

## Scroll down for Cantonese

KINGS NORTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday 16th February 2025 10 am

Based on 15\_11\_01.doc the appointment of an elder

“Elders” our example

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Welcome

Hymn MP 1227 The splendour of the king (3:17)

Scripture Proverbs 3:1- 26 (page 637)

Prayer

Children’s talk Joshua vdm

Chorus MP135 Father in Heaven how we love you  
MP 151 For I’m building a people of power

Notices: Members mtg, DE 2pm,  
Fellowship lunch next Sunday

Recognition of Joshau Van De Merwe as Elder at KNBC

Prayer for Joshua

Lord’s prayer

Reading 1 Peter 5:1-4 (page 1220)  
(See also Ex 18:7-27, John 10)

Hymn MP 1261 Brothers sisters, let me serve you (-v5)

Sermon “Elders” our example

Hymn MP 498 O God our help in Ages past (Grace Com Ch)

Doxology Hebrews 13:20

Close -----

### Exordium

The Lord loves his Church. We see this as Peter stresses the need for leadership of his people in their suffering and trials. And leadership of the right kind. He urges the local church leaders to discharge their duties in a ready, enthusiastic and exemplary fashion, remembering to whom they are under-shepherds, the One who has promised to reward them for their faithful service.

**Be shepherds** Peter tells the elders; **Be shepherds** serve and serve willingly. be an example to others.

### So firstly ‘be shepherds’

“**To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow-elder**”. Peter as an Elder speaks about what Elders should do - and how they should be. He knows for as **a witness of Christ’s sufferings**, he **saw** Jesus’ perfect character when he was up against it.

Peter would never have forgotten the words of the Lord when he said “**Peter, do you love me?... Feed my sheep**”

Leaders are told “**Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care**”,

The commission, the command is to shepherd, and to shepherd as Jesus, the good shepherd, shepherded. And no-one loved people as Jesus loved people. He is described as **that great shepherd of the sheep** Heb 13:20.

In the world many leaders have no love for people, they only care for themselves. That can be particularly true in the religions of the world, for when Jesus says he is the **good shepherd** he is speaking to those who had spent years under the evil sway of bad shepherds.

Jesus was deeply concerned for people. **When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, why the concern? What did he see that prompted that compassion? because without being led well they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.** Mt 9:36

Without a shepherd, without being watched over, without being taught, the people were like sheep and easily lead astray. Christians need a shepherd, a leader. Without that then things will quickly go wrong.

Every church needs a shepherd. **Like that irreducible bicycle** The irreducible minimum for a church to be a church - is to have at least one Elder.

When everything is going well and every part of the body is functioning as it ought, then leaders can end up fairly invisible - but they are there.

A leader who loves the flock will make every provision for that flock, - and make sure they are never left without a shepherd.

When Moses the shepherd of God's people was told he was about to die what was the first thing he said in response?

**"May the LORD, .... appoint a man over this community to go out and come in before them, one who will lead them out and bring them in, so that the LORD's people will not be like sheep without a shepherd."** Nu 27:16,17

Good shepherds do not go off and leave the flock, he makes sure they will be looked after even after he has gone. May a shepherd never think of his own situation before the needs of the flock and leave them leaderless and vulnerable - There are wolves out there!

Not just out there! There are, Paul says, possibly wolves inside as well! Addressing the Elders at Ephesus he says: **I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. So be on your guard!** Acts 20:29-31

Bad shepherds care little, when trouble comes, they are soon off. **The man runs away, he cares nothing for the sheep.** John 10:13

The Good shepherd, however, so loves the sheep he will give up his life to save them from the attacker.

There are many snares and pitfalls before a flock that is why Joshua and I need to **be on our guard!** The best way Joshua and I can do that is as Timothy was told to **"watch our lives and doctrine closely"**

1. Pray that we will do so and be strong in Jesus
2. Pray for your leaders that we may be wise, and that we will not fail whether morally, practically theologically.
3. Pray for Joshua and myself. It is a key relationship which the devil would love to destroy. These kind of relationships are constantly under attack.

