

I Timothy

(8) Qualifications of an Overseer

1 Tim 3:1-7

3 It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do. 2 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. 4 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. 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.
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(12) Moral qualifications for an Overseer...3:1-3

What is the first requisite for an overseer (elder)? 3:1; Acts 20:28; Phil.1:1; Titus 1:5-7

What is the meaning of ‘above reproach’? 3:2 (Note: not sinless! All would be disqualified!)

What is the meaning of ‘husband of one wife’? 3:2; 4:3; ICor.7:8

Why might this be at the top of the list for an elder? Mt.19:9; ICor.7:15, 7:8 Abuses??

What does *temperate* mean? 3:2; IPet.4:7, 5:8

What does *prudent, respectable, and hospitable* mean? 3:2; Rom.12:9-13; Titus 1:8; Heb.13:2

What is the next (unique for elders) quality? 3:2b; 4:6,11,13,16, 5:17; IITim.2:15, 24; Titus 2:1

What is ‘not addicted to wine or pugnacious’? 3:3; IITim.2:24-25; Titus 1:7

What’s last in the list of moral qualifications? 3:3b see Micah 3:11-12

(4) Home life, maturity, reputation qualifications...3:4-7

What are the next (2) tests for an elder? 3:4, 12; Titus 1:6

Why is this a valid qualification? 3:5 see ISam.3:10-14

What is the next test for an elder? 3:6; ICor.3:1; Heb.5:12-13; IPet.2:2 Why? 3:6b IPet.5:5

And finally, what is the last test? 3:7; Acts 22:12; IIIJn.11-12 Why? 3:7b; 6:9

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(12) Moral qualifications for an Overseer...3:1-3

What is the first requisite for an overseer (elder)? 3:1; Acts 20:28; Phil.1:1; Titus 1:5-7

A man (male) aspires (internal self desire) to the (official) office of overseer (episkopes)

What is the meaning of 'above reproach'? 3:2 (Note: not sinless! All would be disqualified!)

Above reproach means 'nothing to take hold upon'. Nothing for valid accusations.

What is the meaning of 'husband of one wife'? 3:2; 4:3; ICor.7:8

= 'one woman man'. NOT reference to his marital status. It's moral/sexual behavior.

Why might this be at the top of the list for an elder? Mt.19:9; ICor.7:15, 7:8 Abuses??

Leaders especially vulnerable. Not polygamy or re-married widow or divorce or single.

What does *temperate* mean? 3:2; IPet.4:7, 5:8

'wine less; alert/clear headed'. The elder is not characterized by dulled senses.

What does *prudent, respectable, and hospitable* mean? 3:2; Rom.12:9-13; Titus 1:8; Heb.13:2

Prudent=well-disciplined; respectable=orderly/accomplished; hospitable=love strangers.

What is the next (unique for elders) quality? 3:2b; 4:6,11,13,16, 5:17; IITim.2:15, 24; Titus 2:1

'able to teach'. Unique to an elder. Obviously teaching the Word of God. Gifted to do so.

What is 'not addicted to wine or pugnacious'? 3:3; IITim.2:24-25; Titus 1:7

No reputation as a drinker. Pugnacious=not a giver of blows. Gentle, uncontentious.

What's last in the list of moral qualifications? 3:3b see Micah 3:11-12

'free from the love of money'. Especially not abusing their positions for financial gain.

(4) Home life, maturity, reputation qualifications...3:4-7

What are the next (2) tests for an elder? 3:4, 12; Titus 1:6

He must be one who manages his own household well, children under control w/dignity.

Why is this a valid qualification? 3:5 see ISam.3:10-14

If he can't manage his own household how can he ever manage the church of God??

What is the next test for an elder? 3:6; ICor.3:1; Heb.5:12-13; IPet.2:2 Why? 3:6b IPet.5:5

Not a new convert. Must have some spiritual maturity. Danger of conceit / pride.

And finally, what is the last test? 3:7; Acts 22:12; IIIJn.11-12 Why? 3:7b; 6:9

Good reputation w/unbelievers. Avoids reproach (on Christ) and snare of the devil.