

# The Church in Order – Elders, Part 3

## 1 Timothy 3:1-7

Nigel Unrau, Lead Pastor

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### 1 Timothy 3:1-7

<sup>1</sup> It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, *it is* a fine work he desires *to do*. <sup>2</sup> An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, skillful in teaching, <sup>3</sup> not overindulging in wine, not a bully, but gentle, not contentious, free from the love of money. <sup>4</sup> *He must be* one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity <sup>5</sup> (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?), <sup>6</sup> *and* not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into condemnation incurred by the devil. <sup>7</sup> And he must have a good reputation with those outside *the church*, so that he will not fall into disgrace and the snare of the devil.

### Titus 1:5-9

<sup>5</sup> For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you, <sup>6</sup> *namely*, if any man is beyond reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of indecent behavior or rebellion. <sup>7</sup> For the overseer must be beyond reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not overindulging in wine, not a bully, not greedy for money, <sup>8</sup> but hospitable, loving what is good, self-controlled, righteous, holy, disciplined, <sup>9</sup> holding firmly the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict *it*.

### Elder qualifications:

1. He has a calling from Jesus to care for the spiritual needs of the church.
2. He is working for Jesus to meet those spiritual needs.
3. He is an example of Jesus to those he serves.
4. The work of Jesus is evident in his holistic spiritual maturity.

### Hebrews 5:11-14

<sup>11</sup> Concerning him we have much to say, and *it is* difficult to explain, since you have become poor listeners. <sup>12</sup> For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the actual words of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. <sup>13</sup> For everyone who partakes *only* of milk is unacquainted with the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. <sup>14</sup> But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to distinguish between good and evil.

### 1 Timothy 3:2

An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, skillful in teaching,

### 1 Timothy 3:3

not overindulging in wine, not a bully, but gentle, not contentious, free from the love of money.

### Titus 1:7

For the overseer must be beyond reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not overindulging in wine, not a bully, not greedy for money,

### **Ezekiel 34:1-10**

<sup>1</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel. Prophesy and say to those shepherds, ‘This is what the Lord GOD says: “Woe, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding themselves! Should the shepherds not feed the flock? <sup>3</sup>You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat *sheep* without feeding the flock. <sup>4</sup>Those who are sickly you have not strengthened, the diseased you have not healed, the broken you have not bound up, the scattered you have not brought back, nor have you searched for the lost; but with force and with violence you have dominated them. <sup>5</sup>They scattered for lack of a shepherd, and they became food for every animal of the field and scattered. <sup>6</sup>My flock strayed through all the mountains and on every high hill; My flock was scattered over all the surface of the earth, and there was no one to search or seek *for them.*””” <sup>7</sup>Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: <sup>8</sup>“As I live,” declares the Lord GOD, “certainly, because My flock has become plunder, and My flock has become food for all the animals of the field for lack of a shepherd, and My shepherds did not search for My flock, but *rather* the shepherds fed themselves and did not feed My flock, <sup>9</sup>therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: <sup>10</sup>‘This is what the Lord GOD says: “Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will demand My sheep from them and make them stop tending sheep. So the shepherds will not feed themselves anymore, but I will save My sheep from their mouth, so that they will not be food for them.”””

### **1 Timothy 3:4-5**

<sup>4</sup> *He must be* one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity <sup>5</sup>(but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?),

### **Colossians 3:21**

Fathers, do not exasperate your children, so that they will not lose heart.

### **Ephesians 6:4**

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

### **1 John 4:7-11**

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

### **1 John 4:19-21**

<sup>19</sup>We love, because He first loved us. <sup>20</sup>If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup>And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.

### **1 John 5:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the *child* born of Him. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments. <sup>3</sup>For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome. <sup>4</sup>For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

### **1 Timothy 3:6**

<sup>6</sup> *and* not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into condemnation incurred by the devil.

### **Isaiah 14:12-15**

<sup>12</sup>How you have fallen from heaven, You star of the morning, son of the dawn!

You have been cut down to the earth, You who defeated the nations!

<sup>13</sup>But you said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God, And I will sit on the mount of assembly In the recesses of the north.

<sup>14</sup>I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’

<sup>15</sup>Nevertheless you will be brought down to Sheol, To the recesses of the pit.

### **1 Timothy 3:7**

And he must have a good reputation with those outside *the church*, so that he will not fall into disgrace and the snare of the devil.