■ I remember once, more than once, having a feeling of discord towards someone, it was unreasonable, I could not fathom why, they had not done anything wrong. I was not jealous, I searched my heart – I could sense the devil trying to divide and make me or them say something which would cause harm.

The devil tries to destroy relationships and divide Christians. He likes to see Christians ruined, ruining others and ceasing to function properly.

That is why Love, Grace (same thing) and maturity are so important!

✚ Having Joshua as an elder is a blessing for the church. Pray for another to rise up.

***What does a good shepherd do? A good shepherd serves***

He serves the one who has entrusted him to the task, **servicing as overseers**

Peter reminds them that they are under shepherds, **Be shepherds of God's flock that is under Your care.** It is not your flock, it is Jesus'

■ So and so's church no it is Christ's church, it is His

Shepherds are Christ's servants and therefore should serve as the good shepherd did. Peter says Elders should **Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care** – with compassion - **under your care** not under your rod.

Watch a TV programme on farming and you will see shepherds behind the flock. In the East Shepherds lead the flock, they are in front.

Good shepherds don't push from behind - but lead from in front. And if they are good and caring then to have a leader is a blessing, to be lead well is a joy! A good shepherd is as example in how to live and how to serve.

### *A good shepherd is as example in being willing*

—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve;

There are pitfalls for the Elder that is why Peter says they must be willing, eager, an example. Not greedy for money, which suggests that ministers from the earliest of days were being paid, they had a stipend. A stipend is to enable someone to have an income to release them from having to work so that we can prepare the word of God for the good of all. Ministers should not be after the stipend so they can avoid working. Minister should not like the stipend so they have money coming in – in a world where most were poor, as is still the case in many countries. Elders are to serve willingly.

### *An Elder is to be an example*

In all these things Elders are to be an example. So it is not surprising that the major qualification of an elder is not one of gifting, for who can determine his gifting – but it is one of character. A Christ-like character.

**The only way the flock can be like Jesus - is if the elders are like Jesus**

**3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.**

Some long for a position. They are not fit for church leadership.

■ I know a Christian who is moving from church to church which has no pastor and suggesting to them that he is called to be their pastor. I am glad to say none have fallen for it. When they do not see things his way, he is off. Now he has another great plan.

James warns us **Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.** Jas 3:1

We must constantly beware of pride, the Lord will not favour the proud man for he is so contrary to Jesus who came to serve as a servant, a slave.

Paul modelled humble leadership saying: **Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.** 1Co 11:1

Your leaders need to be ahead in maturity and Christ-likeness.

✚ It is a true saying that “the spirituality of the church is unlikely to rise above the spirituality of its leaders”

Samuel some years ago had some work experience at a printers.

It was work experience but it was also people experience. The way one learns best is to shadow people, to watch people, see how they are, and see what they do. Do that over a period of time and you pick up what they are really like. Samuel asked “was this an apprenticeship or internship? Maybe discipling would fit better. They are all essentially about observing, watching and learning – from people.

✚ Lasting changes are caught as much as taught x2

One person affects another. We all affect each other. This applies to everyone in the room. Your Christ-likeness – or your worldliness, your maturity, or your immaturity – your enthusiasm to serve the Lord your profess – or your lack of enthusiasm, your work for Kingdom of God - or your indifference is noticed - and has an influence on everyone else here.

We particularly learn from leaders. We can learn from Peter. We can learn from Peter's teacher: The Lord Jesus. Servants learn from the Master.

✚ Those with an exemplary character are a good example to others

They are to be blameless, that does not mean perfect. Blamelessness means they can come under the magnifying glass, they can be scrutinised.

We see this in the life of Daniel – King **Darius appointed 120 satraps to rule throughout the kingdom, with three administrators over them, one of whom was Daniel. The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king**

**might not suffer loss. Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom.**

Those who were against Daniel we are told **could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent.**

■ Chris Mason the political Editor for the BBC said on Thursday that one of the role of journalists is to 'stress test' statements, to find out what is true and what is not true.

