

Qualifications Of Elders And Christians

Titus 1:5-16; 1 Timothy 3:1-13

Acts 14:23

“And when they had appointed for them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they had believed.”



Titus 1:5

“For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that were wanting, and appoint elders in every city, as I gave thee charge”

- Lack of spiritual leadership. 1:5
- False teachers. 1:10-11; 3:9-10
- Immoral conduct. 3:3ff

Organization Of The Church

Philippians 1:1 “Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, to all the saints in Christ Jesus that are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons”

The Office

- Uses of the word Elder.
 - Originally the authority seems naturally invested in those who by virtue of greater age and, consequently, experience were best fitted to govern.
 - Later the idea of age became merged in that of dignity and experience.

The Office

- Uses of the word Elder:
 - Word used as an adjective to denote seniority. Luke 15:25
 - Referring to Jewish Elders of the Synagogues. Matthew 16:21; Acts 4:5
 - Denotes certain persons appointed in local churches to exercise spiritual oversight over its members. Acts 14:23; 15:2, 4, 6, 22, 23

1 Timothy 5:17
Acts 20:17
Titus 1:5
Acts 21:18
1 Peter 5:1

The Office

- Uses of the word Elder:
 - Elder, in the last sense, is used synonymously with bishop and pastor, referring to the same office and work. Ephesians 4:11 (poimen); 1 Peter 5:2 (tend); Acts 20:17, 28 (feed)

The Office

- The responsibility and work of an Elder.
 - To feed the church. Acts 20:28
 - To guard the flock from false teachers. Acts 20:29-31.
 - To rule the church. cf. Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 5:17
 - Not as lording it over, but as examples. 1 Peter 5:3
 - To tend the flock, *“exercising the oversight thereof”* 1 Peter 5:2
 - *“Watching in behalf of souls.” Hebrews 13:17*

Qualifications of Elders

	Elders	All
Man	1 Timothy 3:1	
Desire	1 Timothy 3:1	
Blameless	1 Timothy 3:2	Preacher 1 Timothy 6:14 Widows 1 Timothy 5:7 Others 1 Corinthians 1:8; Colossians 1:22
Husband of one wife	1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:6	Matthew 19:9; Romans 7:1
Rules well his own house	1 Timothy 3:4; Titus 1:6	Ephesians 6:4
Vigilant (Temperate)	1 Timothy 3:2	1 Corinthians 10:12; 1 Corinthians 16:13; Ephesians 5:15; Hebrews 2:1; 3:12; 1 Peter 5:8
Temperate (Self-control)	Titus 1:8	Titus 2:2; 2 Peter 1:5-6

Qualifications of Elders

	Elders	All
Sober	1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:8	Commanded 1 Peter 1:13; Aged men. Titus 2:2 Young men. Titus 2:6 Young Women Titus 2:4 All Saints. 1 Thessalonians 5:6-8
Good Behavior	1 Timothy 3:2	1 Timothy 3:15; Titus 2:3; 1 Timothy 4:12
Given to hospitality	1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:8	1 Peter 4:9; Hebrews 13:2; Luke 10:33
Apt to teach, Holding fast the faithful word.	1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:9	Evangelists. 1 Timothy 4:11; 2 Timothy 1:13; 2 Timothy 2:24 Women Titus 2:3-4 Others. Hebrews 5:12; 2 Thessalonians 2:15; Matthew 28:19; 1 Corinthians 11:2; Colossians 4:6
Good report from without	1 Timothy 3:7	cf. Ecclesiastes 7:1; Proverbs 22:1; Philippians 2:15; 1 Peter 3:16

Qualifications of Elders

	Elders	All
Not given to wine	1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7	Romans 13:13; 1 Corinthians 5:11; Matthew 12:45; 1 Corinthians 6:10; Galatians 5:21; cf. Proverbs 20:1
Not a striker	1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7	Matthew 5:25; 39-41; 1 Peter 2:23; Romans 13:13; Romans 2:8; Romans 14:19; Galatians 5:19
Not greedy of filthy lucre	1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7; 1 Peter 5:2	Matthew 6:33; 1 Timothy 6:10,17
Patient (Gentle R.V.)	1 Timothy 3:3	2 Peter 1:6; 1 Thessalonians 5:14; 1 Timothy 6:11; 2 Timothy 2:24; Hebrews 12:1; James 5:7
Not a Brawler (R.V.)	1 Timothy 3:3	Titus 3:2; Titus 3:9; James 3:16
Not covetous.	1 Timothy 3:3	Hebrews 13:5; 1 Timothy 6:10; Galatians 5:19-21; Colossians 3:5
Not a novice.	Titus 3:6	Hebrews 5:12-14; 2 Peter 3:18; Ephesians 4:14

Qualifications of Elders

	Elders	All
Not self-willed	Titus 1:7	2 Peter 2:10; cf. Proverbs 8:13; 1 Corinthians 3:13; 4:6
Not soon angry	Titus 1:7	James 1:19; Matthew 5:22; Colossians 3:8
Lover of good (men)	Titus 1:8	1 John 3:14; John 13:34-35
Just	Titus 1:8	1 Timothy 5:21
Holy	Titus 1:8	Romans 12:1; 1 Corinthians 3:17; 1 Peter 2:5,9; Hebrews 12:14; Romans 6:12