

Study Guide to Alexander Strauch's *Biblical Eldership*

Chapter 15: Elders and the Congregation

Q: Strauch wrote that “As Christ’s undershepherds and God’s stewards, the elders are under the strict authority of Jesus Christ and his holy word. They are not a ruling oligarchy” (pg. 291). What did Strauch mean by this? What extremes is he warning against?

A: _____

Q: Again, Strauch writes that there is “a tightly knot, delicate, and reciprocal relationship between elders and congregation” (pg. 292). Describe this relationship. How is this relationship supposed to properly function?

A: _____

Q: What is the high position of the congregation according to Scripture? What great privileges and spiritual responsibilities belong to the congregation?

A: _____

Q: How do the congregational privileges and responsibilities mentioned in the previous answer work in harmony with the leadership? How are the elders involved in these matters?

A: _____

Q: What kinds of things cause division between leadership and the congregation? What practical things need to happen for a congregation and its leadership to work together in harmony? What should each do to maintain the unity of the Spirit?

A: _____