Daniel was 'stress tested' by his adversaries. **Finally these men said, "We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel unless it has something to do with the law of his God."** Dan 6:1-5 Daniel stood the test.

✚ The only way the flock can be like Jesus - is if the shepherd is always like Jesus

### *Good leaders impact others for good*

There are many examples I could mention such as the powerful and Godly influence John Hooper had on his flock in Gloucester. He was martyred under the reign of bloody Mary, as was Rowland Taylor of Suffolk.

Hear Foxe (of Foxe's book of martyrs) describe the town where first Thomas Bilney and then Rowland Taylor ministered:

■ The town of Hadleigh was one of the first that received the Word of God in all England, at the preaching of Master Thomas Bilney, by whose industry the Gospel of Christ had such gracious success, and took such root there, that a great number in that parish became exceeding well learned in the Holy Scriptures, women as well as men. So many had often read the whole Bible through that they could have said a great part of St. Paul's Epistles by heart, and very well and readily have given a godly learned sentence in any matter of controversy.

■ Their children and servants were also brought up and trained diligently in the right knowledge of God's Word, so that the whole town seemed rather a university of the learned, than a town of cloth-making or labouring people; and what was most commended is that they were for the most part followers of God's Word in their living.

■ In this town of Hadleigh, Dr. Taylor was a good shepherd, abiding and dwelling among his sheep. He gave himself wholly to the study of Holy Scripture, most faithfully endeavouring himself to fulfil that charge which the Lord gave to Peter, saying, **Peter, lovest thou Me? Feed my lambs; Feed my sheep; Feed my sheep.** This love of Christ so wrought in him, that no Sunday nor holy day passed, nor other time, when he might not bring together the people and preach to them the Word of God, the doctrine of their salvation.

■ Not only was the word preached to them, but all his life and conversation was an example of unfeigned Christian life and true holiness. He was void of all pride, humble and meek as any child; so that none were so poor that they might not boldly, as to their father, resort to him. Neither was his lowliness childish or fearful; but as occasion, time, and place required, he would be stout in rebuking the sinful and evil doers: so that none was so rich that he would tell him plainly his fault, with such earnest and grave rebukes as became a good pastor. He was a man very mild, void of all rancour, grudge, or evil will, ready to do good to all men, readily forgiving his enemies, and never sought to do evil to any. (Rowland Taylor Martyr 1555 at Hadleigh Five English reformers p.73)

Rowland Taylor took his responsibility very seriously, labouring in prayer and preaching - it goes on to describe:

■ To the poor that were blind, sick, lame, bedridden, or that had many children, he was a very father, a careful patron, a diligent provider, insomuch that he caused the parishioners to make a general provision for them; and he himself (beside the continual relief that they always found at his house). He gave an honest portion yearly to the common alms box.

■ Rowland Taylor was a true shepherd, a good salt of the earth, savourily biting the corrupt manners of evil men; a light in God's house set upon a candlestick, for all good men to imitate and follow. (Rowland Taylor Martyr 1555 at Hadleigh Five English reformers p.74)

### *He has his reward – For the faithful there is a glorious reward*

**4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.** 1Pe 5:1-4

In this life there is labour and hardship - but the reward is coming. The lord does not miss any service of the saints, a record is kept and a crown awaits.

Peter knew he was **one who will share in the glory to be revealed.** Sharing in suffering goes with sharing in the glory.

Paul said to the church in Thessalonica 1Th 2:19. **For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you?** Rowland Taylor could say the same as he went to his final trial before entering Glory...

Rowland Taylor paid the ultimate price and was cruelly burnt at the stake. When that day came for his life to be given up we are told:

■ The streets of Hadleigh were filled with men and women of the town and country who waited to see him; whom. When they beheld him led to death, with weeping eyes and lamentable voices they cried, saying one another, Ah, good Lord, there goes our good shepherd from us, that so faithfully hath taught us, so fatherly hath cared for us, and so godly hath governed us. O merciful God! What shall we poor scattered lambs do? What shall come of this most wicked world? Good Lord, strengthen him and comfort him. The people were sore rebuked by the Sheriff and the catchpoles, his men, that led him. And Dr. Taylor evermore said to the people, I have preached to you God's Word and truth, and am come this day to seal it with my blood. (Rowland Taylor Martyr 1555 at Hadleigh Five English reformers p.130)

Whether that will happen to you and I – we don't know, it may yet do.

