter

1 Peter 5:1–4

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[4] And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

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Elders are crucial for the suffering church

They shepherd God's people to holiness in hostility so that the unchurched see your "good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation." (1Pe 2:12)

SHEPHERDS FOR SUFFERING SAINTS

1PETER 5:1-4

HOLINESS
IN HOSTILITY

1) THE MEANING OF ELDERS

HOLINESS
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So I exhort the **elders** among you

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Greek= "**Presbuteros**" & English equivalent is "presbyter."

1) THE MEANING OF ELDERS

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Elders are spiritual leaders in the New Testament
(Acts, 1Ti, Titus, Jas)

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Elders are spiritual leaders in the New Testament
(Acts, 1Ti, Titus, Jas)
Note the **plurality of elders**

1) THE MEANING OF ELDERS

QUESTION

HOLINESS
IN HOSTILITY

1) THE MEANING OF ELDERS

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Is there an age criteria for eldership?

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ANSWER

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1) THE MEANING OF ELDERS

QUESTION

Is there an age criteria for eldership?

ANSWER

There is no exact number in scripture
Timothy was called a youth (1Ti 4:12)
→ A “youth” can be an elder!

1) THE MEANING OF ELDERS

QUESTION

Is there an age criteria for eldership?

ANSWER

Also, just because one is older does not mean one is suitable to be an elder (spiritual leader)

1) THE MEANING OF ELDERS

QUESTION

Is there an age criteria for eldership?

ANSWER

There is no need for **only** “**elderly elders!**”

READY FOR A

QUIZ?

Board of Elders



Pastor Paul Choo
Founding Pastor



Pastor Victor Yeo
Founding Elder



Elder Leong Lick Tien
Founding Elder



Pastor Muk Kin Son
Pastor

Board of Elders



Pastor Jason Lim
Senior Pastor



Pastor Seethor Chee Keen
Pastor, Chinese Congregation



Elder Frederick Chew
Elder



Pastor Robert Wang
Pastor



Pastor Lim Kay Heng



Pastor Michael Redick
Pastor



Pastor Joseph Ho
Missions



Pastor Sin Yu Pei
Pastor, Youth Congregation



Elder Thomas Toh
#1666



Elder Eugene Cheng
#1666



Elder Jeffrey Pang
#1666



Elder Sonny Angoto
#1666



Elder John Cheng
#1666

1) THE MEANING OF ELDERS

HOLINESS
IN HOSTILITY

1) THE MEANING OF ELDERS

Elders = spiritual leaders in the church

1) THE MEANING OF ELDERS

Elders = spiritual leaders in the church
2 other complementary terms

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2 other complementary terms

Pastors/shepherds

Overseers

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Acts 20:17

... he sent to Ephesus and called the **elders** of the church to come to him.

Acts 20:17,28

... he sent to Ephesus and called the **elders** of the church to come to him.

Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you **overseers**, to **care** for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.

Elders

Overseers

Pastors/shepherds

Elders

Who they are

Overseers

Pastors/shepherds

Elders

Who they are

Overseers

What they do

Pastors/shepherds

Elders

Who they are

Overseers

What they do

Pastors/shepherds

How they do it

Elders

Who they are

Maturity

Overseers

What they do

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How they do it

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Who they are

Maturity

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What they do

Ministry

Pastors/shepherds

How they do it

Elders

Who they are

Maturity

Overseers

What they do

Ministry

Pastors/shepherds

How they do it

Manner

1) THE MEANING OF ELDERS

HOLINESS
IN HOSTILITY

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

HOLINESS
IN HOSTILITY

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

[2] shepherd the flock of God that is among you,

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

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Jesus said,
“Feed my sheep.”

John 21:17



HOLINESS
IN HOSTILITY

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

[2] shepherd the flock of God that is among you,
exercising oversight

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Hebrews 13:17

Obey your leaders and submit to them,
for they are **keeping watch over** your souls,
as those who will have to give an account.

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

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Acts 20:28–30

... the Holy Spirit has made you **overseers**,
to care for the church of God...

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

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exercising oversight

Acts 20:28–30

... the Holy Spirit has made you overseers,
to care for the church of God...
I know that after my departure
fierce wolves will come in among you...

