

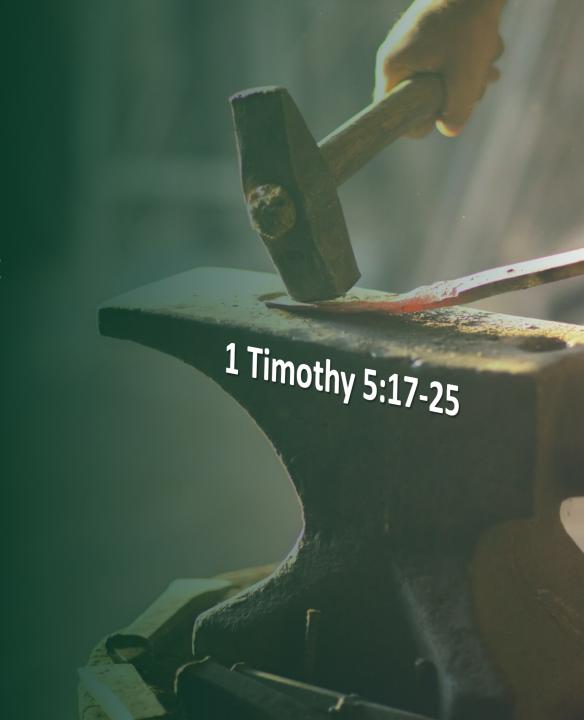
Gospel Rules for Gospel Rulers



The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For Scripture says, "Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages."



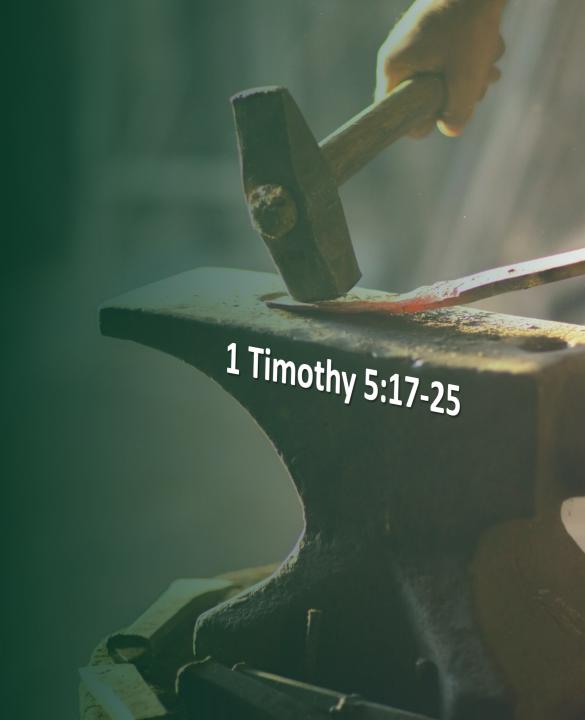
Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by two or three witnesses. But those who are sinning you are to reprove before everyone, so that the others may take warning.



I charge you, in the sight of God and Christ Jesus and the elect angels, to keep these instructions without partiality, and to do nothing out of favoritism.



Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, and do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure. Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses.



The sins of some are obvious, reaching the place of judgment ahead of them; the sins of others trail behind them. In the same way, good deeds are obvious, and even those that are not obvious cannot remain hidden forever.



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This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.





CARE

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1 Timothy 5:17

Give proper respect and remuneration.

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For Scripture says, "Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages."

1 Timothy 5:18

Give proper respect and remuneration.

"I give to the Levites as their inheritance the tithes that the Israelites present as an offering to the LORD ... Speak to the Levites and say to them: 'When you receive from the Israelites the tithe I give you as your inheritance, you must present a tenth of that tithe as the LORD's offering."



"Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."



"The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel."



"Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches."



"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you."



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Public position, public discipline.



"None are more exposed to slanders and insults than godly teachers. This comes not only from the difficulty of their duties, which are so great that sometimes they sink under them, or stagger and halt, or take a false step, so that wicked men find many occasions of finding fault with them.

John Calvin



"But added to that, even when they do all their duties correctly, they never avoid a thousand criticisms. It is indeed a trick of Satan to estrange people from their ministers so as gradually to bring them and their teaching into contempt."

John Calvin







Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. This is why it is said:

"Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."



CHOOSING

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1 Timothy 5:22-25

Take your time, because time and truth walk hand in hand.

