



The Qualifications of a Pastor



The Hebrew Bible (or Old Testament) uses the Hebrew word **רעה (ro'eh)**, which is used as a noun as in "shepherd" and as a verb as in "to tend a flock."

" It occurs 173 times in 144 Old Testament verses and relates to the literal feeding of sheep, as in Genesis 29:7.

Genesis 29:7 NIV:

7 "Look," he said, "the sun is still high; it is not time for the flocks to be gathered. Water the sheep and take them back to pasture."

Strong's Greek: 4166. ποιμήν (poimén) - a shepherd

4166 *poimén*— properly, a *shepherd* ("pastor" in *Latin*); (figuratively) someone who the Lord raises up to *care* for the total well-being of His flock (the people of the Lord).

[4166 (*poimén*) is closely associated with 1066 /*Gedeōn* ("to *feed* the flock"), see Jn 21:15-17.]

John 21:15-17 NIV:

Jesus Reinstates Peter

15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?”

“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “**Feed my lambs.**”

16 Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”

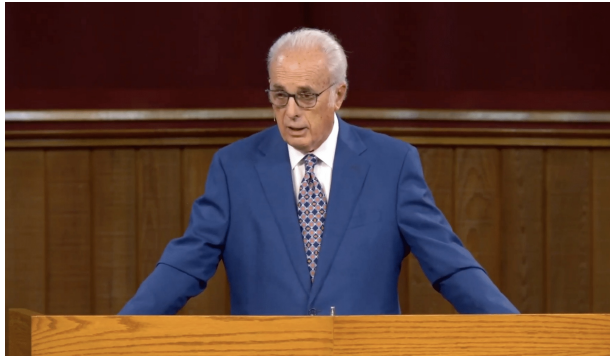
Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

17 The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “**Feed my sheep.**”

Whom is the Angel of the Church



Angel being translated from the Greek is the word **Agelos**; which means a messenger from God, one whom God communicates with, to instruct His people (A Pastor is the Angel of the Church), but this is Not a reference to the celestial beings.

Examples:

Revelation 2:8 NIV:

To the Church in Smyrna

8 “To the angel of the church in Smyrna write:

These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again.

An angel literally signifies a *messenger*, and these angels were simply the messengers of the Seven Churches.

John had long resided at Ephesus; and now that he was banished to the Isle of Patmos "for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ," it would appear that the Christian communities among which he had ministered so many years, sent trusty deputies to visit him, to assure him of their sympathy, and to tender to him their friendly offices.



In primitive times such angels were often sent to the brethren in confinement or in exile.

Thus, Paul, when in imprisonment at Rome, says to the Philippians -- "Ye have well done that ye did communicate with my affliction ... I am full, having received, of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you. "

Here, Epaphroditus is presented to us as the angel of the Church of Philippi.

This minister seems, indeed, to have now spent no small portion of his time in travelling between Rome and Macedonia.

Hence Paul observes — "I supposed it necessary *to send to you* Epaphroditus, my brother and companion in labour and fellow-soldier, but your messenger and he that ministered to my wants. "

In like manner, the individuals selected to convey, to the poor saints in Jerusalem, the contributions of the Gentile converts in Greece and Asia Minor, are called "the *messengers* of the Churches. "

The practice of sending messengers to visit and comfort the saints in poverty, in confinement, or in exile, may be traced for centuries in the history of the Church.

It also deserves notice that, in other parts of the New Testament as well as in the Apocalypse, an individual sent on a special errand is repeatedly called an angel.

Thus, John the Baptist, who was commissioned to announce the approach of the Messiah, is styled God's angel, or messenger, and the spies, sent to view the land of Canaan, are distinguished by the same designation.

MANDATES OF A PASTOR

“A shepherd, one who tends herds or flocks” (not merely one who feeds them), is used metaphorically of Christian “pastors,” **Eph. 4:11**.

Ephesians 4:11 NIV

11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers,

“Pastors,” guide as well as feed the flock; **Acts 20:28**, which, with **V .17**, indicates that this was the service committed to elders (overseers or bishops); so also in **1 pet. 5:1,2**, “tend the flock ... exercising the oversight,” this involves care and vigilant superintendence.

Acts 20:28 NIV:

28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God,^[a] which he bought with his own blood.^[b]

Acts 20:17 NIV:

17 From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the elders of the church.

1 Peter 5:1-2 NIV:

To the Elders and the Flock

5 To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed:

2 Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve;

Ephesians 4:11 NIV:

11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers,

Jeremiah 3:15 NIV:

15 Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding.

Jesus Reinstates Peter John 21:15-18 NIV:



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“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

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He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

17 The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my sheep.

18 Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.”

1 Timothy 4: 1-16 New International Version

4 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

2 Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.

3 They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth.

4 For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving,

5 because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

6 If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters,^[a] you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed.

7 Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly.

8 For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

9 This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance.

10 That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe.

11 Command and teach these things.

12 Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

13 Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching.

14 Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

15 Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress.

16 Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.



Friends, Please remember, You can't buy your way into heaven OR out of hell.

Rev. Jesus Del Rio, Ed