

A Study of the Eldership

Lesson 5: Qualifications for Elders: Positive Qualifications, part 2 of 3

Qualifications of Elders

- ✦ Relative: Qualifications one has, but in which he can and should grow and develop.
- ✦ Absolute: One either has or does not have
- ✦ All are in the present tense. They are what an elder must “be”

Last Week...

- ✦ He should desire the office
- ✦ Without reproach – blameless
- ✦ Temperate (vigilant), sober minded
- ✦ Orderly, of good behavior

Positive Qualifications, part 2

✠ The husband of one wife

1 Timothy 3:2

A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

Titus 1:6

If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.

Positive Qualifications, part 2

✦ The husband of one wife

◆ Present tense, not multiple wives

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- ◆ Present tense, not multiple wives
- ◆ Anything about divorce or death ???

Positive Qualifications, part 2

✦ The husband of one wife

✦ Rules his own house well

1 Timothy 3:4-5

One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; 5) (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

Titus 1:6

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- A believer? (not clear, but many authorities say yes)
- Well behaved - definitely

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◆ Why – how rule in the church?

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- ✦ The husband of one wife
- ✦ Rules his own house well
- ✦ Hospitable (lover of strangers)

1 Timothy 3:2

A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

Titus 1:8

But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;

Positive Qualifications, part 2

✦ The husband of one wife

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✦ Hospitable

◆ Ready to relieve those who are suffering out of one's own means

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- ◆ Ready to relieve those who are suffering out of one's own means
- ◆ Persecution of Christians often resulted in homelessness.

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- ✦ Rules his own house well
- ✦ Hospitable
- ✦ Able to teach, exhort and convict

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Titus 1:9

Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

Positive Qualifications, part 2

- ✦ The husband of one wife
- ✦ Rules his own house well
- ✦ Hospitable
- ✦ Able to teach, exhort and convict
 - ◆ “didaktikos” – one qualified to teach

2 Timothy 2:24-25

And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, 25) In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

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✦ Rules his own house well

✦ Hospitable

✦ Able to teach, exhort and convict

◆ “didaktikos” – one qualified to teach

◆ “parakaleo” – exhort, intreat, comfort, instruct

1 Thessalonians 5:14

Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

Titus 2:6, 15

Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded.

These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.

Positive Qualifications, part 2

✦ The husband of one wife

✦ Rules his own house well

✦ Hospitable

✦ Able to teach, exhort and convict

◆ “didaktikos” – one qualified to teach

◆ “parakaleo” – exhort, intreat, comfort, instruct

◆ “elegcho” – convict, refute, correct

2 Timothy 4:2

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Conclusion:

✦ In addition to what we studied last week, an elder must be...

- ◆ The husband of one wife
- ◆ One that rules his house well
- ◆ Hospitable (lover of strangers)
- ◆ Able to teach, exhort and convict

✦ Our responsibilities: Study, Pray, Obey
(Heb. 13:17)