



*“The Church That Guards the Gospel”*  
**GOD’S STANDARD FOR SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP**  
**1 Timothy 3:2–7**

*Godly leadership is not about position—  
it is about proven character shaped by Christ.*

**I. THE BLAMELESS LIFE HE LIVES (v. 2a)**

*“Therefore an overseer must be above reproach...”*

*“above reproach” = anepilēmtos - not able to be seized, not open to attack.*

Not perfection—but consistency.

Not sinlessness—but integrity.

**II. THE PURE RELATIONSHIPS HE MAINTAINS (v. 2b)**

*“The husband of one wife...” - a one-woman man.*

**III. THE DISCIPLINED CHARACTER HE DISPLAYS (vv. 2c–3)**

**A. A Controlled Mind**

*“sober-minded” – nēphalios - clear-headed, sober-minded*

**B. A Respectable Life**

*“self-controlled” - kosmios - orderly, well-arranged*

**C. A Restrained Lifestyle**

*“not a drunkard” - mē paroinon – not given to drink alcohol*

*“not violent” – plēktēs - “but gentle” – epieikēs - patient, gracious*

---

#### **D. A Content Heart**

*“not a lover of money” – philargyros – not driven by greed*

#### **IV. THE OPEN HOME HE OFFERS (v. 2d)**

*“Hospitable” – philoxenos - lover of strangers*

#### **V. THE SOUND DOCTRINE HE TEACHES (v. 2e)**

*“Able to teach” – didaktikos - skilled in teaching*

#### **VI. THE ORDERED HOME HE LEADS (vv. 4–5)**

*“He must manage his own household well” – proistēmi - to lead, stand before, care for*

#### **VII. THE HUMBLE SPIRIT HE PROTECTS (v. 6)**

*“He must not be a recent convert” – neophytos - newly planted*

#### **VIII. THE HONORABLE REPUTATION HE KEEPS (v. 7)**

*“Well thought of by outsiders” - martyria kale - good testimony*

#### **NO MAN PERFECTLY MEETS THIS STANDARD...**

....That is why we need a perfect Savior.

Jesus Christ fulfilled every qualification perfectly:

- Perfectly above reproach
- Perfectly pure
- Perfectly humble
- Perfectly faithful

And He died for imperfect leaders like us.

---