

A scenic autumn landscape featuring a pond in the foreground, surrounded by trees with vibrant orange, red, and yellow foliage. A white arrow with a black outline points to the right, positioned in the center of the image.

*Welcome To
Sunday Night Bible Fellowship*

“We proclaim Him, warning every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man mature in Christ.” Col 1:28

“Qualifications for an Elder-Pastor-Overseer”

Part IV

Titus 1:6-9

October 18, 2015

Titus 1:6-9

6 namely, if any man is above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion.

7 For the overseer must be above reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain,

8 but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled,

9 holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.

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“hospitable”

φιλοξενος

love of hospitality

fond of guests, friendliness toward others, warm, kind, generous, providing food and drink for guests and strangers, making others feel valued and special, meeting the needs of others.

1 Tim 3:2

2 An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,

1 Peter 4:9

9 Be hospitable to one another without complaint.

Rom 12:9-13

9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.

10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor;

11 not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

12 rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,

13 contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.

1 Tim 5:9-10

9 A widow is to be put on the list only if she is not less than sixty years old, having been the wife of one man,

10 having a reputation for good works; and if she has brought up children, if she has shown hospitality to strangers,

Heb 13:2

2 Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers,

3 John 5-8

5 Beloved, you are acting faithfully in whatever you accomplish for the brethren, and especially when they are strangers;

6 and they have testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God.

7 For they went out for the sake of the Name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles.

8 Therefore we ought to support such men, so that we may be fellow workers with the truth.

Importance:

1. Enables him to interact with those to whom he ministers.
2. Sees hospitality as an avenue for discipleship and evangelism.
3. Gives him an opportunity to minister to missionaries, evangelists, other Elders, and other Bible teachers.

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“loving what is good”

φιλαγαθος

loving good

benevolent, seeking - morality, integrity, what is right,
justice, excellence.

Phil 4:8

8 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

1 Thess 5:15, 20-22

15 See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people.

20 do not despise prophetic utterances.

21 But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good;

3 John 11

11 Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. The one who does good is of God;

1 John 2:15

15 Do not love the world nor the things in the world.

2 Tim 3:1-4

1 But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come.

2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy,

3 unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good,

Importance:

1. He has good motives.
2. He makes good decisions.
3. He has good relationships.

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8 but hospitable, loving what is good, **sensible**, just, devout, self-controlled,

9 holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.

“sensible”

σωφροῶν

to save the mind

sober-minded, discreet, temperate, sound in judgment, i.e. “one who is in control of his mind and his thoughts”, “not caught up in the trivial”, “not easily distracted”.

2 Tim 1:7

7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

2 Cor 10:5

5 We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,

2 Cor 5:13

13 For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are of sound mind, it is for you.

Importance:

1. Sets correct priorities.
2. Stays focused on the task at hand.
3. Filters out unbiblical thoughts.
4. Thinks logically in his leadership, in his preparation, and in his application of the Word.

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“just”

δικαιος

fair, equitable, right, unbiased, impartial

i.e. “one who demonstrates the fair, just, and righteous character of God”, “committed to doing the “right” thing in every situation”.

Rom 12:17

17 Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men.

2 Cor 13:7

7 Now we pray to God that you do no wrong; not that we ourselves may appear approved, but that you may do what is right,

1 Peter 2:15

15 For such is the will of God that by doing right you may silence the ignorance of foolish men.

Importance:

1. Sees situations and issues unbiased.
2. Can not be accused of favoritism.

James 2:2-5

- 2 For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes,
- 3 and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, "You sit here in a good place," and you say to the poor man, "You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool,"
- 4 have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives?
3. Desires to do what is right even though he may pay a big price.
 4. Does not allow money, power, or fame to cloud his leadership and his teaching.

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“devout”

οσιος

holy

committed, dedicated, devoted, loyal, faithful

i.e. “one who’s passion is Christ-likeness”, “one who is pursuing maturity”.

1 Thess 2:10

10 You are witnesses, and so is God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers;

Importance:

1. Is an example of godliness.
2. Leads others to grow into maturity.
3. Sees his Bible teaching as a means of helping believers become committed followers of Christ.

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“self-controlled”

εγκρατης

in power

disciplined, restraint over emotions/impulses/desires.

i.e. “one who has will-power”.

1 Cor 9:24-27

24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.

25 Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.

26 Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air;

27 but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

Gal 5:22-23

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

23 gentleness, self-control;

2 Peter 1:5-6

5 Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge,

6 and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness,

1 Cor 6:12

12 All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything.

Importance:

1. Keeps his cool.
2. Does not allow his emotions to override his thinking.
3. Is disciplined in his study of the Word to consistently deliver quality expositional sermons.

Qualifications for an Elder/Pastor-Teacher

Character

Above reproach
Man – husband of one wife
Temperate/Self controlled
Prudent
Respectable
Hospitable
Not addicted to wine
Gentle
Peaceable
Free from the love of money/Not fond of sordid gain
Manages household well
Children under control - not accused of dissipation and rebellion
Not a new convert
Good reputation outside the church
Not self-willed
Not quick tempered
Not pugnacious
Sensible
Just
Devout

Abilities

Able to Teach

Application

1. God can accomplish great things through godly leaders who model and demonstrate the character called for by the qualifications found in Scripture.
2. Conversely nothing will impede the work of God more, than unqualified elders who lack the character to lead the people of God.
3. It matters little how great the preaching or teaching gift of the elder/pastor is, if he is not qualified in his character, God is under no obligation to bless his efforts.