

A Pastor is an Elder, Bishop, Overseer, and Steward

- I. The titles pastor, elder, bishop, overseer, and steward are all names for the same office.
- A. Pastor - *Etymology* L. pastor-em shepherd, lit. 'feeder, giver of pasture', 1. A herdsman or shepherd. 2. A shepherd of souls; one who has the spiritual **oversight** over a company or body of Christians, as **bishop**, priest, minister, etc.; spec. the minister in charge of a church or congregation, with particular reference to the spiritual care of his 'flock'.
 - B. Elder - B. n. An elder person, lit. and fig. 1. a. A parent; an ancestor, forefather; hence, in wider sense, a predecessor, one who lived in former days. 4. a. In ecclesiastical use. ...the title given to a certain order or class of office-bearers in the early Christian Church....
 - C. Bishop - 1. A spiritual superintendent or **overseer** in the Christian Church.
 - D. Overseer - 1. a. One who oversees or superintends, a supervisor; esp. one whose business it is to superintend a piece of work, or a body of workmen; a superintendent (of workmen, slaves, convicts, etc.).
 - E. An elder is a bishop (**Tit 1:5-7**).
 - 1. **Tit 1:5** - For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:
 - 2. **Tit 1:6** - If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.
 - 3. **Tit 1:7** - For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;
 - F. An elder is an overseer (**Act 20:17 c/w Act 20:28**).
 - 1. **Act 20:17** - And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church.
 - 2. **Act 20:28** - Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.
 - G. A pastor is an overseer (a bishop) (**Act 20:28**).
 - 1. **Act 20:28** - Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.
 - 2. Pastor - *Etymology* L. pastor-em shepherd, lit. 'feeder, giver of pasture', 1. A herdsman or shepherd. 2. A shepherd of souls; one who has the spiritual **oversight** over a company or body of Christians, as **bishop**, priest, minister, etc.; spec. the minister in charge of a church or congregation, with particular reference to the spiritual care of his 'flock'.
 - 3. Bishop - 1. A spiritual superintendent or **overseer** in the Christian Church.
 - H. A pastor is an elder (**Act 20:17 c/w Act 20:28; 1Pe 5:1-2**).
 - 1. **Act 20:17** - And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church.
 - 2. **Act 20:28** - Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.
 - 3. **1Pe 5:1** - The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:
 - 4. **1Pe 5:2** - Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
 - I. A pastor is a steward (**Tit 1:7**).
 - 1. **Tit 1:7** - For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;
 - 2. Steward - 1. a. An official who controls the domestic affairs of a household, supervising the service of his master's table, directing the domestics, and regulating household expenditure; a major-domo.