

**Study Guide to Alexander Strauch's**  
***Paul's Vision for the Deacons***  
Chapter 2

**Read Chapter 2: The Church Overseers, the Elders**

**Q:** Why is it important for deacons to understand the role of the elders in the church? What are the dangers if deacons do not understand both offices?

**A:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Q:** Strauch noted that, “The churches in Philippi and Ephesus each had a collective body of overseers or elders...” (pg. 38). Why is the idea of plurality in church leadership so important?

**A:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Q:** Strauch convincingly argues that the terms “overseers” and “elders” refer to the same office. Nevertheless, the words are not synonymous. So, what does each term teach about the office?

**A:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Q:** This chapter gives a broad survey of the responsibilities and qualifications of the elders. Elders are stewards (Titus 1:7), shepherds (Acts 20:28-31; 1 Peter 5:1-2), and teachers (Titus 1:9). How does each term explain the elders’ work?

**A:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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