

THE SCRIPTURAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTING ELDERS Pt. 4

(1 Timothy 3:1-7)

- A. The SCOOP on SPIRITUAL LEADERS.**
- B. The Scriptural CRITERIA for PASTORS / ELDERS is NOT ...**
- C. The GENERAL OBSERVATIONS about PASTORS / ELDERS:**
- D. The SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS of a PASTOR / ELDER. (1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9)**

- A partial listing of the OT and NT references to “elders”:

OT – Ex. 3:16, 18; 4:29; 12:21; 17:5,6; 18:12; 19:7; Leviticus 4:15; Joshua 8:10,33; Judges 8:14,16
Ruth 4:2, 4,9,11; 1 Samuel 4:3, 8:4

The GOSPELS – Matt. 16:21, 21:23, 26:3; Mark 8:31; Luke 9:22, 20:1

ACTS – *Elders of Israel*: 4:5, 8, 23, 5:21, 6:12; *Elders of the Church*: 11:30; 14:23; 15:2, 4, 6, 22, 23;
16:4; 20:17, 18

EPISTLES – 1 Timothy 5:17-20; Titus 1:5; James 5:14; 1 Peter 5:1, 5

REVELATION - 4:10; 5:5, 6, 8, 11, 14; 7:11, 13; 11:16; 14:3; 19:14

- What did the evaluation / confirmation process of elders & deacons look like then & and what does it look like today? (Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5; 1 Tim. 3:10, 4:14; 5:19-25)
- What are some implications and applications regarding...
... these pastoral qualifications? (2 Corinthians 3:5-6; Romans 7 & 8; John 15:4-5)

... the candidating / confirmation process regarding selecting someone from outside your local church or within the assembly?

Observations:

- 1) Spiritual leaders {church planters or LC elders} are to appoint other spiritual leaders {elders or deacons} only after the prospective elder or deacon has _____ the scriptural qualifications tests personally and doctrinally.
- 2) Spiritual leaders are *not* to make these appointments _____ but only after observing the prospective candidate over time, along with hearing sufficient congregational feedback.

... the plurality & number of elders? What needs to be clear functionally with a plurality of elders and what needs to be avoided?

... the training of pastors from within the assembly or from without?

... the pastor's / elder's wife qualifications, role, and influence?

... the congregational need to reject a double-standard regarding elders and others.

... the problems with “congregational rule” vs an “elder-led” church

... the congregation's feedback regarding elder selection & confirmation

... the present pastor(s) remaining qualified (1 Timothy 4:16, 5:19-20)