

Did the Early Church Have Priests, Bishops, and Other Church “Officers” that Held Positions of Authority?

(Copyright ©OneTruthOneLaw.com 2008-2011)

Elders were appointed based on the service they were already providing to the church (Ac. 14:23; 16:4; Ti. 1:5; 1Tim. 3:8-13). The elders did not have authority to “lord it over the brethren” (Mt. 20:25-28; Mk. 10:42-45). This is a characteristic associated with the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which Christ hated (Rev. 2:6, 15). Instead, elders are to be helpers of the brethren and give guidance when needed (2Cor. 1:24). They are not to be ordained without first being examined and proven over time (1Tim. 3:1-13).

This document is the collaborative work of individuals who believe God's truth should be given freely (Mt. 10:8; 1Cor. 2:12; 2Cor. 11:7; Rom. 10:14-21) and the message of the one true God should be made available to all nations (Mt. 24:14) as a prerequisite to the return of Jesus Christ as King of kings (Mt. 17:10; 19:17; Mk. 9:11; Lk. 1:17; Rev. 19:11-16).

To protect the integrity of this document and prevent alteration and misapplication of its contents in whole or in part, this document is protected under copyright law.

Copyright: This document may be freely copied and distributed provided it is copied without alteration, addition, deletion, or charges, and includes the name of the publisher and this copyright. Quotations may be taken from this document provided the name of the publisher is cited.

All Rights Reserved
(Copyright ©OneTruthOneLaw.com 2008-2011)