





THE ETERNAL KINGDOM  
“THE NEW TESTAMENT  
CHURCH- ORGANIZATION  
& GOVERNMENT”

Lesson #9  
5/8/2019

## Organization and Government

### Lesson #9

May 8, 2019

1. Read paragraphs 1-3 on pages 36-37 and discuss.
  - a. What model do we have of leadership in the first century church? (Acts 14:23; Tit.1:5; Php.1:1).
    - a. Elders and Deacons.
  - b. What was the function of an elder?
    - a. Exercise oversight.
  - c. According to Acts 15:1-6, who worked together to resolve the issue of circumcision for Gentile converts?
    - a. Apostles and Elders worked in harmony.
  - d. What is the scriptural number of "elders" for each congregation?
    - a. More than one.
2. On page 37, in the paragraph, "In order to fully understand..." we learn the following:
  - a. Paul called for the elders from Ephesus to meet with him (Acts 20:17)
  - b. Elders are also called bishops or overseers (Acts 20:17, 28).
  - c. Paul revealed the same to Titus (Tit.1:5, 7).
  - d. Elders are also referred to as "pastors" (Greek term is "Poimain") (Eph.4:11).
  - e. In Acts 20:17, and (v.28) we see all three Greek terms that describe an elder "elder" – "presbyteros" (v.17); "overseer" – "episkopos" (v.28); "shepherd" or "pastor" – "poimain" (v.28).
  - f. In Paul's letter to Timothy, where can the qualifications be found?
    - a. First Timothy chapter 3.

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1. On pages 37-40 beginning with “The idea that James...” and finishing the section on “O & G”; we learn the following:
  - a. There is no scriptural evidence do we see of men like James, Timothy, and Titus as monarchal bishops ruling a diocese.
  - b. Attempts have been made by sighting Revelation ch.2-3 and the usage of the term “angels”. What explanation does Mattox give that disqualifies a single bishop ruling the church?

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2. The Jerusalem conference was elaborated upon. What are some things we learn?
  - a. Autonomy.
  - b. The Apostles were still alive and their vote definitely counted, but yet they worked in harmony with the elders.
  - c. Their decisions fell in the realm of obedience to God's plan to convert all souls. Various sets of rules for various sets of people would have created division rather than unity.
  - d. We see charity and benevolence when the need had arisen among the churches. This would not have been possible if souls felt segregated by different laws for different people.

## Worship of the Church

1. What was the significant day Christians assembled to worship God in spirit and in truth (Jn.4:24)?
2. What acts of worship do we see?
3. What do most scholars agree on regarding music in worship?