

ADMONITION TO LEADERS

Scripture reference: 1 Peter 5:1-4:

Taking the Oversight: Now I'm not sure of what oversight means in the Greek, Hebrew or Latin, but as I read, I have to rely upon the Holy Ghost to teach me.

\*Explain Oversight as it relates to driving a car\*

Not by Constraint: Constraint = compulsion. Now here again I will not become so deep or theological by trying to define this word in the Latin, Hebrew or Greek, but I will just speak as given by the Holy Spirit of God.

Constraint means Compulsion. Sometimes there are leaders, elders, pastors... what have you that are on a power trip. They will say things like: "well I'm the leader here", "I'm the head", and, "I'm the pastor". And because of this mind set, they tend to make impulsive, irrational and self interest decisions that will lead to disaster, confusion and maybe even the demise of the church.

The word says; "not by constraint or compulsion. Compulsion means an irresistible impulse to perform an irrational act. Irresistible, irrational: sounds like the characteristics of a crazy person. In fact, the word compulsive is a derivative of the word compulsion, and compulsive means; having the power to compel, caused by psychological compulsion or obsession, (dealing with the mind).

"You sit here!" "You go there!" "Do this!" "Do that!" Obsessed with the need for control...for power!!

Also keep in mind that constraint also means to do something, or be made to do something by force. So if we viewed it from that prospective, we can see that Paul is exhorting the Elders not only to take on this responsibility willingly, but also not to use force or control over those that the Father has put under their care.

\*Continue to read\* "Neither as being lords over **God's heritage**": You see no matter how many people that the Lord places under you, **they are not yours!!!** The Father has entrusted them to you to teach and instruct them in the way and the doctrine of Christ, to protect them from wolves in sheep clothing, from false brethren and from those that would creep in unawares and undetected by the sheep.

That is why leaders that have the heart and motivation to please God must be on the alert as a shepherd who Jesus said is not a hireling, but one who cares for the sheep.

\*Continue to read\* So you see when you have been the type of leader that the Father has called you to be, (a shepherd after God's own heart) and when you have served the flock with the right mind set, with God's heart and with pure motives, and because you have stayed faithful and not compromised, but have followed the leading of the Holy Spirit, then awaits the promise...."And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away".

I hope that this brief study and insight has helped and blessed you. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at: [vessalsofmercey@yahoo.com](mailto:vessalsofmercey@yahoo.com);

Yours in Christ;  
Brother Michael Williams