

1 Peter Series

Lesson #144

September 13, 2018

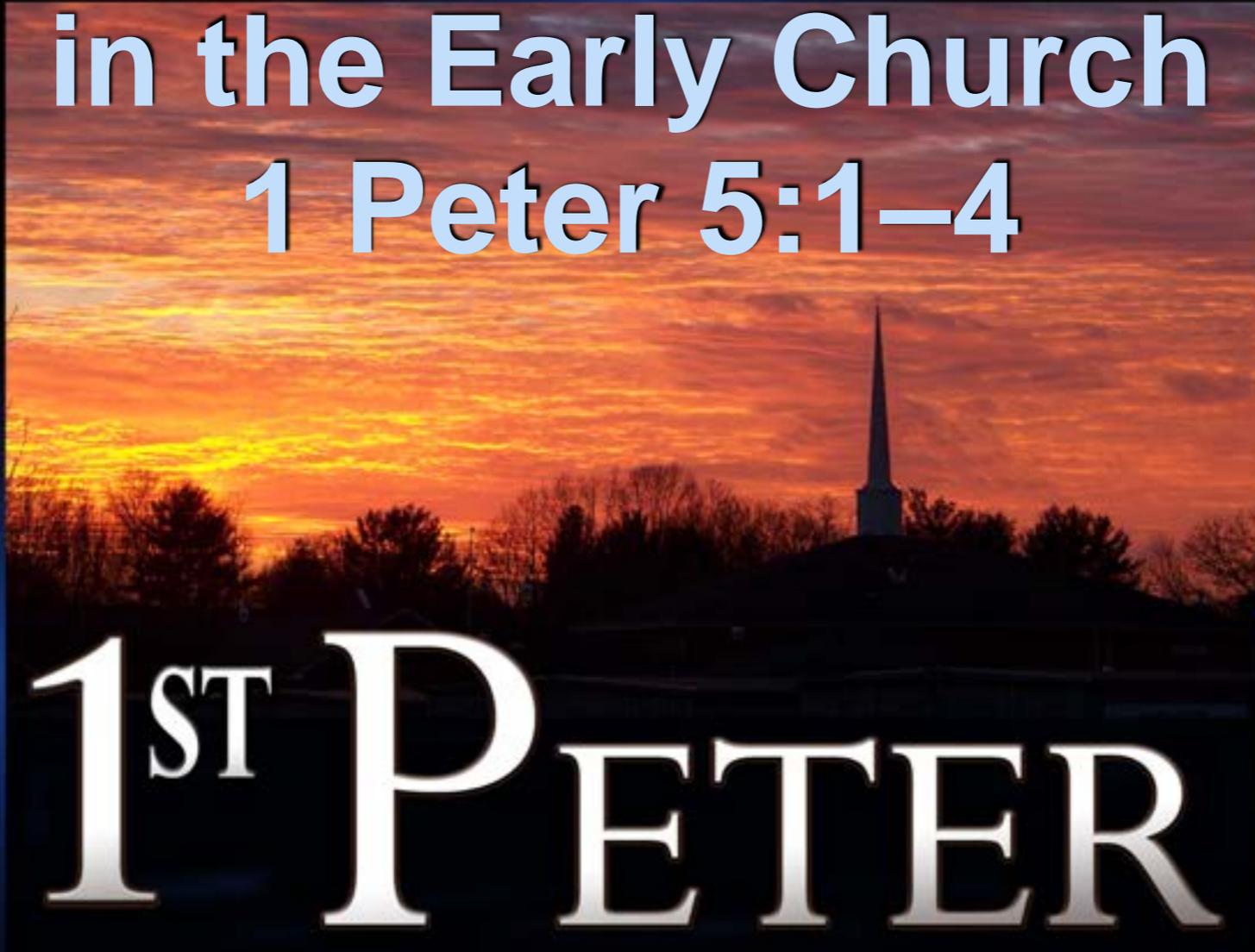
Dean Bible Ministries

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Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.

