

Elders: Qualified Men
1 Timothy 3:1-7 / Titus 1:5-9

INTRODUCTION:

I. The Backdrop

A. 1 Timothy

1. Timothy
 - a) **Acts 16:1-2**
 - (1) First came under Paul's ministry on his 2nd missionary journey
 - (2) Lystra (**Acts 14:23**)
 - b) **Acts 19**
 - (1) Travelled on with Paul to Ephesus
 - (2) Prior to address to elders in that church in **Acts 20**
 - c) Later returns to Ephesus for a longer stay
2. The Situation
 - a) Warning of false teachers
 - b) Emphasis on the prayer in the church
 - c) Focus on men and women's roles
 - d) All this protects against false teaching and promotes the gospel
 - e) The come elders...

B. Titus

1. Titus
 - a) A Greek

- b) Remained uncircumcised regardless of pressure from Circumcision party
- c) Paul's son in the faith
2. The Situation
 - a) We looked at much of this last week
 - b) Similar to Timothy
 - c) Titus to set things in order in the area churches
 - d) Influx of false teachers
 - e) Need for elders to organize men and women for faithful ministry

II. The Qualifications

A. Who Elders are Not

1. Board of Directors
2. Popular Social Figures
3. Pastoral Henchmen
4. Figureheads

B. Who Elders are

1. **Faithful Men (1 Tim.3:1-2a)**
 - a) God-given desire for the task
 - b) Episkopos
 - c) Above reproach (overarching) - unrebukeable (my favorite)
2. **Faithful Men in Conduct (1 Tim.3:2b-3 / Titus 1:6-8)**
 - a) One woman man
 - b) Sober-minded (circumspect)
 - c) Self-controlled (discreet, temperate, safe)

- d) Respectable (modest and orderly)
 - e) Hospitable (fond of guests...likes people and being w/them)
 - f) Able to teach
 - g) Not a drunkard (not one who “stays near wine”)
 - h) Not violent
 - i) Gentle (appropriate and patient)
 - j) Not quarrelsome
 - k) Not a lover of money (**Hebrews 13:5**)
3. **Faithful Men at Home (1 Tim.3:4-5)**
- a) Household management
 - b) As a father (**1 Timothy 3:15**)
4. **Faithful Men with Experience (1 Tim. 3:6 / Titus 1:9)**
- a) Not a new convert
 - b) Marked humility
 - c) Sound doctrine
5. **Faithful Men in Public (1 Tim.3:7)**
- a) Good reputation with Outsiders (Society & Marketplace)
 - b) Gospel implications

3. As from God, we should not be lazy about how they should be appropriated and administered in the local body

B. For the Good of the Church

- 1. Protection
 - a) Against false teaching
 - b) Against false application
- 2. Promotion
 - a) The Gospel
 - b) Joy in the body (**Hebrews 13:17**)
 - c) The glory of God (**Hebrews 13:20-21**)

III. The Need

A. Gifts to the Church

- 1. **Ephesians 4:11-12**
- 2. As a gift, the church needs them in some form