

“How to Have Peace Between Shepherds and Sheep” 4/18/10

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

1 Thessalonians- “Living a Life of Focus in Expectation of Jesus’ Return”

Practical Considerations in the church as we wait for the Lord’s Return

POINT 1- Peace will occur when the SHEPHERDS fulfill their responsibilities

- A. The shepherds will be known for their diligent LABOR
(Who are the ‘those’?; “among you” eliminates priesthood)

Elders- spiritually mature men who demonstrate wisdom and knowledge
Overseer (bishop) - men filled with oversight and authority
Pastors- are to lead, guide, feed, protect the sheep
“Leaders”- those who are guiding and leading the way by example
Deacons- ones who serve the church in an official capacity

- B. The shepherds are those who are set before you by the LORD
(Ephesians 4:11-12; 1 Peter 5:1-4; 1 Cor 12:28-appointed)

- C. The shepherds are those who are required to provide ADMONISHMENT
(Proverbs 12:1; Romans 15:14; 1 Corinthians 5:12; 4:14 not to shame...)

"It isn't my responsibility to judge outsiders, but it certainly is your responsibility to judge those inside the church who are sinning." (1Cor 5:12)

Jennifer Knapp- maybe not done in love and concern

Going God wants us to appreciate those who lead us!

Deeper ***ILL- parishioner called and thanked each of us***

POINT 2- Peace will occur when the SHEEP fulfill their responsibilities

- A. The sheep should appreciate and hold the leaders in the highest REGARD
(opposite of looking down- 1 Timothy 4:12)

- B. The sheep should appreciate the leaders with a spirit of LOVE
(1 Peter 4:8; Proverbs 10:12; 19:11; “Non sinful tendencies”)

- C. The sheep should appreciate the leaders because of their WORK

"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you." (Hebrews 13:17)

Going God wants us to hold in the highest regard those who guide and lead!

Deeper