VI. FOLLOWING SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY

Acts 20:17-38 Pg. 1114 March 31, 2019 Spiritual authority is a gift from God . . .

I. Church Leadership: A <u>BRIEF</u> History.

He sent and called to him the elders of the church. v. 17

• God has always chosen <u>ORDINARY</u> <u>PEOPLE</u> for leadership positions.

II. Spiritual Authority: A <u>PROFOUND</u> Gift.

. . .the flock among which the Holy Spirit made you overseers to shepherd the church of God. v. 28

• Managing the **<u>TREASURE</u>** of <u>GOD.</u>

III. Scriptural Limits: A <u>CLEAR</u> Boundary.

... anything that was profitable ... of repentance toward God and faith in our lord Jesus Christ. v. 20-21

The treasure is still <u>GOD'S</u> and must be managed . . .
1. within the limits of God's <u>ASSIGNMENT</u>.
2. within the limits of God's <u>CHARACTER</u>.

IV. Following and Leading: A <u>SPIRITUAL</u> Challenge.

Be on guard. . . savage wolves. . . some among your own selves . . . speaking perverse things. . . v. 28-31

Because of our own <u>REBELLIOUS HEART</u> We will be tempted to use what is <u>HOLY</u> for <u>OURSELVES</u>

That is why: Spiritual authority, both having it and following it, will always be a test that reveals our heart for God.

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