**Leading the Church:
Developing Leadership
in the Early Church**

1 Peter 5:1–4



1ST PETER

**LIVING IN LIGHT
OF ETERNITY**

1 Pet. 5:1, “The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed:

1 Pet. 5:2, “Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly;

1 Pet. 5:3, “nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;

1 Pet. 5:4, “and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.”

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**πρεσβύτερος *presbuteros*
acc masc plur comp older;
elder**

1 Pet. 5:2, “Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers,”

**ποιμαίνω *poimainō* aor act impera 2
plur to shepherd, feed**

**ἐπισκοπέω *episkopeō* pres act part
masc plur nom to manage, oversee,
take care of**

**What the Bible Teaches
About**

***The Church
Ecclesiology***



Questions

- 1. Terminology**
- 2. When did the Church begin?**
- 3. How did leadership develop in the early Church as described in Acts?**
- 4. How did leadership develop in the early centuries of the Church Age?
What are the 3 basic forms of Church government?**
- 5. What are the Scriptural terms used for biblical leaders?**
- 6. What are the roles of deacons and elders?**

1. Terminology

**ἐκκλησία *ekklēsia* congregation,
assembly, church**

**a. Used over 100× in the Old Testament,
Deut. 31:30; Judg. 20:2**

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**ἐκκλησία *ekklēsia* congregation,
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- a. Used over 100× in the Old Testament,
Deut. 31:30; Judg. 20:2**

- b. *MM*: It is the Septuagint (LXX) term for
the community of Israel, whether
assembled or no. In the Gospels the
word is confined to Matt. 16:18; 18:17.**

The Universal Church, the Body of Christ

Col. 1:24, “I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church,”

Col. 2:19, “and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.”

Eph. 5:23, “For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.”

1 Cor. 12:27, “Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.”

Eph. 4:4, “There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;”

Eph. 4:12, “for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,”

2. When did the Church begin?

Col. 1:24, “I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church,”

Col. 2:19, “and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.”

1. The Church did not exist in the Old Testament. Paul makes it clear that it was not foreseen or prophesied, but was a “mystery,” a previously unrevealed truth, that Jew and Gentile would be united in one body.

***In Reformed theology–Lutheran, Roman Catholic, and other theological systems–there is a spiritual form of the church in the Old Testament and the Church in the New Testament is spiritual Israel.**

Eph. 3:2, “if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you,

Eph. 3:3, “how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already,

Eph. 3:4, “by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ),”

Eph. 3:5, “which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets:

Eph. 3:6, “that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,”

Matt. 16:18, “And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church [future], and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Matt. 16:19, “And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

The Church could not begin until after Christ's death and resurrection.

Acts 20:28, “Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.”

περιποιέω *peripoieō*

aor mid indic 3 sing

“to gain possession of something, acquire, obtain, gain for oneself”

Eph. 4:8, “Therefore He says: ‘*When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men.*’ ” ...

Eph. 4:11, “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

Eph. 4:12, “for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,”

Eph. 1:22, “And He [God the Father] put all things under His [Christ’s] feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,

Eph. 1:23, “which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”

References that indicate a beginning at Pentecost.

Acts 5:14, “And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women,”

Acts 2:47, “praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.” [Majority Text has “the church” in contrast to the 4 basic Egyptian manuscripts]

Acts 11:15, “And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning.” [cf. Acts 10:46]

Objections from Hyper-dispensationalists or Ultra-dispensationalism

**These put the beginning of the church after
the day of Pentecost.**

**According to them, not earlier than Acts 9
when Paul was saved. Others not until
after Acts 28.**

**1. The Church as the body of Christ
replaces the physical body of Christ
following His ascension and the descent
of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2.**

2. Entry into the body of Christ is performed by God the Holy Spirit with the Baptism of the Holy Spirit at the instant of faith in Christ.

Rom. 6:3–6; 1 Cor. 12:13

1 Cor. 12:13, “For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.”

3. This first occurs with the descent of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2:1–4 as evidenced with the speaking in unlearned languages.

This occurs with the Gentiles in Acts 10:46; the Samaritans in Acts 8:17; and the Old Testament believers represented by the disciples of John the Baptist in Acts 19:6.

The Church existed before Acts 9, which Paul persecuted.

Acts 9:4, “Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?’ ”

Gal. 1:22, “And I was unknown by face to the churches of Judea which were in Christ.”

Gentiles were added to the Church in Acts 10.

Eph. 3:6, “that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,”

Col. 1:26, “the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints.

Col. 1:27, “To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

Leadership in the Church in *Acts*

1. The leadership of the early church resided in the apostles.

Eph. 2:20, “having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,”

Acts 2:37, “Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, ‘Men and brethren, what shall we do?’ ”

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Acts 2:42, “And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.”

Acts 4:34, “Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold,

Acts 4:35, “and laid them at the apostles’ feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.”

Acts 6:1, “Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution.

Acts 6:2, “Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, ‘It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables.’ ”

διακονέω *diakoneō*

pres act infin

to serve, wait on

Acts 6:3, “Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business;”

καθίστημι *kathistēmi*

fut act indic 1 plur

**to put down, bring to,
put in charge, make**

Acts 6:5, “And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch,”

**ἐκλέγομαι *eklegomai*
aor mid indic 3 plur to
choose, select**