

WHO'S IN CHARGE OF GOD'S HOUSE?

The Role of Every Believer

- VIDEO TRANSCRIPT -

SCRIPT	TIME	SUPER
Who's in charge among God's people? Ultimately, Jesus is.	0:00	WHO'S IN CHARGE OF GOD'S HOUSE? The Role of Every Believer With JAAN VAINO
He said, "I will build my church...". But who's responsible here, on the ground?	0:08	I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18 (KJV)
The New Testament lays out God's architecture for his house, his called-out assembly—and it's different from church traditions. One day, Jesus found his disciples arguing about which of them was the greatest. He told them,	0:15	BACKGROUND
"The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves..."	0:32	The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves... Luke 22:25-26 (NIV)
"...For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I [Jesus] am among you as one who serves." He also told them,	0:52	...For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I [Jesus] am among you as one who serves. Luke 22:27 (NIV)
"You must not be called 'Teacher,' because you are all equal and have only one Teacher. And you must not call anyone here on earth 'Father,' because you have only the one Father in heaven. Nor should you be called	1:08	You must not be called "Teacher," because you are all equal and have only one Teacher. And you must not call anyone here on earth "Father,"

<p>'Leader,' because your one and only leader is the Messiah. The greatest one among you must be your servant."</p> <p>"Who's in charge?" The better question is "How may I serve?"</p> <p>Here's a key New Testament passage about serving roles:</p>		<p>because you have only the one Father in heaven. Nor should you be called "Leader," because your one and only leader is the Messiah.</p> <p>The greatest one among you must be your servant. Mat 23:8-11 (GNB)</p>
<p>"[Messiah] Himself gave ambassadors, on the one hand, and also prophets, and Good News-bringers, as well as shepherds and teachers. He gave them to equip the saints thoroughly for the work of service to build up the body of Messiah, until all of us arrive to unity—of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God—to a complete man, to the measure of the stature of Messiah's fulness."</p>	<p>1:43</p>	<p>Messiah Himself gave ambassadors, on the one hand, and also prophets, and Good News-bringers, as well as shepherds and teachers. He gave them to equip the saints thoroughly for the work of service to build up the body of Messiah, until all of us arrive to unity—of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God—to a complete man, to the measure of the stature of Messiah's fulness. Ephesians 4:11-13 (Chamberlain)</p>
	<p>1:49</p>	<p>Messiah (Hebrew) = Christ (Greek)</p>
	<p>1:52</p>	<p>apostles</p>
	<p>1:55</p>	<p>prophets</p>
	<p>1:56</p>	<p>evangelists</p>
	<p>1:58</p>	<p>pastors & teachers</p>
	<p>2:02</p>	<p>saints = God's people</p>
<p>"From him the whole body, co-joined and made to go together by what every joint supplies, according to the functioning in measure of every single part, produces the increase of the body, so as to build itself up in love."</p>	<p>2:20</p>	<p>... From him the whole body, co-joined and made to go together by what every joint supplies, according to the functioning in measure of every single part, produces the increase of the body, so as to build itself up in love. Ephesians 4:16 (Chamberlain)</p>
<p>"...to equip his people for the work of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up..."</p> <p>That's the job description for what people call ministers: equip every Christian to serve, building up Christ's body together.</p>	<p>2:40</p>	<p>TO EQUIP HIS PEOPLE FOR WORKS OF SERVICE SO THAT THE BODY OF CHRIST MAY BE BUILT UP EPHESIANS 4:12 (NIV)</p>

<p>God designed his congregations like a living body: everyone supplies spiritual nourishment, and everyone partakes.</p> <p>Centuries ago, these serving roles were turned into official titles—</p>	<p>2:57</p>	<p>For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <i>so in Christ we, though many, form one body,</i> and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. Romans 12:4-6a (NIV)</p>
<p>Apostles and Pastors, and so on. The Bible’s everyday language became religious buzzwords.</p>	<p>3:12</p>	<p>APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION PRIEST PASTOR PRELATE BISHOP ARCHBISHOP CARDINAL CLERGY LAITY DIOCESE CATHEDRAL SACRAMENTS EUCCHARIST TRANSUBSTANTIATION CONSUBSTANTIATION INFANT BAPTISM HOLY ORDERS LITURGIES CONFIRMATION ORDINATION SYNOD CREED EXTREME UNCTION</p>
<p>God sends and equips some individuals to preach his Good News and plant Christian congregations.</p>	<p>3:20</p>	<p>[Jesus] appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might <i>send them out to preach.</i> Mark 3:14 (NIV)</p> <p>After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that <i>God had called us to preach the gospel</i> to them. Acts 16:10 (NIV)</p> <p>Paul, <i>an apostle—sent not from men nor by a man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father,</i> who raised him from the dead— and all the brothers and sisters with me... Galatians 1:1-3 (NIV)</p>

