

Well, this word, then, one thing about it, it is not a common word in the N.T. It is only used five times. (end of record)

Record 23

It may show ~~see~~ something of the meaning of the word. It means someone from above who comes in and directs, and controls. Because thou knowest not the time of thy visitation. Jerusalem did not know the time when God came in with power to give them a wonderful opportunity. Acts 1:20, his bishopric let another take. I think that is a very good translation. If you are going to translate it bishop elsewhere, bishopric here. Judas's bishopric. What was Judas' bishopric/ He was ~~xxxxxx~~ an apostle. It is clearly calling an apostle a bishop. I Tim. 3:1, if a man desires the office of a bishop, episcopus.....(1½) I Pet. 2:12, Glorify God in the day of visitation. That is again the day of ~~st~~ God's oversight, God's entering in. And then we have the ~~xxxx~~ ^{verb} episcopeo, which is used twice, Heb. 12:15, looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God. Acting as a bishop diligently. It showed the worth of the bishop ~~in~~ in his place to oversee the flock and help them. And then, I Pet. 5:2, taking the oversight, thereof, not ~~xxxxxx~~ by constraint, becoming a bishop not ~~xxx~~ by constraint, would be a good translation.

Well, now, this word bishop we notice is not a common word in the N.T., but neither is it a rare word. It is used enough clear times, and the meaning of it is absolutely clear. It means one who has an oversight, ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ who has the rule, who has authority. Now I don't think we had yet looked at the word presbyters. We looked at priest, but not at presbyters. In connection with priest, we noticed that modern priest is a derivation of(2½) And.....is used in the N.T., I haven't counted them, but as a guess I would say thirty times. As compared with bishop five times. But, the great bulk of these cases, no I won't say the great bulk, but a great number of these cases are used of Jewish officials. The chief priests and elders. The elders were assembled, the elders of the people. In the Gospels the word is quite common for(3) It was the established Jewish direction. It was the elders. Then we find the word used in Acts. 2:17, your presbyters