

STUDY GUIDE ON ELDERSHIP

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<u>Passage</u>	<u>Term</u>	#	<u>Reference</u>			24 in Rev	<u>Church Office</u>	<u>Scope</u> <u>City/ House Area</u>
			S	Pl	Old/ Older			
1. Mt. 15:2	πρεσβύτερος	pl			x			
2. Mt. 16:21	"	pl				x		
3. Mt. 21:23	"	pl				x		
4. Mt. 26:3	"	pl				x		
5. Mt. 26:47	"	pl				x		
6. Mt. 26:57	"	pl				x		
7. Mt. 26:59	"	pl				x		
8. Mt. 27:1	"	pl				x		
9. Mt. 27:3	"	pl				x		
10. Mt. 27:12	"	pl				x		
11. Mt. 27:20	"	pl				x		
12. Mt. 27:41	"	pl				x		
13. Mt. 28:12	"	pl				x		
14. Mk. 7:3	"	pl				x		
15. Mk. 7:5	"	pl				x		
16. Mk. 8:31	"	pl				x		
17. Mk. 11:27	"	pl				x		
18. Mk. 14:43	"	pl				x		
19. Mk. 14:53	"	pl				x		
20. Mk. 15:1	"	pl				x		
21. Lk. 1:18	πρεσβύτης	s						
22. Lk. 7:3	πρεσβύτερος	pl				x		
23. Lk. 9:22	"	pl				x		
24. Lk. 15:25	" adj.	s	older					
25. Lk. 20:1	"	pl				x		
26. Lk. 22:52	"	pl				x		
27. Lk. 22:66	πρεσβυτέριον			x				
28. Jn. 8:9	"	pl	older					
29. Acts 2:17	"	pl	old					
30. Acts 4:5	"	pl			x			
31. Acts 4:8	"	pl			x			
32. Acts 4:23	"	pl			x			
33. Acts 6:12	"	pl			x			
34. Acts 11:30	"				elder			
35. Acts 14:23	"				x		Antioch	
36. Acts 15:2	"				x		x	
37. Acts 15:4	"				x		x	
38. Acts 15:6	"				x		x	
39. Acts 15:22	"				x		Jerusalem	
40. Acts 15:23	"				x		x	
41. Acts 16:4	"				x		x	
42. Acts 20:17	"				x		Ephesus	
43. Acts 21:18	"				x		Jerusalem	

<u>Passage</u>	<u>Term</u>	#	S	Pl	<u>Reference</u>	Old/ Older	Men Old	Jewish Elders	24 in Rev	Church Office	<u>Scope</u>
											City/ Area
44. Acts 22:5	πρεσβυτέριον							x			
45. Acts 23:14	πρεσβύτερος			pl				x			
46. Acts 24:1	"			pl				x			
47. Acts 25:15	"			pl				x			
48. 1 Tim. 4:14	πρεσβυτέριον										eldership (Derbe?)
49. 1 Tim. 5:1	πρεσβύτερος			pl	old						
50. 1 Tim. 5:2	πρεσβυτέρα			pl	old (f)						
51. 1 Tim. 5:17	πρεσβύτερος			pl							elder (Ephesus)
52. 1 Tim. 5:19	"		s							x	(Ephesus)
53. Titus 1:5	"			pl						x	cities of Crete
54. Titus 2:2	πρεσβύτης			pl	old						
55. Titus 2:3	πρεσβύτις			pl	old (f)						
56. Phil 9	πρεσβύτης		s		old						
57. Heb. 11:2	πρεσβύτερος					x					
58. James 5:14	"			pl						elder	?
59. 1 Pet. 5:1	"			pl						x	Asia Minor
60. 1 Pet. 5:1 συμπρεσβύτερος		s									apostle
61. 1 Pet. 5:5	πρεσβύτερος			pl	old						
62. 2 Jn. 1	"							x			
63. 3 Jn. 1	"							x			
64. Rev. 4:4	"					x					
65. Rev. 4:10	"					x					
66. Rev. 5:5	"					x					
67. Rev. 5:6	"					x					
68. Rev. 5:8	"					x					
69. Rev. 5:11	"					x					
70. Rev. 5:14	"					x					
71. Rev. 7:11	"					x					
72. Rev. 7:13	"					x					
73. Rev. 11:16	"					x					
74. Rev. 14:3	"					x					
75. Rev. 19:4	"					x					
a. Acts 13:1?	διδάσκαλος			pl							elder? Antioch
b. Rom. 12:7?	διδάσκων	s									elder? (Rome)
c. Eph. 4:11?	ποιμήν			pl				x ?			(Ephesus)
d. 1 Tim. 1:7?	διδάσκαλος			pl				x ?			x
e. 1 Tim. 5:1?	νομοδιδάσκλος			pl				?			
f. Heb. 13:7?	ήγούμενοι			pl				elder?			?
g. Heb. 13:17?	"			pl				x ?			?
				pl				x ?			?

