

BIBLICAL LEADERSHIP LOGISTICS

How Israel's Leadership Structure Was Established

Moses' father-in-law said to him, "What you are doing is not good. You and the people with you will certainly wear yourselves out, for the thing is too heavy for you. You are not able to do it alone. Now obey my voice; I will give you advice, and God be with you!"

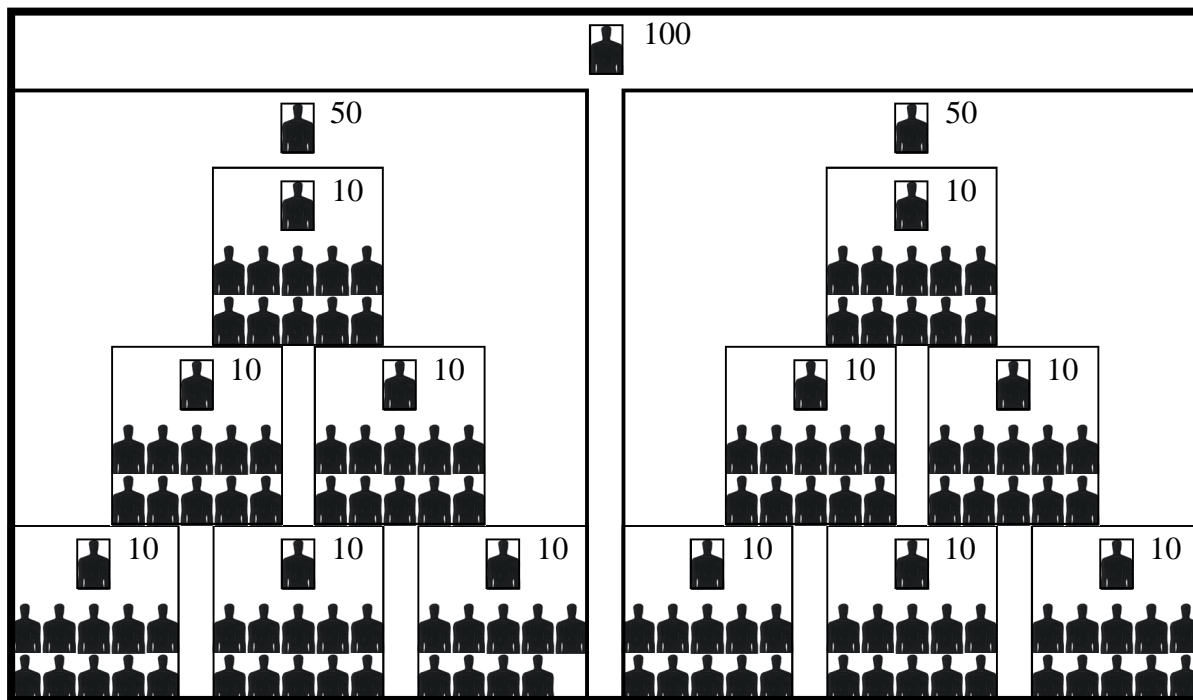
"You shall represent the people before God and bring their cases to God, and you shall warn them about the statutes and the laws, and make them know the way in which they must walk and what they must do.

"Moreover, look for able men from all the people, men who fear God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe, and place such men over the people as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens. And let them judge the people at all times.

"Every great matter they shall bring to you, but any small matter they shall decide themselves. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you. If you do this, God will direct you, you will be able to endure, and all this people also will go to their place in peace."

So Moses listened to the voice of his father-in-law and did all that he had said. Moses chose able men out of all Israel and made them heads over the people, chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens. And they judged the people at all times. Any hard case they brought to Moses, but any small matter they decided themselves.

Exodus 18:17-26 (ESV)



QUICK START GUIDE TO NEW TESTAMENT SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

- One of the spiritual leader types "gifted" to the church by Jesus Christ upon His ascension back to heaven was the "Shepherd/Teacher" (Ephesians 4:11-16).
- These "Shepherds" (a.k.a. "Pastors") or "Overseers" (a.k.a. "Bishops") or "Elders" (a.k.a. "Presbyters") were "to shepherd" the local flock on behalf of Jesus, the Chief Shepherd; including "being on guard" against spiritual predators that might attack the flock from without & within (1 Peter 5:1-4; Acts 20:28).
- It would appear that during the establishment of Christianity these spiritual leaders were initially appointed in each church by an "Apostle" or an "Evangelist" sent by an "Apostle" (Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5). Presumably, those spiritual leaders were responsible for appointing those who would replace them.
- "Elders" were considered to be "on call" to pray for those within the church who were sick (James 5:14).
- Certain "Elders" who "worked hard at the Word & teaching" were to be paid (1 Timothy 5:17-18). This sounds very much like the modern-day "Preacher."
- In composing Titus 1 & 1 Timothy 3, Paul listed just over twenty distinct characteristics of a godly "Overseer" or "Elder." Those characteristics are listed on the reverse of this sheet.

TRAITS OF A GODLY “OVERSEER”/“ELDER”
(As translated by Thomas J. Short)

TITUS 1 <i>(kept in order)</i>	1 TIMOTHY 3 <i>(order adjusted to parallel Titus 1)</i>
1:6a If one is un-indictable;	3:2a It is therefore necessary for the Overseer to be un-indictable;
1:6b a one woman man;	3:2b a one woman man;
1:6b having faithful children - not chargeable with excessive living or un-submissive behavior - 1:7a for it is necessary for the Overseer to be un-indictable as God's household manager;	3:4 leading his own household well, having children in submission with all dignity (3:5 but if he doesn't know how to lead his own household, how can he take care of God's assembly?);
1:7b not self-pleasing;	
1:7c not prone to wrath;	
1:7d not a wino;	3:3a not a wino;
1:7e not a bully;	3:3b not a bully;
	3:3c but rather, willing to give way;
	3:3d non-combative;
1:7f not disgracefully devoted to gain;	3:3e without silver as <i>his</i> friend;
1:8a but rather, a friend to strangers;	3:2f a friend to strangers;
1:8b a friend to good stuff;	
	3:2c clear-headed;
1:8c sound-minded;	3:2d sound-minded;
	3:2e organized;
1:8d righteous;	
1:8e holy	
1:8f self-controlled	
1:9 holding tight to the trustworthy Word, in accordance with the teaching, so that he might be able to encourage by healthy teaching and to expose detractors, 1:10 for there are many un-submissive persons, empty talkers and mind-deluders (especially those from the circumcision) 1:10 who must be shut up since they are overturning the whole household, teaching things which they must not, for the sake of shameful gain.	3:2g able to teach
	3:6 not a newbie, so that he might not be so wrapped up in smoke that he fall into the Devil's judgment;
	3:7 but it is necessary that he also have a good testimony from those outside so that he might not fall into the Devil's reproach and snare.