

#10 Remaining Firm in Our Faith
1 Peter 5:1-14

- I. Calling for a Life of Shepherding: During perilous times, believers look to those who the Lord has placed in their church to tend to their needs – 1 Peter 5:1-4.**
- A. God has provided leaders in the local church who serve as undershepherds and are responsible for the leading, nurturing, and protecting of the believers in their assembly – 5:1-3.
- The term "elder (Gr. presbuteros)" is borrowed from the Jewish synagogue organization and stresses the dignity or maturity of the office.
 - The term "bishop (Gr. episkopos)" is borrowed from the Greek community and stresses the duty of the office.
 - The proper motives for this ministry are to do it willingly (not under compulsion), eagerly (not for shameful gain), and as an example (not domineering).
- B. The faithful undershepherds will be rewarded for their ministry when Jesus returns – 5:4.
- II. Calling for a Life of Humility: During perilous times, believers are to cultivate an attitude of humility – 1 Peter 5:5-7.**
- A. Believers are called to follow the spiritual leadership of their local elders – 5:5a.
- B. Believers are called to abandon all pretenses with fellow believers – 5:5b.
- C. Believers are called to submit to the Lord's work in their lives because He is devoted to their well-being – 5:6-7.
- III. Calling for a Life of Vigilance: During perilous times, believers are to be on guard against Satan and his schemes to discredit the Lord – 1 Peter 5:8-9.**
- IV. Calling for a Life of Trust: During perilous times, believers can depend on God to provide everything necessary to remain firm in the faith – 1 Peter 5:10-11.**
- Restore: *to put in order, to mend, to reestablish, to make whole*
 - Confirm: *to set up, to fix firmly, to establish*
 - Strengthen: *to make strong*
 - Establish: *to make a foundation, to provide a solid foundation, to ground firmly*
- V. Closing Thoughts: While concluding his letter with some personal remarks, Peter reminds the reader to *stand firm in the true grace of God* – 1 Peter 5:12-14.**