

## New Testament study of the phrase “Have the rule over.”

This phrase has contributed in a great way to the hierarchical thinking that God has placed certain men to be in a place of authority over others in the Body of Christ. Anyone who has studied this with an open mind and an ear to the voice of the Holy Spirit has found that we are all equal in Christ Jesus. The truth reveals that rather than one “*ruling over*” another, God desires that we all serve one another and be living examples of the grace of God.

Read all the Greek word definitions and the words into which they were translated. Then, read the passages quoted from the English Majority Text Version of the New Testament. This will be a most enlightening “*journey*” for those desiring to “*hear*” the heart of the Father. So much is revealed when we see how these words are used in the various passage contexts. Too much error results from verses being taken out of context. What a grave insult to the Spirit of Grace who was given to lead us into all truth!

God bless you richly as you study His Word in this in-depth fashion.

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### 1. Greek #2233

hēgeomai (*hayg-eh'-om-ahee*)

Definition: “**Middle voice of a (presumed) strengthened form of \*Greek 71; to lead, that is, command (with official authority); figuratively to deem, that is, consider.**”

[\*Greek 71 definition: “agō (*ag'-o*) A primary verb; properly to lead; by implication to *bring, drive*, (reflexively) *go*, (specifically) *pass* (time), or (figuratively) *induce*.” It is translated into these English words: “be, bring (forth), carry, (let) go, keep, lead away, be open”]

Translated: “account, (be) chief, count, esteem, governor, judge, have the rule over, suppose, think”

### 2. Greek #4291

proistēmi (*pro-is'-tay-mee*)

Definition: “**to stand before, that is, (in rank) to preside, or (by implication) to practice**”

Thayer definition: 1) to set or place before; 1a) to set over; 1b) to be over, to superintend, preside over; 1c) to be a protector or guardian; 1c1) to give aid; 1d) to care for, give attention to; 1d1) profess honest occupations

KJV Translation: “maintain, be over, rule”

### 3. Greek #757

archo̅ (*ar'-kho*)

Definition: “to be **first** (in political rank or power)”

Translated: “reign (rule) over”

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Translated: “account, (be) chief, count, esteem, governor, judge, have the rule over, suppose, think”

- The word “*account*” was used in the KJV, while “*consider*” was used in the EMTV.

2 Peter 3:15: “and **consider** that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation--just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, wrote to you,”

- The word “*chief*” was used in the KJV. See bold words for the more accurate uses in the EMTV.

Luke 22:26: “But you shall not be thus; but let the greatest among you, let him be as the youngest, and he who **leads** as he who serves.”

Acts 14:12: “And Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, since he was the **leader** in speaking.”

Acts 15:22: "Then it seemed best to the apostles and the elders, together with the whole church, to send men being chosen from them to Antioch, together with Paul and Barnabas, namely, Judas who was also named Barsabas, and Silas, **leading** men among the brothers."

- The word "count(-ed)" was used in the KJV. See bold words for its use in the EMTV.

Philippians 3:7-8: "But such things as were gain to me, these I have **considered** loss for the sake of Christ. More than that I also **consider** all things to be loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have sustained the loss of all things, and I consider them to be rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ"

2 Thessalonians 3:15: "Yet do not **consider** him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother."

1 Timothy 6:1: "Let as many as are slaves under a yoke **count** their own masters worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and His doctrine may not be blasphemed."

James 1:2(&3): "**Count** it all joy, my brothers, when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance."

2 Peter 2:13: "receiving the wages of unrighteousness, **counting** as a pleasure to revel in the daytime, they are spots and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions while they feast with you,"

2 Peter 3:9: "The Lord does not delay concerning His promise, as some **reckon** slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

1 Timothy 1:12: "And I give thanks to the **One** who empowers me, Christ Jesus our Lord, because He **considered** me faithful, putting me into the ministry,"

Hebrews 10:29: "By how much worse punishment, do you think, will he be deemed worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, and has **regarded** as common the blood of the covenant, by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?"

- The word "esteem(-ing)" was used in the KJV. See bold words for its use in the EMTV.

Philippians 2:3: "doing nothing according to selfish ambition or conceit, but with humility, **regarding** one another as being better than yourselves."

1 Thessalonians 5:13: "and to **regard** them beyond all measure in love, because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves."

Hebrews 11:26: "[Moses] **regarding** the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward."

