

was a title of the official in the early church.

Now, I ~~was~~ mentioned, last time, the possibility that ~~xxxxxxixxxxxxxxx~~
~~xxxxxxix~~ episcopus describes a work, and prebiterus describes a type of man.
A man of distinction, a man of age, a man of ex~~i~~perience, that it describes
the type of man who has this position, and the other describes the type of
work done by the position. ~~Was~~ were these two words two different positions
or were they the same position.

(question) What I would mean to say was, it never says to the bishops and
the elders/ That is never ~~said~~ said. It is never said, he called the bishops
and the elders/ The two are never used in such a way as to ~~refer~~ refer clearly
to two different functionaries. But they are used sometimes to seem to refer
to the same functionary. As Mr. Hall has pointed out, Paul called the
Ephesian elders to ~~come~~ come to see him. And then when they got there, he said
take heed to the ~~g~~ flock over which God has made you bishops. And this is
the only ~~place~~ place where the word episcopus in the N.T. is
translated overseer rather than bishop. And you can't help wondering whether
the translators, believing in the viewpoint which was held in the Anglican
church, that bishop and elder are different, thought in this case ~~he~~ he must
be using bishop in the general ~~sense~~ sense, he couldn't mean bishop.....
...(8½) But that is what he does. He calls them by the same term which is
regularly used for bishop. He says, he does not call the bishops, he calls
the elders. He doesn't call the bishops and the elders. He calls the elders.
But when they get there, he says take heed to the flock over which God has
made you bishops. And that is an argument which is pretty hard to get
around.

First ~~argument~~ argument,, the two are never used together in such a way
to show that they are distinct. Second, the ~~two~~ two are used synonymously, in
similar contexts. Now let me read you what St. Jerome said, one of the great
doctors/ of the church. The most learned of the ancient church fathers.
The one who is so highly ~~venerated~~ venerated by the church of Rome today. St. Jerome
has a very interesting statement on this, from which I have a quotation here.