

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

- 1.) According to Proverbs 29:2 and the principles from Titus Ch 1, qualified leadership pleases God. It's a matter of QUALITY not QUANTITY.
- 2.) The Bible tells us a man should "ASPIRE" to the office of Elder, rather than talking him into it through persuasion. This is especially important because it is the role of the HOLY SPIRIT to guide men into this capacity of service.
- 3.) Paul directed Titus to "set things in order" because the church there faced struggles with individuals who were teaching falsely and deceiving people.
- 4.) Scripture directs us to "appoint" elders, not ELECT them. Selecting leaders for the role of Elders is not a matter of public voting or POPULARITY. This is contrary to many American Christians way of thinking because typically when it comes to the business of church in American we are accustomed to a democracy and the associated method of voting.
- 5.) According to Acts 20:28, the selection of Elders is the PREROGATIVE of the Holy Spirit.
- 6.) Ch 1:6-9 list the non-negotiable QUALIFICATIONS for Pastors/Elders. A man not qualified in all of these ways is not permitted to be an elder.
- 7.) In vs 6 we find that while the qualification list is certainly not "politically correct", it is BIBLICALLY ACCURATE:
Above reproach - Unblemished reputation, not perfection- but no sinful defect
Husband of one wife - Men only, married once and implies sexual purity
Children who believe - have placed their faith in Jesus Christ
God's steward – a steward manages all his master puts into his hands
- 8.) What he is not to be is identified by vs 7. These negatives are identified by the following:
Not quick-tempered- slow to draw conclusions
Not addicted to wine- alcohol is not to be his companion
Not pugnacious – not an intimidator, he must be gentle
Not fond of sordid gain not seeking wealth at any cost
- 9.) In vs 8 the list continues with what an Elder must be-
 - Hospitable -offers his time and capacity to meet needs

- Sensible- sober minded and cool-headed
- Just - man of integrity who sticks by his word
- Devout - true to his direction and purpose
- Self-controlled - keeping mind and body under control

10.) Vs 9 list a two-fold aspect of Elders responsibilities: (1) building up the church with "HEALTHY" doctrine [truth] (2) REFUTING the false teachers

11.) Vs 9 An Elder must be UWAVERINGLY LOYAL to scripture. He knows why he believes and can back it up from scripture.

GREEK WORDS USED TODAY:

Epidiorthoo ep-ee-dee-or-tho'-o (medical term); to *straighten further, arrange*:- set in order

Kathistemi (kath-is'-tay-mee); to *place down* (permanently), to *designate, constitute*:- appoint, conduct, ordain

Presbuteros (pres-boo'-ter-os) -*generally to any older man*

Anenkletos – (an-eng'-klay-tos) *un-accused, (by implication) irreproachable*

Asotia (as-o-tee'-ah) - *un-savedness, (by implication) excess, riotous living*

Anupotaktos (an-oo-pot'-ak-tos) *un-subdued, insubordinate* (in fact or temperament):- disobedient, that is not put under, unruly

Oikonomos (steward) to arrange :- to order

Paroinos (par'-oy-nos); staying *near wine*:- one who sits beside the bottle

Sophron (so'-frone) - *safe (sound) mind, self-controlled* :- discreet, temperate

Antecho (an-tekh'-om-ahee) *adhere to*; by extension to *care for* :- hold to, support - to strongly cling or adhere to something or someone

Parakaleo (par-ak-al-eh'-o) to *call near, invite, invoke* (by imploration)

Hygiaino (hoog-ee-ah'-ee-no) to *have sound health, be well* (in body); to be *uncorrupt* (true in doctrine) :- (be) whole (-some)

Antilego (to refute) literally "to speak against"

THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER IN THE WEEK AHEAD:

How might Gods high standards for His leaders impact my life:

How might these issues be carried into my prayer life?
