

ORDER, LEADERSHIP, AND BEHAVIOR 1 TIMOTHY 3

Text:

Introduction:

Paul now turns to a different topic, the organization of the church. He outlines the qualifications that the Pastor and Deacons must have.

Paul ignored most qualifications that most modern churches think are important. Today, many churches are eager to fill the positions with bankers, businessmen, professionals, and people high in society, and those who have influence in government, commerce and entertainment.

1. THE LEADERS IN THE CHURCH (3:1-13)

A. The Spiritual Leader - Pastor

1. The quest (vs 1)

1 Tim. 3:1

This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.

a. The desire

- Everything begins with the desire.

b. The demands

- It is called a good work and it is work.

2. The qualifications (vss 2-7)

1 Tim. 3:2-7

A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; [3] Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; [4] One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; [5] (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) [6] Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. [7] Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

The Basic Requirements

- #### a. The main requirement - blameless

b. The marital requirement - one wife.

c. The moral requirement

- Vigilant - cautious or self control
- Sober - sound mind
- Good behavior - orderly and modest

d. The ministerial requirements

- Given to hospitality - love of strangers
- Apt to teach - skilled in teaching

The Broader Requirements

Paul list three things that the Pastor should not be addicted to.

a. His addictions

- Wine
- Wrath
- Wealth

b. His attitudes

- Patient
- Not Contentious - brawler
- Not Covetous - not money loving

c. His attainments

- As a parent - ruleth well his own house
- In the personal realm - not be a novice (a new convert)
- In the public realm - must have a good report

B. The Secular Leadership (8-13)

1 Tim. 3:8-13

Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; [9] Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. [10] And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. [11] Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. [12] Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. [13] For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to

themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

1. The deacon as a faultless man

a. His temperament

b. His tongue

c. His temptation

- Wine
- Wealth

2. The deacon as a faithful man

a. Possessing the truth (vs 9)

1 Tim. 3:9

Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.

- His convictions
- His conscience

b. Passing the test (vs 10)

1 Tim. 3:10

And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.

3. The deacon as a family man (11-12)

1 Tim. 3:11-12

Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. [12] Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

a. His wife

- Her character (11)
- Her conversation (11)
- Her concern (11)
- Her consistency (11)

b. His walk (12)

- As a partner
- As a parent

2. THE LED IN THE CHURCH (VSS 14-15)

1 Tim. 3:14-15

These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: [15] But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

A. Know how to behave themselves in the house of God.

1. How are they to know? From the Pillar and ground of truth - the Word of God.

3. THE LORD OF THE CHURCH (VS 16)

1 Tim. 3:16

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

In this single verse Paul gives six fold summary of Jesus' earthly ministry.

- He appeared in the body
- He was vindicated by the Spirit

- He was seen by angels
- He was announced to the nations
- He was believed on in the world
- He was taken up into Heaven