

**[1 Timothy]  
Lesson 3**

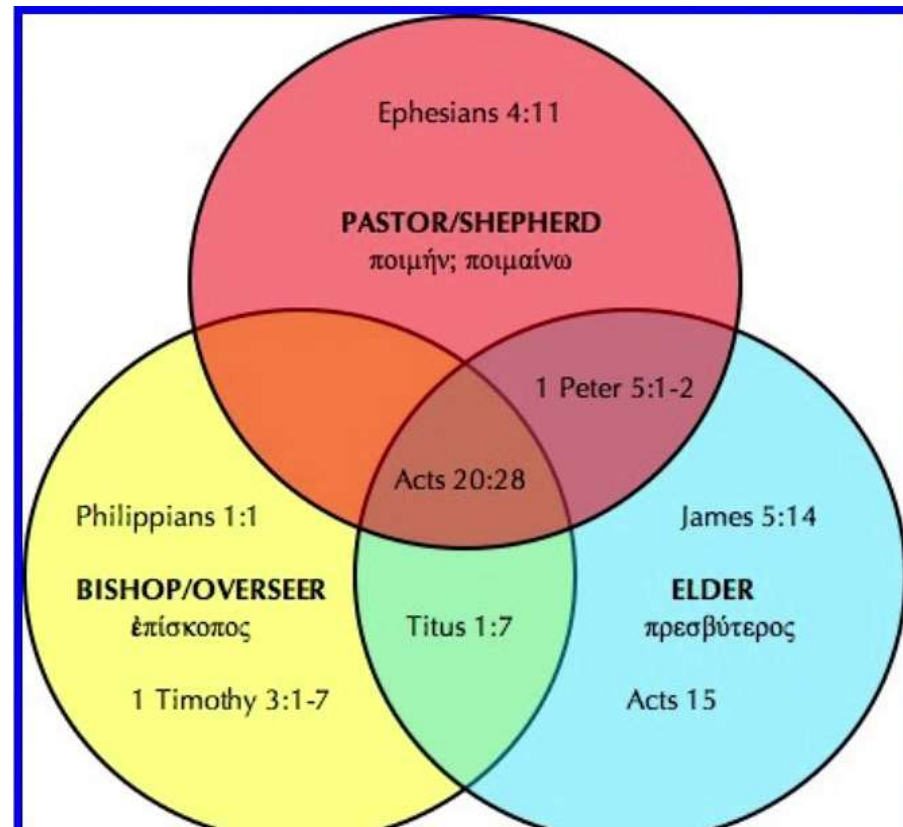
**Pastors**

**(1 Timothy 3:1-7)**

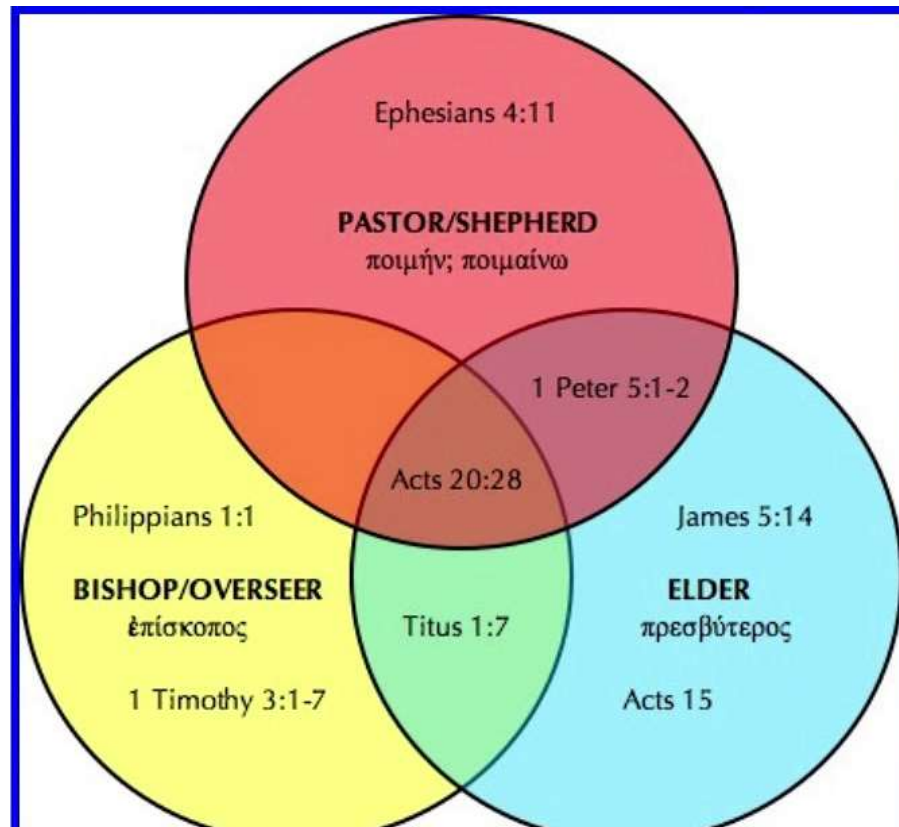


# 1. Titles (names) for the Church Leaders

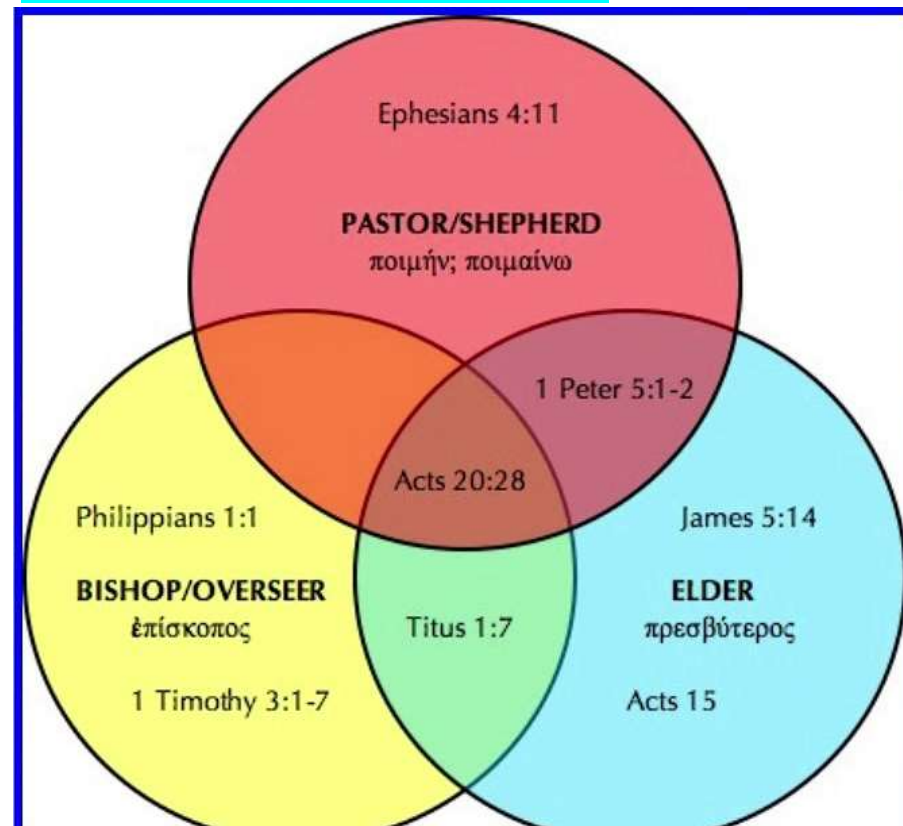
**Elder = Bishop = Pastor**



(1 Tim 3:1) *This is a true saying, If a man desire (wants) the office (job) of a **bishop** [pastor], he desireth (wants) a good work (job).*



(Ephesians 4:11) *And he (God) gave some, **apostles**; and some, **prophets**; and some, **evangelists**; and some, **pastors [bishop]** and teachers;*



## 3 GREEK TERMS – 6 ENGLISH WORDS

- **PRESBUTEROS:** The “*Elder*” or “*Presbyter*”  
(**Acts 20.17; 1 Tim. 4.14**)
- **EPISKOPOS:** The “*Bishop*” or “*Overseer*”  
(**1 Tim. 3.1; Titus 1.5; Phil. 1.1; 1 Pet. 5.2**)
- **POIMEN:** The “*Pastor*” or “*Shepherd*”  
(**Mark 6.34; Acts 20.28; Eph. 4.11; 1 Pet. 5.2**)

