



1 Timothy 3:1-7

The Qualifications for Elder

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The Office of Elder

1 Timothy 3:1

It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the **office of overseer**, it is a fine work he desires to do.

Titus 1:5

For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and **appoint elders** in every city as I directed you...

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Qualifications for Elder

1 Timothy 3:2-3

An overseer, then, **must be above reproach**, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, **able to teach**, 3 not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money.

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Qualifications for Elder

1 Timothy 3:4-6

He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity 5 (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?), 6 and not a new convert, **so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil.**

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Qualifications for Elder

1 Timothy 3:7

And he **must** have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

Applications

1. We should know that the role as elder is comprised of a servant role dedicated to feeding the flock the word of God.
2. We should understand biblical definitions of elders/pastors.
3. We should understand eldership as a gift given by Christ.

Biblical Elders Feed the Flock

Jeremiah 23:1

“Woe to the **shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep** of My pasture!” declares the LORD.

Jeremiah 23:4

I will also raise up shepherds over them and they will tend them; and they will not be afraid any longer, nor be terrified, nor will any be missing,” declares the LORD.

Biblical Elders Are Servants

Mark 9:35

Sitting down, He called the twelve and said to them, “If anyone wants to be first, **he shall be last of all and servant of all.**”

Mark 10:45

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Biblical Definitions of Elder/Pastor

Pastor = poimein
Elder = presbuteros
Overseer = episkopos

James 5:14

Is anyone among you sick? **Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil** in the name of the Lord...

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Elders Are Gifts From Christ

Ephesians 4:11-12

And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and **some as pastors and teachers**, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ...

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