

The Office of Bishop: Leaders in the Word and of the Church

The KEY to understanding 1 Timothy's teaching: remember this is the first _____ Epistle. 3:14-15

From 1 Timothy 2 on, we are seeing God's _____ structure.

From 2:12 we saw that women are not to be in the place, office or position of pastoral authority, however, 3:1 we see God's structure for the local church.

We only ordain spiritually qualified _____ to the pastorate.

Three paragraphs in chapter 3 lay out the authority structure in the church.

1: Deals with _____. (v1-7) 2: Deals with _____. (v8-13) 3: Gives the _____! (v14-16)

I. Desiring the Office. Vs 1

- A "true (sometimes rendered / translated as "_____") saying"
This phrase shows up 5 times in the Pastoral Epistles. 1 Tim 1:15; 3:1-7; 4:6-11; 2 Tim 2:11-13; Titus 3:8
This phrase always tags great importance. Why?

- What is a bishop?** A bishop is one of _____ key names for the _____.

1. Bishop - "episkops" = A _____ elder. Ex: Phil 1:1

Vs 5: tells us what is the scope of his responsibility. In Titus 1:7 Hi is "the _____ of God;"

The Bishop is _____ for the church before God. He has the _____ of the church.

2. _____ - "presbuteros" presbyter. This speaks to the pastor's _____ and _____.

"Bishop" labels the office, "Elder" defines him as one who is _____. **Acts 20:17, 28**

Overseer = "Episkopos" = Bishops.

What are they to do? Feed = to "tend" as a shepherd. 1 Peter 5:1-4

Elders have been around the block a few times. They pastor to receive the praise of Christ. **Mt 25:21**

3. Shepherd (or _____) This is the **common designation for the office.**

The shepherd's function is _____ and caring for the sheep! **Eph 4:11-16**

The pastor is to protect the sheep (vs 14) and to see the flock flourish (vs 12-16)

The pastorate is a _____ position. 1 Tim 5:17-18

II. The _____ for the Office.

Vs 1-7 list the 16 qualifications of a pastor. There are also 16 qualifications for a pastor listed in Titus 1.

(Homework: list the differing additional qualifications from Titus and see if you can get a 24 count.)

The requirements for the office of pastor eliminate many from qualifying for the job! **Problem:** Too many churches call pastors based on charisma or the ability to entertain. What about the church that he left? His family? What about his testimony before those that truly know him?

People put a premium on what a minister can _____, God puts a premium on who a minister _____!

KEY: Who you are and what you are doing now – is who you will be and what you'll be doing in the office of a pastor.

The character qualities of the man of God are required in the pastor, but they illustrate a life that should be characteristic of every believer! 1 Peter 5: 3



The Character Qualities of the Man of God: _____ for an Elder

1. Vs2 A bishop then must be **blameless**,
Not sinless, blameless. This is God's plan for all! 1 Thes 5:23; Eph 1:4
2. **the husband of one wife**,
So, 2 wives disqualify him. _____ was rampant in the 1st century church.
God's design: One husband, one wife. When you are looking for a pastor, you want a proven family man – that is one way to KNOW what you are getting in the pastorate.
3. **vigilant**, - watchful. Knowing.
4. **sober**, - sensible. Full of sense. Not drunk. These two go together – why? **1 Peter 5:8**
5. **of good behaviour**, - we see this word (translated here as “good behavior”) only one other time in the NT!
1 Tim 2:9 “modest” The pastor should wear / live out the Word! Phil 1:27; 2 Cor 1:12; Col 1:10
6. **given to hospitality**, - willing to entertain / put up strangers! **Heb 13:1-2**
7. **apt to teach**; - ABLE to teach. Willing to teach. Eph 4:11-16; 2 Tim 2:23-25
Jesus was a patient teacher. But He was a powerful authority! Matt 7:28-29; Luke 4:32
This was His last _____! Matt 28:18-20
8. Vs3 **Not given to wine**, - If your pastor has to have a drink to get by – the church is in trouble! **Why?**
Prov 20:1; **23:29-35**; Eph 5:8; 17-19; 1 Peter 4:2-3
9. **no striker**, - **2 Tim 2:24** You must be able to control your temper! The world, life can be frustrating.
Unless you can gain the spiritual perspective, you will never gain victory. Gen 4:6-8
10. **not greedy of filthy lucre**; **This is one of 2 of the greatest temptations and causes of _____ in the ministry today.** #’s 2 & 13 describe the other major cause for failure!
The pastor cannot be in it for the money. Remember 1 Peter 5:1-4; **1 Tim 6:10**
11. **but patient**, = also translated as “gentle” – Titus 3:1-2; and “moderation” in Phil 4:5; Rom 5:1-5; Eccl 7:8
12. **not a brawler**, = fighting – verbal trash talker. “loud mouthing”
13. **not covetous**; Col 3:5; Eph 5:3-5; Ex 20:17 **You can covet things other than money.**
_____ is the other big point of failure in the pastorate today.
14. Vs 4-5 **One that ruleth well his own house**, Titus 1:6 If the pastor's kids are punks, guess what? He can't pastor. If he doesn't know what he's doing (Prov 22:6; Titus 3:8) then you don't want him! (Heb 13:17)
He will be the same man in the church that he is in his home.
15. Vs 6 **Not a novice**, Isa 14:14; 1Thess 5:12-13; Heb 13:17 **Never put a rookie in the pastorate.**
16. Vs 7 he must **have a good report of them which are without**; Col 4:5
Satan is always setting traps. You want your pastor to know how to side step them!

Take away:

- 1.
2. **These are points of prayer for your pastors. Please pray for us!**

