

L15: 1 Timothy 5:17-25: The Elders Rule

Sermon Intro: Review/Summarize

- Behaving in the House of God
- Preaching & Teaching the Word of God
- The Elder Men, The Elder Women, The Young Men, The Young Women
- The Widows

Sermon Preview:

- The Elders Rule
 - Worthy of Double Honour/Reward
 - Good Behaviour
 - No Brawler - Lay hands suddenly on no man
 - Not partaker of other men's sins (keep thyself pure)
 - Judgment of sins & good works

Sermon:

(1 Timothy 5:17) Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

- **"Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour"**
 - **"elders"**
 - **"bishops"** (overseer) - (episkopos) superintendent, one in general charge of the church
 - "of your souls" - "feed the church of God"
 - "office of a bishop" - given to the inspection of the church
 - **"deacons"** - (diakonos) (minister, servants) - attendant, waiter
 - Both have that to do with the Word of God, but one is "apt to teach" the other can teach, but may not have that "aptness" nevertheless "holds the mystery of the faith".
 - **"elder"** - (presbyter) (council) - general term for "bishops and deacons" or the council of bishops and deacons
 - Both "bishops" and "deacons" as part of the "presbytery" (order of elders) are to "rule" both in conjunction with the Word of God, but also differently in conjunction with the Word of God.

- **"bishops"** - feed the church
- **"deacons"** - serve the church

- Combination of 1 Timothy 3:1ff and 1 Timothy 4:14
 - Timothy was part of the "elder council" and was recognized as such by the "presbytery"; however, sense Paul is writing to Timothy about how to "feed the flock" Timothy is the "bishop" on the elder council.

- **"that rule well"**

- **"rule"** - Govern the flock according to God's operations in accord with the Word of God - follows the Word of God and establishes it as the principle for the church and prescribes it as the truth to manage all affairs by.

- **"well"** - they do this well - they do this as the Word of God sets forth

- 2 Cor. 11:28 - the care of the church

- **"be counted worthy of double honour"**

- 1 Thessalonians 5:11-13
- Hebrews 13:7, 17

- **"honour"** - high respect, esteem by words or actions

- "double honour" - :18

- **"especially they who labour in the word and doctrine"**

- :18 - ox

- **"labour"** - fatigued, weary

- **"in the word and doctrine"** - the word of God and the doctrine it sets forth for understanding (not a spiritual gift)

- 1 Tim. 4:11-16

- "word" - proclamation, exhortation, admonition

- "doctrine" - instructive

(1 Timothy 5:18) For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.

- **"For the scripture saith,"**

- Deut. 25:4
- Luke 10:7

- **"Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn."**

- Deut. 25:4
- 1 Cor. 9:1-11

- **"And, "the labourer is worthy of his reward."**

- Luke 10:7
- Physical, carnal things (food and funds)

(1 Timothy 5:19) Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.

- Accusations against an elder
- Receive before two or three witnesses
 - Matthew 18:15-20 process for the members is the same for the elders
 - Protects against frivolous, evil accusers

(1 Timothy 5:20) Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.

- **"Them that sin rebuke before all"**

- After the investigation of accusation if there is a continuation, especially in view of the qualification (3:2-7)
- Rebuke for all that others also may fear
 - More public - in hope of repentance

(1 Timothy 5:21) I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.

- **"I charge thee before" - 2 Tim. 4:1**

- "God"
- "the Lord Jesus Christ"
- "elect angels" - 1 Tim. 3:16, 5:14-15

- **"observe these things"**

- "double honour"
- Order of correction from accusation
- **"without preferring one before another"**
 - **"doing nothing by partiality."**

- Whether the honor or the reception of accusation

- No personal preference, done fairly

(1 Timothy 5:22) Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.

- **"Lay hands suddenly on no man"**

- OT practice of laying hands on a sacrificial animal to identify with it (Ex. 29:10, 15, 19; Heb. 6:2)
- 1 Tim. 4:14
- 2 Tim. 1:6
- **"neither be partaker of other men's sins"**
 - Partake in the "sudden" ordination of an elder thus responsible for their unqualification
- **"keep thyself pure."**
 - Need quality and qualified leaders and to be chosen carefully

(1 Timothy 5:23) Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.

- Seems to come out of no where
- Paul had a weak stomach and with the burden of the assembly may have been weaker
 - Also, he was "not to be given to much wine" and may have not subjected himself to any
 - Water wasn't as clean as it is today and may have caused further infirmities
 - Physical and spiritual
 - Proverbs 31:6 - "...and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts."
 - 2 Tim. 1:7
- **"little wine"** - consistent with "not much wine"
 - Probably substantiated, by the physician "Luke", already had quoted Luke's writings
 - **"thine often infirmities"** - no healing, but medicine

(1 Timothy 5:24) Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after.

- When laying hands on another
 - "judgment" the process and of the ordination
 - "some men's sins are open beforehand" - easy to see
 - "some men they follow after." - during the evaluation or after ordination other sins will follow after
 - To beware of both

(1 Timothy 5:25) Likewise also the good works of some are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid.

- **"Likewise also the good works"**
 - **"some are manifest beforehand"** - good works go before
 - **"otherwise"** - after the judgment (cannot be hid)

- Patience in process, fair, impartial, and pure

Sermon Conclusion: Review/Summarize