<u>Passage</u>	<u>Term</u>	#	<u>Reference</u>			Jewish Elders	24 in Rev	Church Office	<u>Scope</u>	
			S	Pl	Old/ Older	Men of Old			City/ Area	House
A. Acts 1:20	ἐπίσκοπή								(apostle)	
B. Acts 20:28	ἐπίσκοπος		pl					elder	Ephesus	
C. Phil. 1:1	"		pl					x	Philippi	
D. 1 Tim. 3:1	ἐπισκοπή							x	(Ephesus)	
E. 1 Tim. 3:2	ἐπίσκοπος	s						x	(Ephesus)	
F. Titus 1:7	"	s						x	(Cities of Crete)	
G. 1 Pet. 2:25	"	s						Lord		

Observations

General observations on the work sheet above

1. There is no mention of elders of household churches.
2. Elders are always at the city level. That leaves unaddressed how the elders of a city related to multiple household churches in cities like Rome, where there were at least four house churches at the time Paul addressed his letter to the saints there.
3. Every example of an elder is local, and every local church whose organization is mentioned had elders.
4. Elders existed in Jewish and Gentile territories.
5. Elders existed in connection with the work of Peter (1 Peter 5:1) and the other original apostles as well as Paul.

The statistics on πρεσβύτερος and its cognates are as follows:

- (a) Church office: Acts 11:30; 14:23; 15:2, 4, 6, 22, 23; 16:4; 20:17; 21:18; 1 Timothy 4:14 (πρεσβυτέριον); 5:17, 19; Titus 1:5; James 5:14; 1 Peter 5:1 (συμπρεσβύτερος); 2 John 1; 3 John 1
- (b) the references to apostles (possibly to be included in the first listing): 1 Peter 5:1 (συμπρεσβύτερος); 2 John 1; 3 John 1
- (c) Jewish elders: Matthew 16:21; 21:23; 26:3, 47, 57, 59; 27:1, 3, 12, 20, 41; 28:12; Mark 8:31; 11:27; 14:43, 53; 15:1; Luke 7:3; 9:22; 20:1; 22:52, 66 (πρεσβυτέριον); Acts 4:5, 8, 23; 6:12; 22:5 (πρεσβύτης); 23:14; 24:1; 25:15; (elders, tradition of: Matthew 15:2; Mark 7:3, 5)
- (d) men of old: Hebrews 11:2 (see *in loco* F. F. Bruce, *The Epistle to the Hebrews: The English Text with Introduction, Exposition and Notes in The New International Commentary on the New Testament*, ed. by F. F. Bruce)
- (e) old (wo)men: Luke 15:25; John 8:9; Acts 2:17; 1 Timothy 5:1, 2 (fem.); 1 Peter 5:5; πρεσβύτερος: Luke 1:18; Titus 2:2; Philemon 9; πρεσβύτις: Titus 2:3
- (f) twenty-four elders of the Apocalypse: 4:4, 10; 5:5, 6, 8, 11, 14; 7:11, 13; 11:16; 14:3; 19:4.