

A last Word! Or Two. Maybe Three.¹
1 Peter 5:1-14

A word to the leaders about servant leadership

¹ So I exhort the elders among you,

Credentials!

as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ,
as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed:

The key word is “shepherd!”

² shepherd the flock of God that is among you,
exercising oversight,

not under compulsion,
but willingly, as God would have you;

not for shameful gain,
but eagerly;

³ not domineering over those in your charge,
but being examples to the flock.

An everlasting reward!

⁴ And when the chief Shepherd appears,
you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

On the other hand!

⁵ Likewise, you who are younger,
be subject to the elders.

The key word is “humility” unless you want to go to war with God.

Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another,
for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

The command with a promise.

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore,
under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you,

The blessing of humble faith; you can cast all your cares upon Him!

⁷ casting all your anxieties on him,
because he cares for you.

Watch out for the Devil!

⁸ Be sober-minded; be watchful.

Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion,
seeking someone to devour.

Don’t give into him an inch!

⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith,

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knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

Again, the promise!

¹⁰ And after you have suffered a little while,
the God of all grace,
who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ,
will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

Let's give Him all the glory!

¹¹ To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Recognizing faithful partners:

¹² By Silvanus,
a faithful brother as I regard him,
I have written briefly to you,
exhorting and declaring that this is the true grace of God.

One last exhortation!

Stand firm in it.

Some final greetings . . .

¹³ She who is at Babylon,
who is likewise chosen,
sends you greetings,
and so does Mark, my son.

. . . and a command we can only obey right now from a distance! 😊

¹⁴ Greet one another with the kiss of love.
Peace to all of you who are in Christ.