Let us be zealous, diligent and faithful to our call.

A glorious prize awaits his faithful servants. Pray for Joshua as he takes up this key role.

End

## Cantonese

金斯諾頓浸信會教堂

2025年2月16日星期日上午10點

根據 15\_11\_01.doc 任命長老

「長老」我們的榜樣

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歡迎

聖詩 MP 1227 君王的光輝 (3:17)

聖經箴言 3:1-26 (第 637 頁)

禱告

兒童講座 Joshua vdm

合唱 MP135 天父我們多麼愛你

MP 151 因為我正在建立一個有權力的民族

通知：會員會議，德國下午 2 點，

下週日的團契午餐

認可 Joshau Van De Merwe 為 KNBC 長老

為約書亞禱告

主禱文

讀彼得前書 5:1-4 (第 1220 頁)

(另參出 18:7-27, 約翰福音 10)

聖詩 MP 1261 兄弟姊妹們，讓我為你們服務 (-v5)

講道「長老們」我們的榜樣

聖詩 MP 498 啊，神啊，我們古時的幫助 (Grace Com Ch)

聖詩 希伯來書 13:20

關閉 -----

序言

主愛祂的教會。我們看到，彼得強調他的人民在遭受苦難和考驗時需要領導力。以及正確的領導。他敦促地方教會領袖以積極、熱情和模範的方式履行其職責，記住他們是牧師，是上帝承諾要獎勵他們忠誠的服務。

彼得告訴長老們，要當牧羊人；做牧羊人，甘心樂意侍奉。為別人樹立榜樣。

因此，首先要“做牧羊人”

「我以同為長老的身份，懇求你們中間的長老們」。彼得作為長老談論長老應該做什麼以及他們應該如何做。他知道，身為基督受難的見證人，他看到了耶穌在面對苦難時的完美品格。

彼得永遠不會忘記主所說的話：“彼得，你愛我嗎？...餵養我的羊”

領導者被告知“要成為你所照顧的上帝羊群的牧羊人”，

使命、命令就是去牧養，並且像好牧人耶穌那樣去牧養。沒有人像耶穌那樣愛人。他被描述為羊群的偉大牧人（希伯來書 13:20）。

世界上許多領導人不愛人民，他們只關心自己。在世界宗教中尤其如此，因為當耶穌說他是好牧人時，他是在對那些多年來一直受到壞牧人的邪惡影響的人說話。

耶穌非常關心人。當耶穌看到群眾時，祂對他們產生了憐憫之心，為什麼還要擔心呢？他看到了什麼，激發了他的同情心？因為若沒有得到良好的領導，他們就如同羊沒有牧人一樣，陷入困境，無助。太9:36

沒有牧人，沒有人看管，沒有人教導，人們就像羊一樣，很容易走錯路。基督徒需要一位牧羊人、一位領袖。如果沒有這一點，事情很快就會出錯。

每個教堂都需要一位牧羊人。就像那輛不可簡化的自行車一樣，一個教會要成為教堂，最低要求就是至少要有一位長老。

當一切進展順利、身體的每個部分都正常運作時，領導者可能變得相當隱形——但他們確實存在。

熱愛羊群的領袖會為羊群做好一切準備，並確保它們永遠不會失去牧羊人。

當上帝子民的牧羊人摩西被告知他即將死去時，他第一句話是什麼？

“願耶和華.....立一個人治理這會眾，可以在他們面前出入，可以引導他們，免得耶和華的民如同羊沒有牧人一般。”民27:16,17

好的牧羊人不會離去並拋棄羊群，他會確保即使他離開之後羊群仍會受到照顧。牧羊人永遠不要先考慮自己的處境，而要先考慮羊群的需要，讓羊群群龍無首、處於危險之中——外面有狼！