<p>He puts his word in the mouths of prophets, as he has for ages.</p>	<p>3:28</p>	<p>During this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them, named Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.) The disciples, as each one was able, decided to provide help for the brothers and sisters living in Judea. Act 11:27-29 (NIV)</p>
<p>And he gives “shepherds” and teachers to instruct and coach his people.</p> <p>Church tradition has turned this last role into the Pastor.</p>	<p>3:32</p>	<p>And He Himself gave some to be ... pastors and teachers, ... that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting... Eph 4:11,14 (NKJV)</p>
<p>But this is the New Testament’s only mention of “pastor” (the word means shepherd). No one is ever named that—</p>	<p>3:42</p>	<p>[KJV Search Results for <i>pastor</i>]</p>
<p>...except Jesus. And such an office just isn't described in the Bible.</p>	<p>3:50</p>	<p>For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. 1 Peter 2:25 (NIV)</p>
<p>...Except in describing the responsible grown-ups in a...</p>	<p>3:56</p>	<p>Pastor?</p>
<p>...congregation—its elders or overseers. Both words are used,</p>	<p>4:01</p>	<p>From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the elders of the church. When they arrived, he said to them: ... “Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.” Acts 20:7,28 (NIV)</p>
<p>and they are always multiple. Their work is teaching and coaching, watching...</p>	<p>4:08</p>	<p>The elderS who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. 1 Timothy 5:17 (NIV)</p>
<p>...vigilantly and leading with good examples of life and service. These are most of the “shepherds and teachers” Christ gives to his people.</p>	<p>4:14</p>	<p>To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder... Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care,</p>

		<p>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; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. 1 Peter 5:1-4 (NIV)</p>
In Biblical Greek as in English, elder means older or senior. Overseer means a	4:25	<p>Πρεσβύτερος “pres-boo'-ter-os” elder</p> <p>Comparative of πρέσβυς "pres-bus" (elderly); older; as noun, a senior...</p> <p>- Strong's Concordance</p>
foreman or inspector of others' work.	4:33	<p>ἐπίσκοπος “ep-is-kop-os” overseer</p> <p>An overseer; a man charged with the duty of seeing that things to be done by others are done rightly, any curator, guardian or superintendent; the superintendent, elder, or overseer of a Christian church. - Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament</p>
The word was traditionally transliterated as “bishop,” but in the New Testament,	4:38	<p>Transliterate— Create a word in your language that <i>sounds</i> like a foreign word—but without translating the foreign word's <i>meaning</i>.</p>
these are senior members of congregations, not regional supervisors of pastors.	4:43	<p>Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. James 5:14 (NKJV)</p> <p>Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." 1 Peter 5:5 (NKJV)</p> <p>Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses. 1 Timothy 5:19 (NKJV)</p>
When William Tyndale used	4:49	[Tyndale's New Testament and Greek New Testament]

<p>elder in his first-ever New Testament translated from original Greek, English country folks immediately understood: they were respected, older people to seek out for advice. Earlier translations</p>	<p>4:52</p>	<p>[Beginning of 1 Peter 5 in Greek NT and Tyndale NT, emphasizing “elder” for Πρεσβύτερος]</p>
<p>from un-original Latin made this word priest—which it isn’t. There’s no hint of such a thing as a Christian priest in the Bible—</p>	<p>5:05</p>	<p>Πρεσβύτερος - “pres-boo-ter-os” = elder ἱερεύς - “hee-er-yooce” = priest</p>
<p>...except references to all believers as priests to God. Every family hopes its children will become respected, responsible adults.</p>	<p>5:16</p>	<p>Jesus Christ ... has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. Revelation 1:5-6 (NIV)</p>
<p>God wants the same for his children. No limits are given for the number of elders in a congregation. But not all are willing</p>	<p>5:27</p>	<p>Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect. (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?). 1 Timothy 3:1-5 (NIV)</p>
<p>or qualify in the way they've led their lives. Some are especially gifted by God. The Bible mentions another serving role in the</p>	<p>5:37</p>	<p>An elder must be blameless, faithful to his wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. Since an overseer manages God's household, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it. Titus 1:6-9 (NIV)</p>

