

Biblical Church Government: Elders

I. WHY ELDER RULE?

1) Eldership Is the Pattern established in the NT.

a. Instructions are Provided to the churches about elders

b. Instructions and Exhortations are given to the Elders Directly

2) Eldership is a _____ of how the church should operate.

3) Eldership Respects and Guards the _____ of the individual believer.

4) Eldership Guards the _____ of _____ over His Church.

II. WHAT ARE THE DUTIES OF THE ELDERS?

III. WHAT ARE THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELDERS?

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions and praying through the issues will help you further meditate upon God's Word in order to see the areas of your life that need change.

1. What kind of church government(s) have you experienced in your church life? Name it or them and describe what kind of experience it was for you.

2. As you have searched for a church in the past did church polity play a role in your decision-making? Do you think it is important to most Christians today? Why or why not? Should it play a more important role in considering a church? Why?

3. If you embrace elder rule then what role does the pastor play? How is the pastor viewed in most churches today? How should he be viewed biblically?

4. Some theologians have said that the NT is unclear as to what type of church government is required and since Jesus was silent on the matter we cannot nor should we make an issue out of it. Do you agree with this or disagree? Is the Bible unclear or ambiguous about church government? What passages would you turn to in order to defend one form of church government over another?

5. What are some additional thoughts and/or application from this morning's lesson? What does this passage teach you about the nature of man and about the nature of God?
