

προΐστημι – have authority over

[UBS] προΐστημι (aor. inf. προστήῃαι ; pf. ptc. προεστώς) be a leader, have authority over, manage; care for, give help; engage in, practice ([Tt 3.8](#), [14](#))

[Fri] προΐστημι 2aor. προέστην; pf. ptc. προεστώς; intransitively in the NT; (1) middle *put oneself (responsibly) at the head, lead, direct, rule* ([1T 5.17](#)); (2) active, of a protective leadership *care for, help, give aid* ([1TH 5.12](#)); (3) of responsible preoccupation with something *devote oneself to, engage in, strive for* ([TI 3.8](#))

[GING] προΐστημι—1. *be at the head (of), rule direct* w. gen. [1 Ti 3:4f](#), [12](#); [5:17](#). Perh. [Ro 12:8](#); [1 Th 5:12](#).—2. *be concerned about, care for, give aid* perh. [Ro 12:8](#); [1 Th 5:12](#). *Busy oneself with, engage in* w. gen. [Tit 3:8](#), [14](#).\* [pg 168]

[LN] προΐσταμαι (+2 aor, pf act) (aor inf προστήναι pf ptc προεστώς) (a) guide 36.1 (b) be active in helping 35.12 (c) strive to 68.67

36.1 ἡγέομαι; προΐσταμαι; κατευθύνω; φέρω; ἄγω: to so influence others as to cause them to follow a recommended course of action - 'to guide, to direct, to lead.' ἡγέομαι: γινέσθω ... ὁ ἡγούμενος ὡς ὁ διακονῶν 'he who takes the lead must be like the one who serves' or 'he who is the master must be like one who serves' [Lk 22.26](#); μνημονεύετε τῶν ἡγουμένων ὑμῶν 'remember your leaders' or '... masters' [He 13.7](#). προΐσταμαι: προΐσταμένους ὑμῶν ἐν κυρίῳ καὶ νοουθετοῦντας ὑμᾶς 'those who guide you in the Lord and instruct you' [1 Th 5.12](#). The phrase 'in the Lord' probably refers to matters concerning the Christian life. κατευθύνω: ὁ δὲ κύριος κατευθύνει ὑμῶν τὰς καρδίας εἰς τὴν ἀγάπην τοῦ θεοῦ 'may the Lord lead your hearts to the love for God' [2 Th 3.5](#). φέρω: φερόμενοι ἐν τῷ ἁγίῳ πνεύματι 'being guided by the Holy Spirit' [Ac 15.29](#) (apparatus); ἀλλὰ ὑπὸ πνεύματος ἁγίου φερόμενοι ἐλάλησαν 'but being led by the Holy Spirit, they spoke' [2 Pe 1.21](#). ἄγω: ὅσοι γὰρ πνεύματι θεοῦ ἄγονται 'for as many as are led by the Spirit of God' [Ro 8.14](#).

In some languages it is difficult to distinguish readily between expressions for 'leading' and those which refer to 'ruling' or 'governing,' but it is important to try to distinguish clearly between these two different sets of interpersonal relations. In some languages, the concept of 'leading' can be expressed by 'showing how to' or 'demonstrating how one ought to.' In other languages it is possible to speak of 'leading' as simply 'going ahead of,' but too often such an expression may designate only 'a scout' who goes ahead to see whether things are safe, or it may refer only to a person who insists on his prerogative as the most distinguished person in a group.

35.12 προΐσταμαι: to be engaged in helping or aiding - 'to be active in helping, to be involved in giving aid.' ἵνα φροντίζωσιν καλῶν ἔργων προΐστασθαι οἱ πεπιστευκότες θεῷ 'so that those who believe in God may fix their attention on being active in providing help' or '... in giving aid' [Tt 3.8](#).

68.67 προΐσταμαι (and 2nd aorist, perfect active): to engage in something with intense devotion - 'to strive for, to devote oneself to.' οἱ ἡμέτεροι καλῶν ἔργων προΐστασθαι 'our people should strive to do what is good' [Tt 3.14](#).

