

Elder Installation Service
Acts 20:17-38 / Hebrews 13:7-21
Sunday, February 19, 2012

INTRODUCTION

- The Mission of the Church...

- **Matthew 28:18-20**

- **Acts 14:19-23**

1. A Charge to Elders (Acts 20:17-38)

- a. Living Servant Lives (**vv.17-25**)
 - i. Serving the Lord (**vv.17-19**)
 - i. With humility
 - ii. With humanity
 - iii. With trials
 - iv. **Philippians 2:1-11**
 - ii. With courage (**v.20a**)
 - iii. With organization (**v.20b**)
 - iv. With the Gospel (**vv.21-25**)
 - (a) Impartial
 - (i) Not a hint of racism
 - (ii) Not a hint of bias
 - (b) Missional
 - (i) Spirit leads
 - (ii) Spirit has gone before
 - (iii) Devotion & direction are inseparable (exemplified) - careful connection with the Word

- (c) Physical
 - (i) Mortality
 - (ii) Thoroughly rooted in the grace of God, finish the race

b. Living Shepherding Lives (**vv.26-38**)

- i. Careful attention to the task (**v.26**)
- ii. Careful attention to doctrine (**v.27**)
- iii. Careful attention to life (**vv.28-30**)
 - (a) Guarding self
 - (b) Guarding the church
 - (i) Promote the gospel
 - (ii) Protect against falsehood
- iv. Careful care (**v.31**)
 - (a) No punch clock
 - (b) All in
- v. Careful motivation (**vv.32-38**)
 - (a) Sanctification leading to glorification
 - (b) Not for earthly gain
 - (c) Giving lives
 - (i) All of this is to put Christ on display
 - (ii) All of this is to promote Christ in His people

2. A Charge to the Congregation (Hebrews 13:7-21)

- a. Remember (**v.7a**)
 - i. Who they are
 - ii. What they do
- b. Consider (**vv.7a-8**)
 - i. Their way of life (inspect)

- ii. Model their way of life (imitate)
- iii. They should help you treasure Christ
- c. Listen (**vv.9-15**)
 - i. To their teaching
 - ii. For grace - your hearts will drift toward legalism
 - iii. For future grace
 - iv. **Matthew Henry**, *“Having showed that keeping to the Levitical law would, according to its own rules, keep men from the Christian altar, the apostle adds, Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp; go forth from the ceremonial law, from sin, from the world, and from ourselves. Living by faith in Christ, set apart to God through his blood, let us willingly separate from this evil world. Sin, sinners, nor death, will not suffer us to continue long here; therefore let us go forth now by faith and seek in Christ the rest and peace which this world cannot afford us.”*
- d. Do good (**v.16**)
- e. Obey & Submit (**v.17**)
 - i. Obey - “to cause to come to a particular point of view or course of action”
 - ii. Submit - “to give way; to yield”
 - iii. As unto the Lord
 - iv. For their joy
 - v. For your good
- f. Pray (**vv.18-19**)
- g. Benediction (**vv.20-21**)
 - i. You have a Chief Shepherd
 - ii. He uses men to equip you to glorify His name on earth
 - iii. His pleasure will be realized

- (a) This is what it’s all about
- (b) His pleasure is His glory
- (c) It is then, for His pleasure, that all the means for His glory be employed, and this includes the leadership of godly men to remind us of God’s pleasure
- (d) It is His pleasure to sustain us in mutual prayer...

RESPONSE

- Song
- Elder prayer
 - **Acts 6:4**
 - **James 5:14**
 - **Ephesians 4:11-16**