

Morning Lesson

RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS TO ELDERS

INTRO:

1. We proceed with the following understanding.
 - a. Christ is the head of the church. **Eph. 1:22, 23; 2 John 9; John 12:48**
 - b. Elders have God given authority. **Acts 20:28; 1 Tim. 3:5; Heb. 13:7, 17**
 - c. Elders exercise this authority in matters of judgment.
 - d. Our elders are scripturally qualified.
 - e. The responsibilities of elders and members complement each other.
2. We will consider various passages.

I. 1 THESS. 5:12, 13.

A. Know.

1. Elders know the members because shepherds know sheep. **John 10:2, 3**
2. Members make the effort to know the elders.

B. Esteem very highly. **Eph. 3:20**

C. Be at peace. **Tit. 1:9-11; Rom. 12:18; Eph. 4:1-3**

II. 1 TIM. 5:17-20.

A. Double honor. v. 17, 18

B. Accusations against elders.

1. Don't believe unfounded rumors and gossip. v. 19
2. Those guilty of sin, rebuke publicly. v. 20
3. This is to be done with any member. **Matt. 18:15-17**

III. HEB. 13:7, 17.

A. Remember -- "To be mindful of, to call to mind."

B. Whose faith follow --- "imitate, emulate."

C. Obey -- "The obedience suggested is not by submission to authority but resulting from persuasion. An actual and outward result of the inward persuasion." **James 3:3**

D. Submit -- "To give way, to yield."

E. We are to be in subjection to our elders.

F. To fail to do this is a violation of scripture and therefore is sin.

CONC:

1. We should pray for our elders as they lead.
2. We must assume our full responsibility in doing our part in relating to them as God has instructed.