(Acts 20:17) *And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the **elders** [pastors] of the church.*

(Acts 20:28) *Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you **overseers** (bishop), **to feed** (pastor / Shepherd) the church of God...*

(1 Peter 5:1-2) *The **elders** which are among you I exhort... (2) **Feed** (pastor / Shepherd) the flock of God which is among you, taking the **oversight** (bishop)...*

## [Titles for church leaders]

“**elder**” = **spiritually mature** (adult/grown) Christian

[See also Acts 14:23; 15:6, 22; 1 Tim. 5:17; Titus 1:5]

babies = NOT spiritually mature [see 1 Cor. 3:1]

“**bishop**” = **ruler / manager**

[See Acts 20:28; Philip. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:7]

“**pastor**” = **feed and protect** the sheep (church)

[See Acts 20:28; John 21:16; 1 Peter 5:1; Eph. 4:11]

## 2. Pastor = Good Work





(1 Tim 3:1) *This is a true saying, If a man desire (wants) the office (job) of a bishop [pastor], he desireth (wants) a good work (job).*

1. God loves and wants His church pastored—fed and protected. (John 21:15-17) – Jesus: “*Feed my sheep*”
2. The Holy Spirit chooses some men to be pastors by putting the desire to pastor in their hearts and equipping (make ready) them. [See Acts 20:28]
3. A man should become a pastor because he believes God has chosen him for the job giving him the desire to feed and protect the church—NOT because he wants money or power.

# 3. Qualifications (test) for Pastor

## CHARACTER QUALIFICATIONS - ELDER

### 1 Tim 3

### Meaning

- v. 2 one who cannot be validly accused
- v. 2 completely devoted to his wife
- v. 2 avoids extremes and excesses
- v. 2 wisely establishes priorities
- v. 2 respected
- v. 2 loves strangers
- v. 2 skillful teacher
- v. 3 not addicted to wine
- v. 3 not given to physical violence
- v. 3 forbearing - yields his rights
- v. 3 not an arguer
- v. 3 does not love money
- v. 4 manages his family well
- v. 4 children obey him with respect
- v. 6 not a new believer
- v. 7 good testimony with the world

### Titus 1

### Meaning

- v. 6 cannot be validly called to account
- v. 6 children believe in Jesus
- v. 6 children are not in rebellion
- v. 7 not self-serving
- v. 7 long suffering
- v. 7 does not seek dishonest gain
- v. 8 a lover of goodness
- v. 8 one who is a believer & consistently fair
- v. 8 one who is holy
- v. 8 restrained in mind & over fleshly desires
- v. 9 faithful to the Word
- v. 9 able to defend the truth

(1 Tim 3:2) A **bishop** [**pastor**] then **must be blameless**, the **husband of one wife**, **vigilant**, **sober**, of **good behaviour**, given to **hospitality**, apt to teach;

1. "blameless" = known as continually good
2. "husband of one wife" = faithful to his wife
3. "vigilant" = careful (wise)—not lazy
4. "sober" = self-controlled (wise)
5. "good behaviour" = good ordered life
6. "given to hospitality" = love and care for people
7. "apt to teach" = knows and can teach Bible

(1 Tim 3:3) **Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre** (money); **but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;**

8. "Not given to wine" = Not drunk

9. "no striker" = Not hit others

10. "not greedy" = Not love money

11. "patient" = kind / slow to anger

12. "not a brawler" = Not always fighting / arguing

13. "not covetous" = Not unthankful

(1 Tim 3:4) One that *ruleth well (good) his own house (family), having his children in subjection (obey) with all gravity (show respect); (5) (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)*

14. “ruleth well his own house” = obedient family

(1 Tim 3:6) **Not a novice** (new / baby), lest (so not) being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

15. “Not a novice” = not a new [baby] Christian

(1 Tim 3:7) Moreover (**more**) he (**pastor**) must have a **good report** (**testimony**) of them which are without (**world**); lest (**so not**) he fall into reproach (**spoken against**) and the snare (**catch / destroyed**) of the devil.

16. “good report” = good testimony before the world

No man can get 100% on this test.  
No man is perfect. We are all sinners.  
Only Jesus is perfect.

We must judge if a man has the **testimony** of  
**continually passing** these tests.

If a man **fails** some of these tests, do they humbly  
and quickly repent, so that they have the **testimony**  
of **continually passing** these tests.