不只在那裡！保羅說，裡面可能還有狼！他對以弗所的長老們說：我知道我離開之後，兇猛的豺狼將進入你們中間，不會放過羊群。

就是你們自己，也必有人起來，說謬論，要引誘門徒跟隨他們。所以一定要提高警覺！使徒行傳 20:29-31

壞牧羊人很少關心，當麻煩來臨時，他們很快就會離開。那人逃跑了，他根本就不在乎那隻羊。約翰福音 10:13

然而，好牧人如此愛羊，他願意獻出自己的生命來拯救它們免受攻擊者的侵害。

羊群面前有許多陷阱和陷阱，這就是為什麼約書亞和我需要保持警惕！約書亞和我能夠做到這一點的最好方法就是像提摩太被告知的那樣“密切關注我們的生活和教義”

1. 祈求我們能如此行，並在耶穌裡剛強
2. 為你們的領導者祈禱，願我們變得明智，並且無論在道德上還是在實踐神學上都不會失敗。

3. 為約書亞和我自己禱告。這是魔鬼想要破壞的關鍵關係。這種關係不斷受到威脅。

我記得有一次，不只一次，我對某人產生不和諧的感覺，這是不合理的，我無法理解為什麼，他們沒有做錯任何事。我並不嫉妒，我們心自問——我能感覺到魔鬼試圖分裂他們，並迫使我或他們說出一些會造成傷害的話。

魔鬼試圖破壞基督徒之間的關係並分裂他們。他喜歡看到基督徒被毀滅，毀滅他人並停止正常運作。這就是為什麼愛、優雅（同一件事）和成熟如此重要！

約書亞擔任長老對教會來說是一件祝福。祈求另一個人崛起。

好牧羊人會做什麼？好牧人侍奉

他服事託付他任務的人，擔任監督

彼得提醒他們，他們在牧羊人之下，要牧養你們所照顧的上帝的羊群。這不是你的羊群，而是耶穌的某某的教堂，不，這是基督的教堂，這是祂的

牧羊人是基督的僕人，因此應該像好牧人一樣服事。彼得說，長老應該成為上帝羊群的牧羊人，這些羊群由你們照顧，帶著同情心，由你們照顧，而不是由你們的杖管轄。

觀看有關農業的電視節目，您會看到羊群後面的牧羊人。在東方，牧羊人帶領著羊群，他們走在最前面。

好的牧羊人不會從後面推動，而是從前面帶領。如果他們善良、有愛心，那麼擁有一位領導者就是一種福氣，被好好領導就是一種快樂！好的牧羊人是如何生活和如何服事的榜樣。

好牧人要以身作則，

—不是因為你必須這樣做，而是因為你願意，正如上帝希望你這樣做一樣；不貪財，卻熱心服事；

長老們面臨陷阱，這就是為什麼彼得說他們必須願意、熱切，成為一個榜樣。不貪財，這顯示從最初的日子起，部長們都是有薪水的，他們有津貼。津貼是為了使人們有收入，使他們不必工作，這樣我們就可以為所有人的利益準備上帝的話語。部長們不應該為了貪圖津貼而逃避工作。部長不應該喜歡津貼，這樣他們就有錢進帳——

在這個大多數人都很貧窮的世界裡，許多國家的情況仍然如此。長老要甘心樂意地服事。

長老要樹立榜樣

在所有這些事上，長老們都應該樹立榜樣。因此，長老的主要資格不是恩賜，因為誰能決定他的恩賜呢？像基督的人物。

羊群要像耶穌，唯一的辦法就是長老們也像耶穌

3 不是轄制所託付你們的人，而是做群羊的榜樣。

有些人渴望獲得一個職位。他們不適合擔任教會領袖。

我認識一位基督徒，他從一個教堂轉到另一個沒有牧師的教堂，我向他們建議他可以擔任他們的牧師。我很高興地說沒有人上當。當他們不按照他的方式看待事物時，他就會離開。現在他又有了一個偉大的計劃。

