

217 N. ORCHARD BLVD FAIR GROVE, MO 65648

Sunday - 10AM and 11AM

Wednesday - 7PM

fairgrovecofc.org

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FAIR GROVE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Old Covenant Warnings

Of New Covenant Problems



Shepherds Who Feed Themselves

Ezekiel 34

Let's learn about the
expectations God has for
those who lead His people!



Shepherds Who Feed Themselves

- ◉ "Shepherd" - Hebrew: "Raah" -
Pronounced - Raw-aw
- ◉ Figuratively - To rule, feed,
pasture.
- ◉ "Shepherd" - Greek: "Poimaino"
Pronounced - poy-mah-ee-no
- ◉ Figuratively - To rule, feed,
tend.



Shepherds Who Feed Themselves

- (Vs 1-2) - Who were the shepherds of Israel?
 - Priests, Levites
- Problem Identified: The priests and levites are feeding themselves, rather than tending the sheep.
- (Vs 3) - The shepherds are enjoying abundance, while the sheep starve.

"Woe to the shepherds of Israel who feed themselves!
Should not the shepherds feed the flocks?"
Ezekiel 34:2

Shepherds Who Feed Themselves

- ◉ (Vs 4) - Accusations against the Shepherds!
 - ◉ They have not strengthened the weak.
 - ◉ They have not healed the sick.
 - ◉ They have not bound up the broken or sought the lost.
 - ◉ They have ruled with force and cruelty.

"The weak you have not strengthened, nor have you healed those who were sick, nor bound up the broken, nor brought back what was driven away, nor sought what was lost; but with force and cruelty you have ruled them."

(Ezekiel 34:4)

Shepherds Who Feed Themselves

• (Vs 4) - Accusations against the Shepherds!

• They have not strengthened the weak.

• They have not healed the sick.

• They have not bound up the broken or sought the lost.

• They have ruled with force and cruelty.

Instructions to NT Shepherds

Acts 20:35

James 5:14-15

1 Cor. 5:4-5, 2 Cor. 2:6-8

1 Peter 5:3

Shepherds Who Feed Themselves

• How do the qualifications of NT Shepherds protect against these consequences?

• (Vs 5) - The flock is scattered.

• (Vs 19) - The flock is malnourished.

• (Vs 22) - The flock is unprotected.

Titus 1:6-9

- Blameless
- Faithful children
- Not self-willed
- Not quick-tempered
- Not given to wine
- Not violent
- Not greedy
- Hospitable
- Lover of good
- Sober-minded
- Just
- Holy
- Self-controlled
- Holding fast the Word

1 Timothy 3:2-7

- Husband of one wife
- Temperate
- Good behavior
- Able to teach
- Gentle
- Not quarrelsome
- Not covetous
- Rules his house well
- Reverent children
- Experienced
- A good testimony among those outside

Shepherds Who Feed Themselves

- God explains the way He shepherds.
 - (Vs 15) - God feeds the flock.
 - (Vs 16) - God seeks the lost, binds the broken, and strengthens the sick.
- God will set up the Chief Shepherd
 - "My servant David" - David is long dead, must refer to Jesus. (1 Peter 5:4).

God has a genuine concern for the safety and health of the flock. He prioritizes acting on it.

Shepherds Who Feed Themselves

- (Vs 30-31) - The shepherds, the sheep, and the pasture all belong to God!
- The Chief Shepherd, Jesus, works tirelessly to provide for the flocks.

The shepherd's job is so important because they have been delegated part of Jesus' job.

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Priests Who Are Corrupt

Malachi 2

Let's learn about the
expectations God has for His
"royal priesthood"



Priests Who Are Corrupt

- ◉ "Priests" Hebrew: Kohen - pronounced: Ko-hane
 - ◉ "Officiant although a layman."
- ◉ "Priesthood" Greek: hierateuma - pronounced: hee-er-at-yoo-mah
 - ◉ Fraternity of layman officiants. (1 Peter 2:9)



Priests Who Are Corrupt

- ◉ (Vs 2) - God is bringing a curse on the Levitical priests, descendants of Levi.
- ◉ (Vs 4-6) - God's covenant with Levi was good, but the priests have corrupted it.

"My covenant was with him, one of life and peace, And I gave them to him that he might fear Me; so he feared Me and was reverent before My name."
Malachi 2:5

Priests Who Are Corrupt

- They have departed from the way.
- They have caused many to stumble.
- They have shown partiality.
- They have committed idolatry.
- They have committed adultery.

"But you have departed from the way;
You have caused many to stumble at
the law."

"...Because you have not kept My ways,
But have shown partiality in the law."

"...he has married the daughter of a
foreign God."

"...Because the Lord has been witness
Between you and the wife of your
youth, With whom you have dealt
treacherously."

Priests Who Are Corrupt

- They have departed from the way.
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- They have shown partiality.
- They have committed idolatry.
- They have committed adultery.

2 Timothy 2:17-18

2 Timothy 2:18, 1
Corinthians 8:9-13

James 2:1-4

1 Corinthians 10:14, 22

2 Peter 2:12-14

Priests Who Are Corrupt

- What are some consequences of a corrupt priesthood?

Worship suffers (Mal. 1:7-8)

Knowledge suffers (2:7)

Posterity suffers (2:15)

Good and evil are switched (2:17)

God is not given His due glory (1:14)

Priests Who Are Corrupt

- The priests are hypocrites, going through the motions of righteousness but remaining inwardly wicked.
- Rather, the priests should be acting out God's will and glorifying Him.

"But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them," (2 Timothy 3:13-14).

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