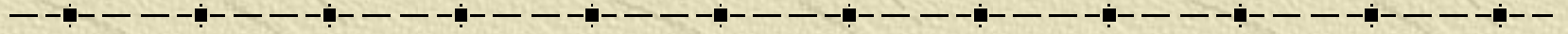


A Study of the Eldership

**Lesson 6: Qualifications for Elders:
Positive Qualifications, part 3 of 3**

Why study this?



✦ It is the Word, II Tim. 4:2

2 Timothy 4:2

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

Why study this?

✦ It is the Word, II Tim. 4:2

✦ Leadership is vital

Numbers 27:15-18

And Moses spake unto the LORD, saying, Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation, Which may go out before them, and which may go in before them, and which may lead them out, and which may bring them in; that the congregation of the LORD be not as sheep which have no shepherd. And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom *is* the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him;

Matthew 9:36

But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

Why study this?

✦ It is the Word, II Tim. 4:2

✦ Leadership is vital

◆ As goes the leadership, so goes the church

Acts 20:28-30

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.

Why study this?

✦ It is the Word, II Tim. 4:2

✦ Leadership is vital

✦ It is rarely studied in detail, hence, many are ordained to the position without the qualifications.

Thus far...

- ✦ He should desire the office
- ✦ Without reproach – blameless
- ✦ Temperate (vigilant), sober minded
- ✦ Orderly, of good behavior
- ✦ The husband of one wife
- ✦ One that rules his house well
- ✦ Hospitable (lover of strangers)
- ✦ Able to teach, exhort and convict

Positive Qualifications, part 3

✠ An elder must be **gentle**.

1 Timothy 3:3 (asv)

no brawler, no striker; but gentle, not
contentious, no lover of money;

Positive Qualifications, part 3

✠ An elder must be **gentle**.

- ◆ This is the opposite of being a contentious brawler

Positive Qualifications, part 3

✠ An elder must be **gentle**.

- ◆ This is the opposite of being a contentions brawler
- ◆ This is a chief characteristic of a shepherd

Isaiah 40:11

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry *them* in his bosom, *and* shall gently lead those that are with young.

Luke 15:4-6

What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found *it*, he layeth *it* on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together *his* friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.

Positive Qualifications, part 3

✠ An elder must be **gentle**.

- ◆ This is the opposite of being a contentions brawler
- ◆ This is a chief characteristic of a shepherd
- ◆ Jesus (the chief shepherd) demonstrated it perfectly.

Positive Qualifications, part 3

✠ An elder must be **gentle**.

✠ An elder must be **Just and Holy**.

Positive Qualifications, part 3

✠ An elder must be **gentle**.

✠ An elder must be **Just and Holy**.

- ◆ Fair in dealings with others without partiality

Proverbs 11:1

A false balance *is* abomination to the LORD: but a just weight *is* his delight.

Acts 10:34-35

Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

Romans 2:11

For there is no respect of persons with God.

Positive Qualifications, part 3

✠ An elder must be **gentle**.

✠ An elder must be **Just and Holy**.

- ◆ Fair in dealings with others without partiality
- ◆ Holy - A life devoted to God (from the same root word as sanctification)

Ephesians 4:22-24

That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Positive Qualifications, part 3

✠ An elder must be **gentle**.

✠ An elder must be **Just and Holy**.

- ◆ Fair in dealings with others without partiality
- ◆ Holy - A life devoted to God (from the same root word as sanctification)
- ◆ These qualities assure he will be right with God and right with others.

Positive Qualifications, part 3

- ✠ An elder must be **gentle**.
- ✠ An elder must be **Just and Holy**.
- ✠ An elder must have a **good report from those “without”**.

1 Timothy 3:7

Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

Positive Qualifications, part 3

✠ An elder must be **gentle**.

✠ An elder must be **Just and Holy**.

✠ An elder must have a **good report from those “without”**.

- ◆ Preserves reputation of Christ and the church.

Positive Qualifications, part 3

✠ An elder must be **gentle**.

✠ An elder must be **Just and Holy**.

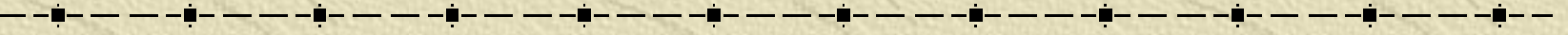
✠ An elder must have a **good report from those “without”**.

- ◆ Preserves reputation of Christ and the church.
- ◆ Investigate within reasonable time and location boundaries

Positive Qualifications, part 3

- ✦ An elder must be **gentle**.
- ✦ An elder must be **Just and Holy**.
- ✦ An elder must have a good report from those “without”.
- ✦ An elder must be **a lover of good**

Titus 1:8 (asv)



but given to hospitality, a lover of good,
sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled;

Positive Qualifications, part 3

✦ An elder must be **gentle**.

✦ An elder must be **Just and Holy**.

✦ An elder must have a good report from those “without”.

✦ An elder must be a **lover of good**

- ◆ Character revealed in what a man loves and hates.

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things *are* honest, whatsoever things *are* just, whatsoever things *are* pure, whatsoever things *are* lovely, whatsoever things *are* of good report; if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, think on these things.

Conclusion:

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

- ◆ Gentle

- ◆ Just and Holy

- ◆ Of good report from those without

- ◆ A lover of good

✦ Next week will be the last lesson on the Elders. What is the elders work?