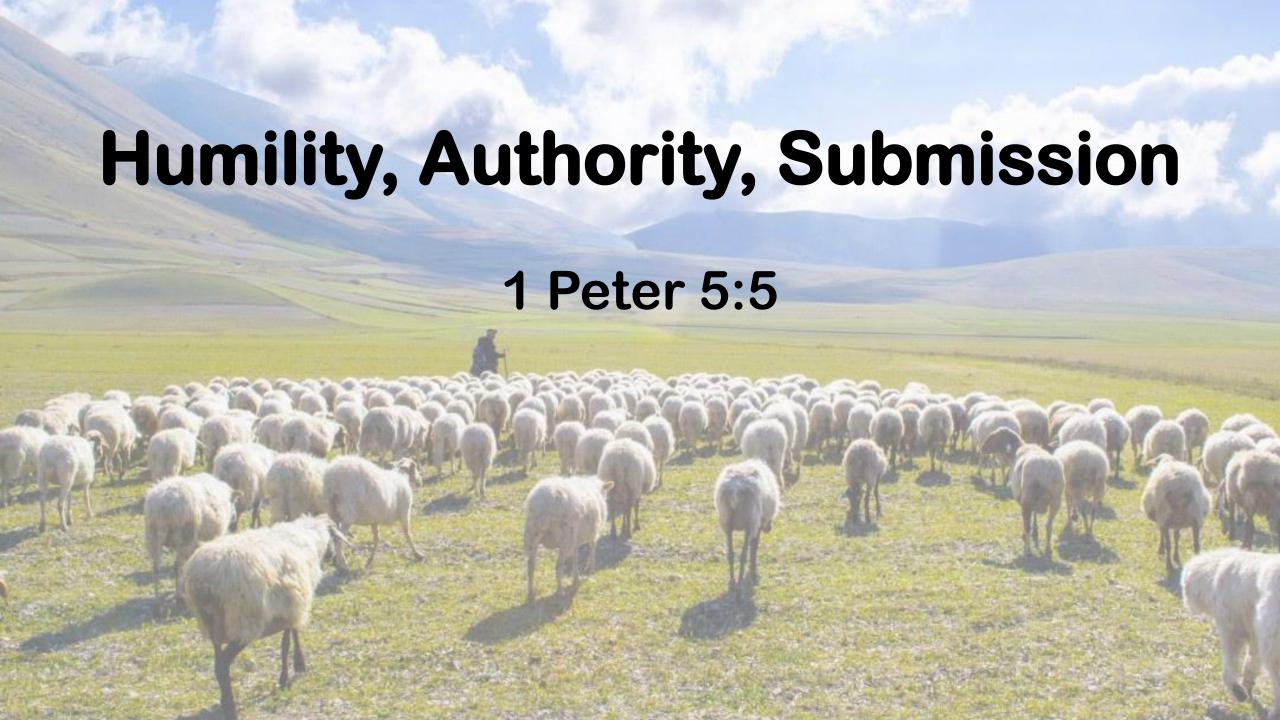
#### **Humility, Authority, and Submission**

1 Peter 5:5

God has given elders a measure of authority within the church for its good, and He expects its members to submit to their leadership in humility.

1.	What authority do elders have?  a. They have authority to preach, teach, and from the Word.
	b. They have authority to the church.
2.	What does it mean to submit to elders? a. It means to them.
	b. It means to them.
	c. It means to them.
3.	Why does Peter single out young people?  a. Because is our birthright.
	h Recause the young have had fewer opportunities to be





#### 1 Peter 5:1-2

Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as your fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed, shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness;

#### 1 Peter 5:3-4

nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.

And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

#### 1 Peter 5:5

You younger people, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

## Big Idea:

God has given elders a measure of authority within the church for its good, and He expects its members to submit to their leadership in humility.

## **Humility is the Fountainhead**

1 Peter 5:5

You younger people, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

## **Applied to Leaders**

1 Peter 5:3-4

### nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge,

but proving to be examples to the flock.
And when the Chief Shepherd appears,
you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

### **Humility, Authority, and Submission**

What authority do elders have?

## Authority?

1 Peter 5:5

You younger people, likewise,

## be subject to your elders,

and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

### An Old Testament Basis

#### **Deuteronomy 17:12**

And the man who acts presumptuously by not listening to the priest who stands there to serve the LORD your God, nor to the judge, that man shall die; thus you shall purge the evil from Israel.

## **New Testament Application**

#### 1 Peter 5:5

You younger people, likewise,

### be subject to your elders,

and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

## **New Testament Application**

#### **Hebrews 13:17**

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

Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.

If you don't listen to your elders, you will not die.

But if you don't listen to Christ your priest and to Jesus your Judge, you will die!

### What authority do elders have?

They have authority to preach, teach, and admonish from the Word.