[LS] προΐστημι, f. -στήσω: aor. i προΐστησα, part. προστήσας, inf. προστήσαι: **A.** Causal in these tenses, as also in pres. and aor. i med., *to set before or in front*, προστήσας [σε] Τρωσὶ μάχεσθαι **II.** *to set over* others, c. gen., Plat. **II.** Med., mostly in aor. i, *to put another before oneself, choose as one's leader*, Hdt.: c. gen., προΐστασθαι τουτονὶ ἑαυτοῦ *to take as one's leader*, Plat. **2.** *to put before one, put in front*, Hdt., etc. **3.** metaph. *to put forward as a pretence, use as a screen*, τὰ τῶν Ἀμφικτυόνων δόγματα προστήσασθαι Dem.; c. gen. *to use one thing as a pretext* for another, Id. **4.** *to prefer, value one above another*, τινὰ τινος Plat. **B.** Pass., with aor. 2 act. προΐστην: pf. προέστηκα, Ion. 2 pl. προέστατε, inf. προεσάταναι, part. προεστώς: aor. i pass. προεστάθη:-*to put oneself forward, come forward*, Dem. **2.** c. acc. *to approach*, Soph. **3.** c. dat. *to stand before or face another*, Id. **II.** c. gen. *to be set over, be the chief power*, τῆς Ἑλλάδος, τῶν Ἀρκάδων Hdt.: *to be at the head of a party, act as chief or leader*, τῶν παράλων, τῶν ἐκ τοῦ πεδίου Id.; τοῦ δήμου Thuc.: hence absol., οἱ προεστῶτες, Ion. -εῷτες, *the leading men, chiefs, leaders*, Hdt., Thuc., etc. **2.** in various relations, *to govern, direct, manage*, οὐκ ὀρθῶς σεωυτοῦ προέστηκας *you do not manage yourself well*, Hdt.; πρ. τοῦ ἑαυτοῦ βίου Xen. **3.** *to stand before so as to guard him*, Hdt.; πρόστητε τύχης *be our defence against fortune*, Soph.; ὁ προστὰς τῆς εἰρήνης *the champion of peace*, Aeschin.; -also, προΐστητην φόνου *were the authors of death*, Soph.: -absol., βέλεα ἄρωγά προσταθέντα Id.

[Thayer] προΐστημι: 2 aorist infinitive προστήναι; perfect participle προεστώς; present middle προΐσταμαι; from Homer, Iliad 4, 156 down; **1.** in the transitive tenses *to set or place before; to set over*. **2.** in the perfect pluperfect and 2 aorist active and in the present and imperfect middle a. *to be over, to superintend, preside over* (A. V. *rule*) (so from Herodotus down): [1 Tim. 5:17](#); with a genitive of the person or thing over which one presides, [1 Thess. 5:12](#); [1 Tim. 3:4f, 12](#). b. *to be a protector or guardian; to give aid* (Euripides, Demosthenes, Aeschines, Polybius): [Rom. 12:8](#) ((others with A. V. *to rule*; cf. Fritzsche at the passage; Stuart, commentary, excurs. xii.)). c. *to care for, give attention to*: with a genitive of the thing, καλῶν ἔργων, [Titus 3:8, 14](#); for examples from secular writings see Kypke and Lösner; (some (cf. R. V. marginal reading) would render these two examples *profess honest occupations* (see ἔργον, 1); but cf. ἔργον, 3, p. 248b middle and Field, Otium Norv. pars iii, at the passage cited).\*

## Romans 12:8

he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he **who leads**, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

εἴτε ὁ παρακαλῶν ἐν τῇ παρακλήσει· ὁ μεταδιδοὺς ἐν ἀπλότῃ, ὁ **προϊστάμενος** ἐν σπουδῇ, ὁ ἐλεῶν ἐν ἰλαρότῃ.

## 1 Thessalonians 5:12

And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and **are over you** in the Lord and admonish you, Ἐρωτῶμεν δὲ ὑμᾶς, ἀδελφοί, εἰδέναι τοὺς κοπιῶντας ἐν ὑμῖν καὶ **προϊσταμένους** ὑμῶν ἐν κυρίῳ καὶ νουθετοῦντας ὑμᾶς

## 1 Timothy 3:4

one **who rules** his own house well, having *his* children in submission with all reverence τοῦ ἰδίου οἴκου **καλῶς προϊστάμενοι**, τέκνα ἔχοντα ἐν ὑποταγῇ, μετὰ πάσης σεμνότητος

## 1 Timothy 3:5

(for if a man does not know how **to rule** his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); (εἰ δέ τις τοῦ ἰδίου οἴκου **προσθῆναι** οὐκ οἶδεν, πῶς ἐκκλησίας θεοῦ ἐπιμελήσεται;),

## 1 Timothy 3:12

Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, **ruling** *their* children and their own houses well.

διάκονοι ἔστωσαν μιᾶς γυναικὸς ἄνδρες, τέκνων **καλῶς προϊστάμενοι** καὶ τῶν ἰδίων οἴκων.

## 1 Timothy 5:17

Let the elders **who rule** well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. Οἱ **καλῶς προεστῶτες** πρεσβύτεροι διπλῆς τιμῆς ἀξιούσθωσαν, μάλιστα οἱ κοπιῶντες ἐν λόγῳ καὶ διδασκαλίᾳ.

## Titus 3:8

This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful **to maintain** good works. These things are good and profitable to men.

Πιστὸς ὁ λόγος· καὶ περὶ τούτων βούλομαι σε διαβεβαιουῖσθαι, ἵνα φροντίζῳσιν **καλῶν** ἔργων **προϊστασθαι** οἱ πεπιστευκότες θεῷ· ταῦτά ἐστιν καλὰ καὶ ὠφέλιμα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις.

## Titus 3:14

And let our *people* also learn **to maintain** good works, to *meet* urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful.

μανθανέτωσαν δὲ καὶ οἱ ἡμέτεροι **καλῶν** ἔργων **προϊστασθαι** εἰς τὰς ἀναγκαίας χρείας, ἵνα μὴ ὦσιν ἄκαρποι.