

THE FIRST PASTOR'S CONFERENCE

Acts 20:17-24

Acts 1-2: 30 AD

Paul was in Ephesus from _____

Paul comes back by Ephesus (Acts 20:18-38) _____

Elder: Describes _____ (v.17)

Elder: presbuteros - a senior; specifically, or Christian

"presbyter" (KJV) - Elder: (-est), old (Strong's)

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers (episkopos), to feed (poimaino) the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. - Acts 20:28 (KJV)

Overseer/Bishop: Describes the _____ (v.28)

Bishop/Overseer: episkopos - a superintendent, i.e. Christian officer in genitive case charge of a (or the) church

Bishop/Overseer (KJV)

Pastor: Describes the _____ (v.28)

Feed: poimaino - to tend as a shepherd of (figuratively, supervisor)

Feed: (cattle), rule (KJV)

He (Jesus) saith unto him, Feed (poimaino) my sheep. - John 21:16

And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors (poimen) and teachers, - Eph 4:11

It is likely that these were all in _____

Paul's Past Ministry at Ephesus (vv.18-21)

In the good times and the bad times Paul emphasized
_____ **to whoever would listen** (vv.19-20 & 27)

If from human motives I fought with wild beasts at Ephesus, what does it profit me? If the dead are not raised, - 1 Corinthians 15:32

Paul taught whatever was profitable (v.20) **but the main message was always:**

...repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Acts 20:21 (ESV)

(vv.22-24)

But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel (euaggelion) of the grace of God. - Acts 20:24

Gospel: euaggelion - Good News; a good message, i.e. the gospel (Strong's)

Why it is such a good message:

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. - Romans 6:23

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. - 3 John 2 (KJV)

...beloved, concerning all things I desire thee to prosper, and to be in health, even as thy soul doth prosper, - 3 John 2 (YLT)

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me. - Revelation 3:20 (NIV)