

# 1 Timothy: God's Church, God's Way



# 1 Timothy 3:1

- Another “faithful saying” to shift from all men and women to two church offices – elders and deacons:

“If someone aspires to overseer, he desires a good work.”

- Notice that Paul encouraged people to want to be an overseer in the church



# 1 Timothy 3:1

- Elders and their work are described here; Titus 1:5–9; Acts 20:28–31; and 1 Peter 5:1–4
- Acts 20:28–31

shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God. <sup>28</sup> Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. <sup>29</sup> I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; <sup>30</sup> and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things to draw away the disciples after them.

# 1 Timothy 3:1

- Elders and their work are described here; Titus 1:5–9; Acts 20:28–31; and 1 Peter 5:1–4
- Acts 20:28–31
  - Elders are overseers and shepherds
  - A main priority is protecting the flock from false doctrine



# 1 Timothy 3:1

- Elders and their work are described here; Titus 1:5–9; Acts 20:28–31; and 1 Peter 5:1–4
- 1 Peter 5:1–4

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, I urge **elders** among you, as *your* fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, *and* one who is also a fellow partaker of the glory that is to be revealed: <sup>2</sup> **shepherd** the flock of God among you, **exercising oversight**, not under compulsion but voluntarily, according to *the will of* God; and not with greed but with eagerness; <sup>3</sup> nor yet as domineering over those assigned to your care, but by proving to be examples to the flock. <sup>4</sup> And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. <sup>5</sup> You younger men, likewise, be subject to *your* elders; and

# 1 Timothy 3:1

- Elders and their work are described here; Titus 1:5–9; Acts 20:28–31; and 1 Peter 5:1–4
- 1 Peter 5:1–4
  - Shepherd and oversee according to God's direction
  - Not for the money
  - Do not lord over the people, but be examples
  - The flock is entrusted to them





# 1 Timothy 3:2–7

- Because it is a “good work” and something that needs to be aspired to, there are certain character traits that the person must have:
  - *anepilēmtos* - “irreproachable, without fault”
  - *mias gynaikos andra* - “one woman man”
  - *nēphalion* - “sober, self-controlled” with regard to drinking alcohol



# 1 Timothy 3:2–7

- Because it is a “good work” and something that needs to be aspired to, there are certain character traits that the person must have:
  - *sōphrona* - “thoughtful, self-controlled”
  - *kosmion* - “well-ordered, respectable, honorable, appropriate”
  - *philoxenon* - “hospitable”





# 1 Timothy 3:2–7

- Because it is a “good work” and something that needs to be aspired to, there are certain character traits that the person must have:
  - *didaktikon* - “skillful in teaching”
  - *mē paroinon* - “not addicted to wine”
  - *mē plēkthē* - “not a bully”



# 1 Timothy 3:2–7

- Because it is a “good work” and something that needs to be aspired to, there are certain character traits that the person must have:
  - *all’ epieikē amachon aphilarguron* - “but kind/gentle, peaceable, not a lover of money”
    - These three are to be traits of all believers
    - Titus 3:2 - kind and peaceable; Matt 6:24; 1 Tim 6:10 - don’t love money



# 1 Timothy 3:2–7

- Because it is a “good work” and something that needs to be aspired to, there are certain character traits that the person must have:
  - “Managing his own home well”
  - The three following phrases help explain what this means and why it is important in this context



# 1 Timothy 3:2–7

- Because it is a “good work” and something that needs to be aspired to, there are certain character traits that the person must have:
  - Holding his children in a state of submission to his leadership
  - With all dignity
  - If he can’t lead his home, how can he lead a congregation?



# 1 Timothy 3:2–7

- Because it is a “good work” and something that needs to be aspired to, there are certain character traits that the person must have:
  - What about men who aren’t married or don’t have children? Can they be elders?



# 1 Timothy 3:2–7

- Because it is a “good work” and something that needs to be aspired to, there are certain character traits that the person must have:
  - *mē neophyton* – “not newly planted”; probably a new believer
  - Warning: he may fall into the condemnation of the devil
  - How? He could become conceited in his new position





# 1 Timothy 3:2–7

- Because it is a “good work” and something that needs to be aspired to, there are certain character traits that the person must have:
  - “it is also necessary to have a good testimony from the outsiders”
  - Warning #1: He could fall into disgrace (presumably with the outsiders); the church would suffer this as well



# 1 Timothy 3:2–7

- Because it is a “good work” and something that needs to be aspired to, there are certain character traits that the person must have:
  - “it is also necessary to have a good testimony from the outsiders”
  - Warning #2: He could also fall into “the devil’s trap”





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