

21 Qualification for Elders

1 Timothy 3:1-7 & Titus 1:6-9

- 1. Above reproach:** No accusation of sin can be proven against him in any area of his life.
- 2. One woman man:** He must be sexually pure. If married, he must be fully given to his wife with his eyes, his speech (not flirtatious) and his behavior.
- 3. Manages his house well:** His private conduct at home is above reproach and his children obey him with proper respect.
- 4. Not arrogant:** He must not be stubborn or self-willed but must treat others with proper respect.
- 5. Not quick tempered:** He must not be a hot-head, have a quick temper or be irritable.
- 6. Not a drunk or an addict:** He must not be ruled by his sensory pleasures, whether pertaining to food, drugs or alcohol.
- 7. Not violent:** He must not be a bully, nor should he be someone looking for a fight when he doesn't get his own way.
- 8. Not greedy:** He must be generous and content with what he has, investing in the Kingdom of God, proving that he is not a lover of money.
- 9. Hospitable:** He is friendly and fond of guests, showing care for strangers and visitors.
- 10. A lover of good:** He is good and generous; he promotes virtue and loves others who do the same.
- 11. Self-controlled:** He is characterized by sound thinking which curbs his desires. He does not entertain foolish or eccentric thoughts.
- 12. Upright:** He does not violate God's righteous decrees, but rejoices in truth.

He values integrity and is willing to suffer for doing right.
- 13. Holy:** He strives for moral and spiritual purity, conforming to the image and character of Christ, avoiding anything that might malign the testimony of the Lord.
- 14. Disciplined:** He exercises himself toward godliness and refuses to become a slave of his own desires.
- 15. Doctrinally sound:** He has a deep seated conviction of doctrine and can be trusted to follow clear biblical teaching. He is not a victim of the latest theological fads.
- 16. Able to teach:** He has been given a special competence in teaching the Word of God and is able to comfort, exhort and encourage others through his teaching, restoring them to sound spiritual health.
- 17. Able to rebuke:** He is able to use scripture to confront sin in the lives of those hardened by error, and will follow biblical precepts to the full extent, including church discipline.
- 18. Gentle:** He is tender and compassionate, treating all people fairly and is not swayed by favoritism or by the fear of man. He must be just in his judgments.
- 19. Dignified:** He demonstrates a proper sense of seriousness in his conduct and speech, but still maintains a sense of humor in those things which are trivial.
- 20. Not a recent convert:** He must not be a novice (new Christian) but may be young. He must be spiritually mature regardless of his age.
- 21. Has a good reputation in the community:** His neighbors, friends and co-workers must speak well of him. His conduct among unbelievers must be above reproach.