

Family Matters: Correction Concerning Church Leadership, Part 2

1 Timothy 5:17-25

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1 Timothy 5:17-25

¹⁷The elders who lead well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching. ¹⁸For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle the ox while it is threshing,” and “The laborer is worthy of his wages.” ¹⁹Do not accept an accusation against an elder except on the basis of two or three witnesses. ²⁰Those who continue in sin, rebuke in the presence of all, so that the rest also will be fearful of *sinning*. ²¹I solemnly exhort you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of *His* chosen angels, to maintain these *principles* without bias, doing nothing in a *spirit of partiality*. ²²Do not lay hands upon anyone too quickly and thereby share *responsibility* for the sins of others; keep yourself free from sin. ²³Do not go on drinking only water, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments. ²⁴The sins of some people are quite evident, going before them to judgment; for others, their *sins* follow after. ²⁵Likewise also, deeds that are good are quite evident, and those which are otherwise cannot be concealed.

1 Timothy 5:17

The elders who lead well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching.

A. The **presupposition** for church leadership is that they will:

1. rule well – with **excellence**
2. work hard – with **effort**

Acts 28:28-31

²⁸Therefore let it be known to you that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles; they will also listen.” ²⁹[When he had spoken these words, the Jews departed, having a great dispute among themselves.] ³⁰And he stayed two full years in his own rented quarters and was welcoming all who came to him, ³¹preaching the kingdom of God and teaching concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all openness, unhindered.

B. The **prescription** for church leadership is to:

1. **provide** for them **financially**

1 Timothy 5:18

For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle the ox while it is threshing,” and “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”

1 Corinthians 9:8-14

⁸I am not speaking these things according to human judgment, am I? Or does not the Law also say these things? ⁹For it is written in the Law of Moses, “YOU SHALL NOT MUZZLE THE OX WHILE HE IS THRESHING.” God is not concerned about oxen, is He? ¹⁰Or is He speaking altogether for our sake? Yes, for our sake it was written, because the plowman ought to plow in hope, and the thresher to *thresh* in hope of sharing *the crops*. ¹¹If we sowed spiritual things in you, is it too much if we reap material things from you? ¹²If others share the right over you, do we not more? Nevertheless, we did not use this right, but we endure all things so that we will cause no hindrance to the gospel of Christ. ¹³Do you not know that those who perform sacred services eat the *food* of the temple, *and* those who attend regularly to the altar have their share from the altar? ¹⁴So also the Lord directed those who proclaim the gospel to get their living from the gospel.

Remember the **tithe**:

- a. Consideration for the **priests** – 10%
- b. Celebration of the **pheasts** – 10%
- c. Consideration of the **poor** – 10% every three years

The **attitude** was always giving to the **Lord** for a **particular** purpose.

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

¹ Now, brethren, we *wish* to make known to you the grace of God which has been given in the churches of Macedonia, ² that in a great ordeal of affliction their abundance of joy and their deep poverty overflowed in the wealth of their liberality. ³ For I testify that according to their ability, and beyond their ability, *they gave* of their own accord, ⁴ begging us with much urging for the favor of participation in the support of the saints, ⁵ and *this*, not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God.

2 Corinthians 8:8

I am not speaking *this* as a command, but as proving through the earnestness of others the sincerity of your love also.

2 Corinthians 9:7-8

⁷ Each one *must do* just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;

2. **protect** them from **false accusations**

1 Timothy 5:19

Do not accept an accusation against an elder except on the basis of two or three witnesses.

Deuteronomy 19:15-21

¹⁵ "A single witness shall not rise up against a man on account of any iniquity or any sin which he has committed; on the evidence of two or three witnesses a matter shall be confirmed. ¹⁶ If a malicious witness rises up against a man to accuse him of wrongdoing, ¹⁷ then both the men who have the dispute shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges who will be *in office* in those days. ¹⁸ The judges shall investigate thoroughly, and if the witness is a false witness *and* he has accused his brother falsely, ¹⁹ then you shall do to him just as he had intended to do to his brother. Thus you shall purge the evil from among you. ²⁰ The rest will hear and be afraid, and will never again do such an evil thing among you. ²¹ Thus you shall not show pity: life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.

1 Timothy 5:20-21

²⁰ Those who continue in sin, rebuke in the presence of all, so that the rest also will be fearful of *sinning*. ²¹ I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of *His* chosen angels, to maintain these *principles* without bias, doing nothing in a *spirit of partiality*.

3. **publicly** rebuke those **continually falling to sin**

Matthew 18:1-7

¹ At that time the disciples came to Jesus and said, "Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ² And He called a child to Himself and set him before them, ³ and said, "Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵ And whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me; ⁶ but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷ "Woe to the world because of *its* stumbling blocks! For it is inevitable that stumbling blocks come; but woe to that man through whom the stumbling block comes!

4. be **particular** when **picking** them

1 Timothy 5:22-25

²² Do not lay hands upon anyone *too* hastily and thereby share *responsibility* for the sins of others; keep yourself free from sin. ²³ No longer drink water *exclusively*, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments. ²⁴ The sins of some men are quite evident, going before them to judgment; for others, their *sins* follow after. ²⁵ Likewise also, deeds that are good are quite evident, and those which are otherwise cannot be concealed.

1 Timothy 3:6

and not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil.