

# “Christian Leadership”

## 1 Timothy Chapter 3

### D) BISHOPS (v1-7)

> “Bishops” – The word *Bishop* means *Overseer, such as Pastors and Elders*. These are the men who are responsible for leading and taking care of God’s flock, the church.

#### Qualifications of Bishops:

- 1- Blameless- Without reproach.
- 2- Husband of one wife- One-woman man.
- 3- Temperate- Clear headed, alert.
- 4- Sober-minded- Self control.
- 5- Good behavior- Orderly lives.
- 6- Hospitable- Love of strangers.
- 7- Able to teach
- 8- Not given to wine
- 9- Not violent- A brawler.
- 10- Not greedy for money
- 11- Gentle- Considerate, gracious.
- 12- Not quarrelsome- Argumentative.
- 13- Not covetous- Always in want.
- 14- Rules his house well
- 15- Children well-behaved & respectful
- 16- Not a novice- New Christian.
- 17- A good testimony- A changed life.
- 18- A witness to the world- Shares his faith.

- Elder’s example – **1 Peter 5:1-7** (A good shepherd will feed, tend, guide and protect the sheep.) (1) *Elders* are also called to *labor in Word and doctrine* – **1 Tim 5:17-18** - *Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine.* (2) *Pastors must train others to teach* - **2 Tim 2:1-2** - *You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.* (3) *Ministry in Action* – **Acts 6:1-7**

### II) DEACONS (v8-13)

> “Deacons” - “to serve” - To denote any service in the church. Deacons serve under the leadership of elders, helping them exercise oversight in the practical matters of church life. Scripture defines no official or specific responsibilities for deacons; they are to do whatever the elders assign them or whatever spiritual ministry is necessary.

#### Qualifications of Deacons:

- 1- Reverent- In mind & character.
- 2- Not double-tongued- Hypocritical.
- 3- Not given to much wine
- 4- Not greedy for money
- 5- Holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience\*
- 6- Must be tested for service- Ongoing evaluation.
- 7- Blameless
- 8- Wife qualifications – Reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things.
- 9- One wife & children ruled well.

- *The heart of ministry* – **Mark 10:35-45; Mark 9:35-36** - *And He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all.”* **Matt 23:11-12** - *But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.* (Ministry in Action – Acts 6 (Stephen & Philip))

### III) THE CHURCH (v14-16)

(v15) Today the *ground of truth* is eroding and the *pillars* are being toppled. We must sure up the foundation of CREATION, the TRINITY, the DEITY OF CHRIST; maintain the pillars of SALVATION (sin & repentance), JUSTIFICATION THROUGH FAITH, REGENERATION BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, the 2<sup>ND</sup> COMING OF CHRIST!

## THE SHEPHERD AND THE CHURCH

### THE CHURCH IS:

- 1) The church is the only institution that our Lord promised to build and to bless (Mt. 16:18).
- 2) The church is the gathering place of true worshipers (Phil. 3:3).
- 3) The church is the most precious assembly on earth since Christ purchased it with His own blood (Acts 20:28; 1 Cor. 6:19; Eph. 5:25; Col. 1:20; 1 Peter 1:18; Rev. 1:5).
- 4) The church is the earthly expression of heavenly reality (Mt. 6:10; 18:18).
- 5) The church will ultimately triumph both universally and locally (Mt. 16:18; Phil. 1:6).
- 6) The church is the realm of spiritual fellowship (Heb. 10:22-25; 1 Jn. 1:3, 6-7)
- 7) The church is the proclaimer and protector of divine truth (1 Tim. 3:15; Titus 2:1, 15).
- 8) The church is the chief place for spiritual edification and growth (Acts 20:32; Eph. 4:11-16; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 1 Peter 2:1-2; 2 Peter 3:18).
- 9) The church is the launching pad for world evangelization (Mk. 16:15; Titus 2:11).
- 10) The church is the environment where strong spiritual leadership develops and matures (2 Tim. 2:2)