- The word "governor" was used in the KJV, while "ruler" was used in the EMTV.

Matthew 2:6: “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you shall come forth a **Ruler** who will shepherd My people Israel.”

Acts 7:10: “and delivered him out of all his afflictions, and gave him favor and wisdom before Pharaoh, king of Egypt; and he made him **ruler** over Egypt and all his house.”

- The word “judged” was used in the KJV, while “regarded” was used in the EMTV.

Hebrews 11:11: “By faith Sarah herself also received power for conception of seed, and she bore a child past the normal age, because she **regarded** Him faithful who had promised.”

- The word “rule over” were used in the KJV. See bold words for its more accurate use in the EMTV.

Hebrews 13:7, 17, 24: “Remember your **leaders**, who spoke the word of God to you, of whom considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith. ...Obey your **leaders**, and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls, as giving an account, in order that they may do this with joy and not groaning, for this *would be* unprofitable for you. ... Greet all your **leaders**, and all the saints. Those from Italy greet you.”

(Note: For the word “obey” see the [“Obey Study.”](#))

- The word “supposed” was used in the KJV, while “considered” was used in the EMTV.

Philippians 2:25: “Yet I **considered** it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my needs;”

- Various verb tenses of the word “think” were used in the KJV. See bold words for its use in the EMTV.

Acts 26:2: “I have **considered** myself fortunate, King Agrippa, being able to speak in my own defense today, concerning all the things of which I am accused of by the Jews,”

2 Peter 1:13: “But I **consider** it right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by a reminder;”

2 Corinthians 9:5: “Therefore I **thought** it necessary to urge the brothers, that they should go before me to you, and should arrange in advance your generous gift, which you had previously promised, that this would be ready, thus as a blessing and not as grudgingly given.”

Philippians 2: (5&)6(&7): “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, existing in the form of God, did not **consider** it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming to be in the likeness of men.”

## 2. Greek #4291

proistēmi (*pro-is'-tay-mee*)

Strong's Definition: "**to stand before, that is, (in rank) to preside, or (by implication) to practice**"

Thayer definition: 1) to set or place before; 1a) to set over; 1b) to be over, to superintend, preside over; 1c) **to be a protector or guardian**; 1c1) to give aid; 1d) **to care for, give attention to**; 1d1) profess honest occupations (Emphases mine)

KJV Translation: "maintain, be over, rule"

- The word "*maintain*" was used in both the KJV and the EMTV.

Titus 3:8, 14: "*Faithful is this word, and concerning these things I want you to strongly affirm, so that those who have believed in God may take thought to **maintain** good works. These things are good and profitable to men. ...And let our people also learn to **maintain** good works, to meet urgent needs, lest they be unfruitful.*"

- Various verb tenses of "*rule*" were used in the KJV. See bold words for its use in the EMTV.

1 Timothy 3:5: "*(for if one does not know how to **rule** his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?);*" [Would "to care for" possibly be more accurate?]

1 Timothy 5:17: "*Let the elders having **ruled** well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine.*" [Would "given attention to" possibly be more accurate?]

Romans 12:8: "*whether exhorting, in the exhortation; whether sharing, with simplicity; whether **leading**, with diligence; whether showing mercy, with cheerfulness.*"

1 Timothy 3:4: "*one **ruling** his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence;*" ["Leading" would be more accurate here. A loving father leads.]

- The word "*over*" was used in both the KJV and the EMTV.

1 Thessalonians 5:12: "*And we request of you, brothers, to recognize those who labor among you, and are **over** you in the Lord and instruct you,*"

- The word "*ruling*" was used in both the KJV and the EMTV.

1 Timothy 3:12: "*Let deacons [Greek: 'Christian teachers'] be the husbands of one wife, **ruling** their children well, and their own houses.*"

## 3. Greek #757

archō (*ar'-kho*)

Definition: “to be **first** (in political rank or power)”

Translated: “reign (rule) over”

- The word “*reign*” was used in the KJV, while “*rule*” was used in the EMTV.

Romans 15:12: “*And again, Isaiah says: ‘There shall be the root of Jesse; and He that shall rise to **rule over** the Gentiles, in Him the Gentiles shall hope.’*”

- The word “*rule*” was used in both the KJV and the EMTV.

Mark 10:42: “*But Jesus, having called them to Himself, said to them, “You know that those being reputed to be **ruling** the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.”*”

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