詹姆斯警告我們，我的兄弟們，你們中不要有太多人認為是老師，因為你們知道我們這些教導者將受到更嚴格的判斷。雅各書 3:1

我們必須時時警惕驕傲，主不會青睞驕傲的人，因為他與耶穌是如此相反，耶穌來是為了做僕人、做奴隸。

保羅樹立了謙卑領導的榜樣，他說：你們應當效法我，就像我效法基督一樣。林前 11:1  
你們的領導者需要在成熟度和基督化方面領先。

「教會的靈性不太可能超越其領導者的靈性」這句話是正確的。

幾年前，塞繆爾在一家印刷廠有過一些工作經驗。

這是工作經驗，也是人際互動經驗。最好的學習方式就是跟蹤別人，觀察別人，看自己是什麼樣子，看他們做什麼。這樣做一段時間你就會了解它們的真實情況。塞繆爾問：「這是學徒期還是實習期？也許門徒訓練比較合適。它們的本質都是向人們觀察、觀看、學習。

持久的變化被捕捉到，就像被教導一樣 x2

一個人影響另一個人。我們都會互相影響。這適用於房間裡的每個人。你的基督化形象——

或者你的世俗化、你的成熟度或你的不成熟——

你對你所信仰的主的熱情或者你的缺乏熱情、你為上帝之國所做的工作或者你的冷漠都會被注意到——並且對這裡的其他人產生影響。

我們特別向領導者學習。我們可以向彼得學習。我們可以向彼得的老師——主耶穌學習。僕人向主人學習。

品德高尚的人是別人的好榜樣

他們應該是無可指責的，但這並不意味著完美。無可指責意味著他們可以被置於放大鏡下，可以被仔細審查。

我們在但以理的生活中看到了這一點——大流士王任命了 120

名總督統治整個王國，並由三名行政官負責管理，其中一位就是但以理。總督們向他們負責，以便國王可能不會遭受損失。現在，但以理因其卓越的品質在行政官和總督中如此出名，以至於國王計劃讓他管理整個王國。

據說，反對丹尼爾的人找不到他身上任何腐敗之處，因為他值得信賴，既不腐敗也不疏忽。

英國廣播公司政治編輯克里斯梅森週四表示，記者的職責之一是「壓力測試」言論，以找出哪些是真的，哪些不是真的。

丹尼爾受到了對手的“壓力測試”。最後這些人說：“除非與他上帝的律法有關，否則我們絕不會找到任何控告這個人但以理的依據。”但以理書 6:1-5 但以理經受住了考驗。

羊群要像耶穌，唯一的辦法就是牧羊人永遠像耶穌

優秀的領導者會對他人產生正面的影響

我可以提及很多例子，例如約翰·胡珀（John Hooper）

對格洛斯特的羊群所具有的強大而虔誠的影響。他在血腥瑪麗統治時期殉難，薩福克的羅蘭泰勒亦是如此。

聽聽福克斯（福克斯殉道者之書中的作者）描述托馬斯·比爾尼和羅蘭·泰勒先後擔任牧師的城鎮：

哈德利鎮是全英格蘭最早接受上帝之言的城鎮之一，托馬斯·比爾尼大師的佈道使基督的福音獲得了巨大的成功，並在那里扎下了根，教區中很多男人和女人都對聖經非常熟悉。許多人經常通讀整本《聖經



》，因此他們可以背誦聖保羅書信的大部分內容，並能在任何有爭議的問題上很好地、迅速地給出虔誠而博學的判決。

他們的孩子和僕人也被撫養長大，並接受了有關上帝聖言的正確知識的刻苦訓練，因此整個城鎮看起來更像是一所學者的大學，而不是一個布匹製造者或勞動人民的城鎮；最值得稱讚的是，他們在生活中大多遵循上帝的聖言。

