

The Elder Over My Heart – 1 Timothy 3

We are like the Bereans (Acts 17:10,11) who searched the Scripture daily to understand and verify the teachings of our leaders in the Bible studies. Here in Cap Hill, we have no pure example of a country church with a safe pastor; but we should and must look for a shepherd that matches God's Word. These simple requirements show that there is only ONE Bible, ONE Christ, ONE truth, so there is only ONE way to select a pastor, **The Elder Over My Heart**.

The LORD God ordained His priest leadership for a purpose.

1. OT Requirements for any priest – Lev. 10, 21

here is only a simple set of LAWS for the priests.

Holy – Not Profane – No blemish

Eat pure food, consecrated foods OT kosher\fit

Hair trimmed; not bald

Don't mess with dead stuff

Married pure meets pure

No profane kids

(while on duty) never drink wine or strong drink

Leviticus 10:1-8; 9 "Do not drink wine nor strong drink, thou, nor thy sons with thee, when ye go into the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die: *it shall be* a statute for ever throughout your generations."

The High Priest is NEVER off duty

Christ Himself gave an example of a priest leadership for a purpose.

2. NT Requirements for any elder – 1 Timothy 3 & Titus 1 ἐπισκοπῆς/bishop, overseer

Now the NT shows a lifestyle based on the principles of the OT LAWS, i.e. we don't execute people for disobedience, we correct them twice and then we separate ourselves from that unruly person.

Elder means the same as overseer, bishop, under-shepherd, presbyter. Same word.

The Apostle Paul ordain elders in every city based on the OT LAWS and the instructions of Christ. Those standards have not changed, not then and not now.

Blameless ἀνεπίληπτον not arrestable, cannot censure

Husband of one wife

Vigilant νηφάλιον **sober**, abstaining from wine

Sober σώφρονα self-controlled over desires and impulses

Good behavior κόσμον well ordered

Given to hospitality φιλόξενον generous to guests

Apt to teach διδακτικη naturally gifted teaching

Not given to wine πάροιον staying near, addicted

No striker πληκτου ready to fight, quarlsome

Not greedy of filthy lucre αἰσχροκερδεῖς
fond of sordid gain

Patient ἐπιεικῇ gentle, patient

Not a brawler ἀμαχον peaceable

Not covetous ἀφιλάργυρον money lover

One that ruleth well his own house

προϊστάμενον presiding, superintend

Having his children in subjection with all gravity σεμνότητος ὑποταγῇ Majestic & dignified obedience

Not a novice νεόφυτον new covert

Have a good report with the unsaved
μαρτυρίαν MARTYR

Even the Deacons are at the leadership standard for a purpose.

3. NT Requirements for any deacon – 1 Timothy 3 & Titus 1

Remember Stephen & Philip in Acts Chapter 6? Deacons become elders. Διάκονος servants, minister, waiter

Deacons be grave σεμνότητος Majestic & dignified

Not doubletongued διλόγους intent to deceive

Not given to much wine οἶνος OT 141x, NT 35x

Not greedy of filthy lucre; αἰσχροκερδεῖς

Faith in a pure conscience.

Proved; δοκιμαζέσθωσαν scrutinized, tested

Blameless. ἀνεπίληπτον not arrestable, cannot censure

Their wives be grave σεμνότητος Majestic & dignified

Not slanderers, διαβόλους defaming false accuser

Sober νηφάλιον **sober**, abstaining from wine

Faithful in all things πιστάς loyalty to faith

Husband of one wife

Ruling their children προϊστάμενον presiding, superintend & their own houses well.

Christ Himself gave an example of Christian lifestyle for a purpose.

4. NT Requirements for any Believer - Titus 1

#1 You a generation of a priests before God. 1 Peter 2:5,9 Royal & Holy priesthood

Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. **YOU ARE NEVER OFF DUTY!**

DON'T - Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, **hatred, variance,** (quarreling) **emulations,** (rivalry) **wrath, strife, seditions,** (dissention) **heresies,** (self-chosen opinion) **Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings** ("pigging-out")

DO - fruit of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness,** (power under control) **temperance** (moderation) Galatians 5:19-23

#2 To correct and instruct the money grubbers – v. 9

Titus 1:9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

#3 Avoid False Teachers – vs. 10-16

2 Timothy 2:16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

10 For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision: **11** Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake. **12** One of themselves, *even* a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians *are* always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies. **13** This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith; **14** Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth. **15** Unto the pure all things *are* pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving *is* nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. **16** They profess that they know God; but in works they deny *him*, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

This Scripture is very clear in every note. It does not have gray areas.

When you pick the false teacher to teach you, and you know that they teach false doctrine, it is because you are comfy, cozy, fine with the sin in your own heart.

When you pick a Bible teacher to teach you that is right on “BIBLICALLY”, you will feel convicted, challenged, encouraged and inspired to be that Christian that Christ has said you must be. “Be ye holy, for I am holy, saith the Lord.” 1 Peter 1:19

Focus on God’s Word. Read your Bible. Study and memorize valuable verses. Hang out with healthy Christ-followers. Knock off this dumb idea of playing with religion! Live for Christ and... You’ll have an easy time finding a good teacher over your heart.

2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Let us be fellow Believers, peers, that live for the study of God’s Word the Bible.
Chaplain Aaron – your study partner.