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

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exercising oversight

Elders are to feed and lead

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Elders are to feed and lead
→ Graze / Guide / Guard

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Elders are to feed and lead
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But Ephesians 4 - elders do NOT do EVERYTHING



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**"If any student in this room could be content to be
a newspaper editor, or a grocer, or a farmer, or a doctor,
or a lawyer, or a senator, or a king,
in the name of heaven and earth let him go his way."**

Spurgeon

"If on the other hand, you can say that for all the wealth of the Indies you could not and would not renounce the sacred work, then, ... as far as it can be proven by your own consciousness... you are called of God to the ministry."

Spurgeon

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Overseers, not Overlords!

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? Reference to brutal and harsh shepherds in Eze 34 ?

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Remember it is God's flock placed under your charge

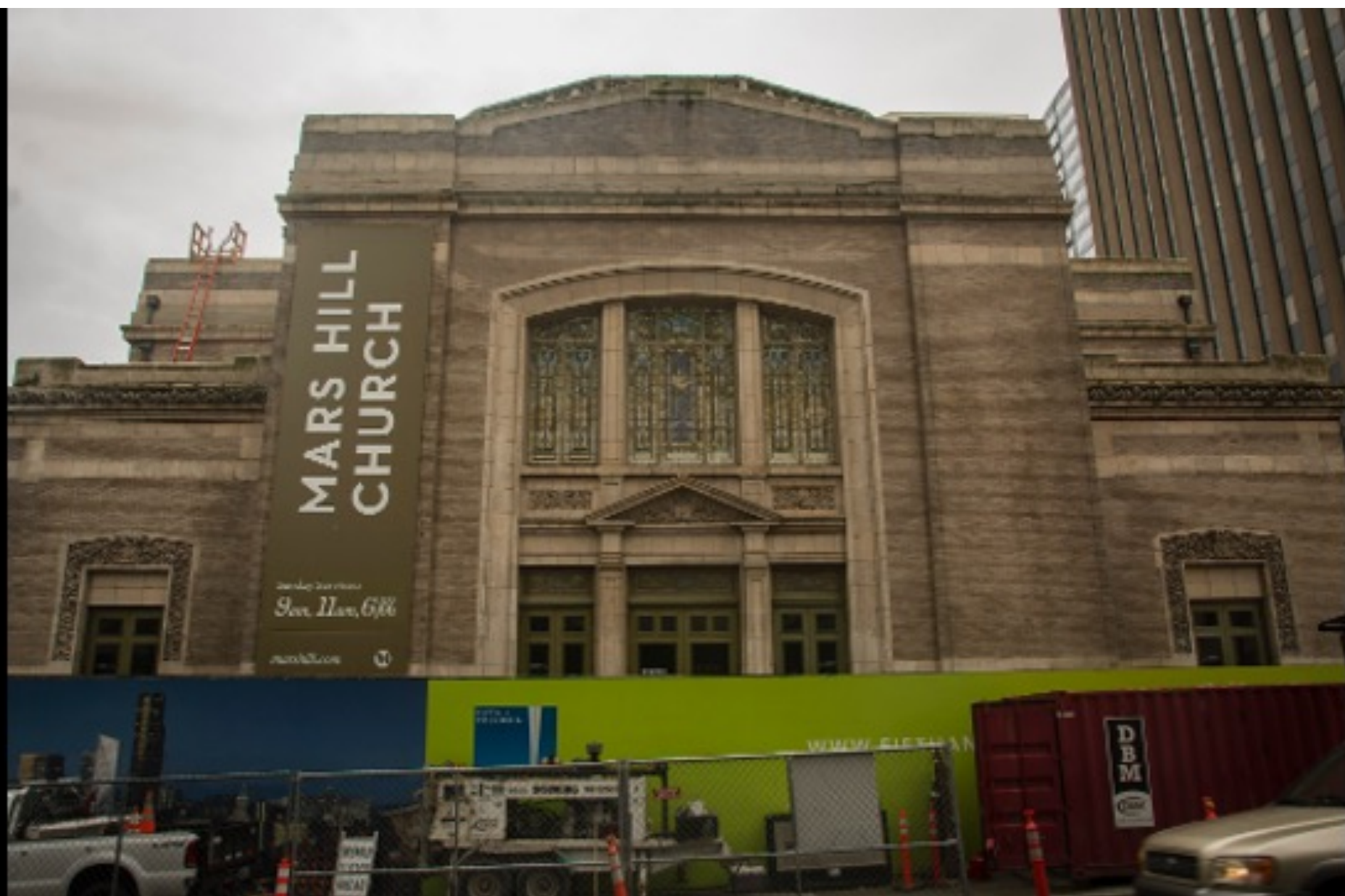
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Overseers, not Overlords!