<p>congregation. The Greek word diakonos means servant—someone who runs errands. It’s traditionally transliterated as deacon.</p> <p>None of these roles are necessarily full-time, paid work.</p>	<p>5:47</p>	<p>Διάκονος “dee-ak-on-os” deacon</p> <p>Probably from διάκω, “di-a-kō” (obsolete, to run on errands); an attendant, that is, (generally) a waiter (at table or in other menial duties)... - Strong's Concordance</p>
<p>Paul worked with his hands, and even Jesus spent 90%...</p>	<p>6:03</p>	<p>Paul went to see [Aquila and Priscilla], and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them. Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks. Acts 18:2-4 (NIV)</p>
<p>...of his life growing up and, one assumes, working. And one’s</p>	<p>6:07</p>	<p>"Isn't this the carpenter?" Mark 6:3a (NIV)</p>
<p>...role can change—just as the Holy Spirit chooses, and as new people step up to responsibility. There are no cookie-cutter callings! Some will defy definition.</p>	<p>6:13</p>	<p>Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon, ... Lucius, ... Manaen ... and Saul. While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off. Acts 13:1-3 (NIV)</p>
<p>Elders don’t supply all of a congregation’s ministry. Equipping everyone means drawing others out and making room. Likewise, not only...</p>	<p>6:26</p>	<p>What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up. 1 Corinthians 14:26 (NIV)</p> <p>Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. Colossians 3:16 (NIV)</p>
<p>...Prophets speak prophetically.</p>	<p>6:38</p>	<p>For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged. 1 Corinthians 14:31 (NIV)</p> <p>Therefore, my brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid</p>

		speaking in tongues. 1 Corinthians 14:39 (NIV)
Not only apostles or evangelists preach the gospel. Faith and heaven's gifts don't require titles or turf. Nor does God require...	6:41	A great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria. ... Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. Acts 8:1-4 (NIV) The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. 1 Timothy 5:17 (NIV) But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist , discharge all the duties of your ministry. 2 Timothy 4:5 (NIV)
...a seminary degree. Growing up with Jesus in a local congregation should be add up to more than a seminary education! Tradition too often reduces all this to a professional sage on a stage, addressing an audience of spectators.	6:51	When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men , they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. Acts 4:13 (NIV)
But when a congregation functions as the living body God designed, they look together to their Head, and the Holy...	7:11	From him the whole body , co-joined and made to go together by what every joint supplies, according to the functioning in measure of every single part , produces the increase of the body, so as to build itself up in love. Ephesians 4:16 (Chamberlain)
...Spirit distributes an endless, reliable supply of spiritual gifts and substance—just as he chooses—and God's...	7:20	Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good . To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines. 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 (NIV)
manifold wisdom finds expression through many mouths and lives.	7:29	His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God

So, who's in charge?		should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. Ephesians 3:10-11 (NIV)
Always Jesus,	7:38	Christ ... the head , from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow. Colossians 2:17,19 (NIV)
...through the Holy Spirit and...	7:41	For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body ... and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. 1 Corinthians 12:13 (NIV)
...the facilitating help of those he has gifted and made willing to serve—	7:43	And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues." 1 Corinthians 12:28 (NIV)
...in a body of believers who all shoulder the responsibility of building up one another	7:48	In Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. Romans 12:5-8 (NIV)
out of love for Jesus and his people. God bless you! We pray that you will be motivated...	7:54	Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 4:10-11 (NIV)

<p>...to find in Jesus and in God's word everything you need to take your place in his marvelous Body!</p>	<p>8:04</p>	<p>God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body. 1 Corinthians 12:18-20 (NIV)</p> <p><i>Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.</i> 1 Corinthians 12:27 (NIV)</p>
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