

**Welcome to the Worship Celebration of**



SIMPLY BIBLICAL | FAMILY INTEGRATED

*Paul's Letter to the  
Church at Thessalonica*



# I Thessalonians

**Church As She Should Be** (part 13)

**Local Church Leadership As It Should Be - Part 1**

**1 Thessalonians 5:12-13**

**07/01/2018**

## 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

**But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the LORD and give you instruction, <sup>13</sup> and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another. (NASB)**

## 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

**Dear brothers and sisters, honor those who are your leaders in the LORD's work. They work hard among you and give you spiritual guidance. <sup>13</sup> Show them great respect and wholehearted love because of their work. And live peacefully with each other. (NLT)**

# Local Church Leadership As It Should Be - 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

1. What “titles” or “categories” of local church leadership are there?  
(also ref. 1 Peter 5:1-4; Philippians 1:1)

P –

Is it 5-fold or 4-fold? (hint: Ephesians 4:11-16 – how many  
“some as” are there? – ref. NKJV )

D – (ref. 1 Timothy 3:8-13; Acts 6:1-7)

A.T.L. stands for:

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Philippians 1:1 (NASB) →

Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus,  
To all the saints [*the congregation*] in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi,  
including the overseers [*pastoral-elders*] and deacons

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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, <sup>2</sup> 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; <sup>3</sup> nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock. <sup>4</sup> And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. 1 Peter 5:1-4

Shepherd = “Pastor” – to Pastor the Flock – same phrase.

Thus, Pastoral-Elders ...



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Pastoral-Elders – 5-fold or 4-fold – Leadership?

Hint, pay attention to the number of “some as” ...

**And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; - Ephesians 4:11-12**

**4-Fold** → 4 “some as” – last “some as” → Pastoral-Teachers

Pastors even Teachers, Pastors who are Teachers, Teaching Pastors



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**The Pastoral-Eldership Category is made up of Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, and Teaching Pastors → 4-FOLD according to 1 Tim. 3:1-7 – Elders must be able to teach. Not so with the other category of local church leadership**

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**D – DEACONS** (not required to teach) (ref. 1 Tim 3:8-13; Acts 6:1-7)

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## Local Church Leadership As It Should Be - 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

Now at this time while the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic Jews against the native Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving of food. <sup>2</sup> So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables. <sup>3</sup> Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task. <sup>4</sup> But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." <sup>5</sup> The statement found approval with the whole congregation; and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch. <sup>6</sup> And these they brought before the apostles; and after praying, they laid their hands on them.

<sup>7</sup> The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith. Acts 6:1-7

**Taking Care of the Congregation – Tasks – Hands-On Leadership**

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**A.T.L. stands for: Action Team Leadership**

.....  
According to 1 Timothy 3:8-13 – DEACONS are under the authority and evaluation of the Pastor-Elders. There is no Biblical, nor historical precedent for a Council of Deacons (or a Deaconate) that “controls” or “leads” the local church. It is the Elders – the Pastoral Elders – who lead the local congregation.

# Local Church Leadership As It Should Be - 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

## 2. How are the members of the local congregation supposed to VIEW and BEHAVE TOWARD their pastoral-elders?

(also ref.: 1 Timothy 5:17-18; Hebrews 13:7,17)

### 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

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appreciate, esteem them very highly in love, honor, show them great respect, and wholehearted love - **conditional** → work hard, teach, instruct, admonish

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1 Timothy 5:17-18

The elders who rule well **are to be** considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching. <sup>18</sup> **For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing,” and “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”** (NASB)

Hebrews 13:7,17

<sup>7</sup> Remember **those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and** considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith.

<sup>17</sup> 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.** (NASB)

considered worthy of double honor, remember them, imitate their faith, obey them, submit to them . . . it is **conditional** based upon them being diligent in ruling, leading, preaching and teaching God’s Holy Word.

### 3. The Last sentence in 1 Thess. 5:13 – relates to what?

L-C-R → Leadership – Congregational Relations

“Live in peace with one another.” (NASB)

“And live peacefully with each other” (NLT)

**PEACE?** Why does Paul mention this?

If the Leadership of the Church is at Odds with the “will” and desires of the Congregation, then there will be **NO PEACE**. If the Leadership is at Odds with God and His Word, but the Congregation is on “God’s Side” (per God’s Holy Word), then there will be **NO PEACE**.

The Only Way that there will be Peace with the Leadership and the Congregation is if both are Following Jesus, Obediently According to God’s Holy Word, alone (only), together - hand-in-hand / heart-to-heart.

We all must be Sanctified in the Truth (John 17:17)

... on the Same Page with Christ and His Holy Word, together.

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**We all must be Sanctified in the Truth (John 17:17)**

**... on the Same Page with Christ and His Holy Word, together.**

**Sanctify them in the truth; Your Word is truth. <sup>18</sup> As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth. (Jesus’ high priestly prayer to the Father)**