#### 1 Peter 5:1-4

Therefore, I exhort the elders among you...

### shepherd the flock of God among you,

exercising oversight not under compulsion, but willingly, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.

Ezekiel 34:2
Should not the shepherds feed the flock?

Elders have no inherent authority to instruct or admonish; their authority is derived from God's Word and must itself be in submission to God's Word.

## Authority of the Word

2 Timothy 4:1-2

I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

## Authority of the Word

And we urge you, brethren,
to know those who labor among you,
and are over you in the Lord and admonish you,
and to esteem them very highly in love
because of their work.

Elders have no authority in themselves, but the Word they are commanded to speak does, and it must be obeyed.

## Authority of the Word

#### **1 Timothy 1:3**

As I urged you upon my departure for Macedonia, remain on at Ephesus, in order **that you may instruct** certain men not to teach strange doctrines...

### What authority do elders have?

They have authority to preach, teach, and admonish from the Word.

# They have authority to manage the church.

## Authority to Manage

#### 1 Peter 5:1-4

Therefore, I exhort the elders among you... shepherd the flock of God among you,

### exercising oversight not under compulsion,

but willingly, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.

## Authority to Manage

1 Timothy 3:4-5
An overseer, then...

...must be one who **manages** his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity (but if a man does not know how to **manage** his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?)

1 Timothy 5:17

The elders who **rule** (**manage**) well are to be considered worthy of double honor...

## Over you = Manage you

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

And we urge you, brethren,

to know those WhO labor among you,

and are over you in the Lord and admonish you,

and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work.

The authority to manage the church is invested in the elders.

But it is never separated from the authority of Christ.

## Authority to Manage

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

And we urge you, brethren, to know those who labor among you,

and are over you (manage you) in the Lord and admonish you,

and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work.

Where and when the proper authority of elders is exercised, Jesus expects His people to submit.

#### 1 Peter 5:5

You younger people, likewise,

## be subject to your elders,

and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

### **Humility, Authority, and Submission**

What authority do elders have?

What does it mean to submit to elders?

### What does it mean to submit?

It means to heed them.

### **Heed Them**

#### 2 Thessalonians 3:14

And if anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of that man and do not associate with him, so that he may be put to shame.

You do not obey your elder; you obey his *biblical* instruction.

This is why it is vital that he be "able to teach"!

#### What does it mean to submit?

It means to heed them.

It means to trust them.

### **Trust Them**

And we urge you, brethren,
to know those who labor among you,
and are over you in the Lord and admonish you,
and to esteem them very highly in love
because of their work.

### To know is to love and trust

John 10:4

When he puts forth all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

# A submissive heart is open to its leaders in love and bent toward trusting their lead.

### Opened in love and trust

2 Corinthians 7:2

Make room for us in your hearts; we wronged no one, we corrupted no one, we took advantage of no one.

# Resistance to biblical leadership is rooted in distrust.

### It is prideful distrust

#### 1 Peter 5:5

You younger people, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves

### with humility toward one another, for

"God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

### What does it mean to submit?

Heed them.

Trust them.

Support them.

#### **Hebrews 13:17**

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

Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.

### Be persuadable!

**Hebrews 13:17** 

### Obey your leaders and submit to them,

for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account.

Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.

### Be persuadable!

**Hebrews 13:17** 

Obey your leaders and Submit to them,

for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account.

Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.

### Be supportive!

#### **Hebrews 13:17**

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

### Let them do this with joy and not with grief,

for this would be unprofitable for you.

### Be supportive!

#### **Hebrews 13:17**

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

Let them do this with joy and not with grief,

for this would be unprofitable for you.

### A Difficult Question:

If you are displeased with your leadership, is the Lord pleased with your displeasure?

### It's NOT about your leaders

#### **Hebrews 13:17**

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

Let them do this with joy and not with grief,

### for this would be unprofitable for you.

### **Humility, Authority, and Submission**

What authority do elders have?

What does it mean to submit to elders?

Why are young people singled out?

You younger people, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

### Why single out youth?

Because rebellion is our birthright.

#### Genesis 3:6

When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

#### Romans 5:12

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because **all sinned**...

Adam's rebellion was prideful distrust and an assertion of his ability to self-determine what is good.

This is your birthright.

### Why single out youth?

Because rebellion is our birthright.

## Because youth have had fewer opportunities to be broken.

### The wisdom of experience

"Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher,
"Vanity of vanities! All is vanity."

Why does wisdom so often require age?

Because God uses the brokenness of life to chisel the pride off of the hearts of His people.

#### **Romans 5:3-4**

And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character...

### Conclusions:

Elders do not possess inherent authority; their authority is derived from the Lord.

Christ has vested elders with authority for the good of His church and is pleased when His people gladly submit.