在哈德利小鎮，泰勒博士是個好牧人，和他的羊群安居樂業。他全心全意地致力於《聖經》的研究，忠實地努力履行主對彼得的囑咐，即“彼得，你愛我嗎？” 餵養我的羔羊；餵養我的羊；餵養我的羊。基督的愛在他心中如此深厚，以至於無論星期天、聖日或其他時間，他都會把人們聚集在一起，向他們宣講上帝的話語和救贖的教義。

他不僅向他們傳講聖言，而且他的一生和言談舉止都是真誠的基督徒生活和真正的聖潔的典範。他沒有任何驕傲，像孩子一樣謙虛、溫順；這樣，他們就沒有人會太窮，不敢像向他們的父親那樣大膽地向他求助。他的謙卑既不幼稚也不可怕；但是，根據場合、時間和地點的需要，他會堅決斥責那些有罪的和作惡的人：所以沒有人會如此富有，他會直截了當地告訴他自己的錯誤，並以一個好牧師應有的認真和嚴肅的斥責方式告訴他。他是一個非常溫和的人，沒有任何怨恨、怨恨或邪惡的意圖，願意為所有人做好事，隨時原諒他的敵人，並且從不試圖對任何人做壞事。（羅蘭泰勒殉道者 1555 年在哈德利五位英國改革者第 73 頁）

羅蘭泰勒非常認真地對待自己的責任，辛勤地祈禱和佈道——他繼續描述道：

對於那些盲人、病人、跛子、臥床不起的人或有許多孩子的窮人來說，他是一位非常好的父親、一個細心的讚助人、一個勤奮的供養者，他讓教區居民為他們提供普遍的供給；和他本人（除了他們總是在他家裡找到的持續救濟之外）。他每年都會向公共施捨箱中捐出相當一部分錢。

羅蘭泰勒 (Rowland Taylor)

是一位真正的牧羊人，是世間的善良之鹽，能夠深刻地批判惡人的腐敗舉止；上帝之家的燭台上的一盞燈，供所有善良的人效仿和追隨。（羅蘭泰勒殉道者 1555 年在哈德利五位英國改革者第 74 頁）

他得到了回報——對於忠誠的人，會有光榮的回報

4 到了牧長顯現的時候，你們必得那永不衰殘的榮耀冠冕。彼前 5:1-4

人生雖然勞碌，充滿艱辛，但回報終將到來。主不會錯過任何聖徒的服務，記錄保存，並等待王冠。

彼得知道他將分享那即將顯現的榮耀。共擔痛苦，分享榮耀。

保羅對帖撒羅尼迦教會說《帖撒羅尼迦前書》2:19。當我們的主耶穌降臨時，我們的盼望、我們的喜樂、或我們將在祂面前所誇耀的冠冕是什麼呢？難道不是你嗎？羅蘭泰勒 (Rowland Taylor)

在進入榮耀殿堂之前接受最後的考驗時也可以說同樣的話……

羅蘭泰勒付出了生命的代價並被殘忍地燒死在火刑柱上。當他獻出生命的那一天到來時，我們被告知：

哈德利的街道上擠滿了城裡和鄉村的男男女女，他們都在等著見到他。誰。當他們看見他被帶去受死時，他們淚眼婆娑，聲音悲痛，彼此說道，啊，仁慈的主，我們的好牧人離開了我們，他如此忠實地教導我們，如此慈父般地照顧我們，如此虔誠地管理我們。仁慈的上帝啊！我們這些可憐的流離失所的羔羊

該怎麼辦呢？這個最邪惡的世界會變成什麼樣子？仁慈的主，請給他力量並安慰他。警長和帶他上路的手下嚴厲斥責了民眾。泰勒博士常對人們說，我已經向你們宣講了上帝的聖言和真理，今天我來用我的血來印證它。（羅蘭泰勒殉道者 1555 年在哈德利五位英國改革者第 130 頁）

這是否會發生在你我身上一我們不知道，但有可能發生。

讓我們熱情、勤奮並忠實地履行我們的使命。

光榮的獎賞正等待著祂的忠實僕人。為約書亞祈禱，希望他能擔任這個關鍵角色。 結尾