

Appoint Biblically Qualified Elders

Titus 1:5-9

September 12, 2021 | Joel Smith, College Minister

BIG IDEA: The primary qualification for elders in the church is godly character.

Titus 1:5-9 | "5 This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— 6 if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. 7 For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, 8 but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. 9 He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it."

I. Introduction

- A. The entire church needs to understand what elders within the church are, what they are called to do, and what qualifies them to serve in that office.
- B. God in His grace has given order to His Church. Living within this order brings life, vibrancy, and power to our spiritual lives.
- C. There is a tremendous need in our world and in our churches today for more qualified men aspiring to the office of elder for the right reasons.

II. Elders and Elder's Responsibilities

- A. What is an "elder"?
 - a. An "elder" is simply the title used in the New Testament for those called to lead the church.
 - b. "Elder" / "Overseer" / "Shepherd" / "Pastor" are used interchangeably in the Scriptures to identify a man called to lead the church.

- B. What are the elder's responsibilities?
 - a. Lead under the Authority of Christ.
 - b. Care for the Body of Christ.
 - c. Teach the Word of Christ.
 - d. Model the Character of Christ.

III. Qualifications of Elders

- A. Above reproach
- B. The husband of one wife
- C. His children's character
- D. Not arrogant
- E. Not quick-tempered
- F. Not a drunkard
- G. Not violent
- H. Not greedy for gain
- I. Hospitable
- J. A lover of good
- K. Self-controlled
- L. Upright
- M. Holy
- N. Disciplined
- O. Holds firm to the trustworthy word

Benediction | 2 Timothy 2:20-21

"20 Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable. 21 Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work."