THE
RISE & FALL
OF MARS HILL



Twenty-one former elders filed formal charges.
Common themes included:

1. Culture of fear

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Former elders and staff described an atmosphere where people feared disagreeing with Driscoll.

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Leaders allegedly avoided offering contrary opinions.

Criticism was often met with anger or public rebuke.

Many felt they had to "walk on eggshells."

2. Verbal intimidation

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Multiple former leaders described:
harsh language,

2. Verbal intimidation

Multiple former leaders described:
harsh language,
public humiliation,

2. Verbal intimidation

Multiple former leaders described:
harsh language,
public humiliation,
explosive confrontations,

2. Verbal intimidation

Multiple former leaders described:
harsh language,
public humiliation,
explosive confrontations,
intimidating meetings.

3. Domineering leadership

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major decisions became increasingly centralized,

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major decisions became increasingly centralized,
dissent was discouraged,
executive leadership exercised excessive control,
elders were expected to support decisions rather than
genuinely deliberate.

4. High staff turnover

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Former leaders reported unusually high turnover among pastors and staff, attributing much of it to the leadership culture and interpersonal conflict.

A panel of seven elders and one board member spent approximately 1,000 hours, interviewed more than 50 people, and compiled about 200 pages of material.

They concluded Driscoll was guilty of:

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Bullying

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Persistent sinful behavior

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Responding to conflict with a quick temper

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Harsh speech

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Harsh speech

Leading staff and elders in a domineering manner



THE
RISE & FALL
OF MARS HILL

OVERLORDS, NOT OVERSEERS!



THE
RISE & FALL
OF MARS HILL

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

not domineering over those in your charge,

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

not domineering over those in your charge,
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HB Charles

"Elders are not ranchers who drive cattle but shepherds.
You cannot lead where you do not go..."

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HB Charles

“Elders are not ranchers who drive cattle but shepherds.
You cannot lead where you do not go...
Faithful elders lead effectively by the
moral authority of a godly example.”

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

not domineering over those in your charge,
but being examples to the flock.

Elders must lead humbly

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

HOLINESS
IN HOSTILITY

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

Healthy elders are crucial for the suffering church

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Healthy elders are crucial for the suffering church
They shepherd God's people to holiness in hostility

HOLINESS
IN HOSTILITY

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so that the unchurched see your "good deeds and glorify God
on the day of visitation." (1Pe 2:12)

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

NOT for PRAISE

HOLINESS
IN HOSTILITY

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

NOT for PRAISE
NOT for PROFIT

HOLINESS
IN HOSTILITY

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

NOT for PRAISE
NOT for PROFIT
NOT for POWER

HOLINESS
IN HOSTILITY

2) THE MINISTRY OF ELDERS

NOT for PRAISE
NOT for PROFIT
NOT for POWER

Then for what??

3) THE MOTIVATION OF ELDERS

HOLINESS
IN HOSTILITY

3) THE MOTIVATION OF ELDERS

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1 Peter 1:4

to an **inheritance** that is imperishable, undefiled, and
unfading, kept in heaven for you

3) THE MOTIVATION OF ELDERS

[4] And **when** the chief Shepherd appears,
you will receive the **unfading crown of glory**.

1 Peter 1:13

set your hope fully on the **grace** that will be brought to
you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

3) THE MOTIVATION OF ELDERS

[4] And **when** the chief Shepherd appears,
you will receive the **unfading crown of glory**.

1 Peter 4:13

But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings,
that you may also rejoice and be glad
when his **glory is revealed**.

3) THE MOTIVATION OF ELDERS

[4] And **when** the chief Shepherd appears,
you will receive the **unfading crown of glory**.

1 Peter 5:10

And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all
grace, who has called you to his **eternal glory in Christ...**

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Good shepherds never lose sight of glory.

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Good shepherds never lose sight of glory.
Otherwise sufferings cause them to burn out.

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**“Working for the Lord doesn't pay much,
but the retirement is out of this world.”**

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HOLINESS IN HOSTILITY



HOLINESS
IN HOSTILITY

HOLINESS

IN HOSTILITY

