The Pastoral Epistles (Letters)

- Lesson 3 -

1 Timothy 3:1-16	Your Personal Notes:
1 This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of	
a bishop, he desireth a good work.	
2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband	
of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, giv-	
en 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.	
8 Likewise must the deacons be grave, not dou-	
bletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of	
filthy lucre;	
9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure con-	
science.	
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 slander-	
ers, 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.	
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14 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 pil-	
lar and ground of the truth.	
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.

The Office of Bishop

I TIMOTHY 3

GOD'S DESIRES	RESULTS	SATAN'S DESIRES	RESULTS
Blameless	Good conscience Happiness Reward	Blame	Guilt Defensiveness
Husband of one wife (monogamous)	Harmony Purity Model of Christ & the Church	Adulterous	Shame Loss of reputation Condemnation
Temperate (moderate, not indulgent of appetites)	Good health Control of spirit over body	Extremely self-indulgent of the appetites	Bad health Ridicule Object of pity, not respect
Soberminded (mental & emotional stability within)	Inner peace Proper self-image Freedom to love others	Mentally and emotionally unstable within	Complexes & neuroses
Of good behavior	Wide area of influence Acceptance of our message	Bizarre behavior	Limited sphere of influence Object of scorn
Given to hospitality	Unity promoted among believers Opportunity given for serving	Inhospitality	Lost blessing Love stifled
Apt to teach (skill in teaching)	Set high ideal Build strong Christians Fortify against error	Inexpertness Lack of Proficiency	Loss of prestige Introduction of error Dwarf Christians
Not given to wine	Sharp discernment de- pendent on filling of Spirit	Drunkenness	Destruction of discern- ment Loss of will-power Subjection to demonic influence
No striker (non-violent)	Teach that weapons of our warfare not carnal but spiritual	Resort to physical force in a spiritual battle	Defeat No spiritual success Erecting of barriers
Patient (forbearing)	Gives God time to work out His plan Produces a perfect work	Impatience, a demanding spirit	Frustration Irritability Division
Not a brawler	Show that conflicts re- solved by love, not force	Contentious, fighter	Hurts & offenses Division
Not covetous, not greedy of filthy lucre (no lover of money)	Freedom to love God and trust Him for needs and thus prove His faithful- ness	Materialistic	Wrong value system Loss of vision of eternal values Idolatry
Ruleth well his own house	Strengthen families Give strong direction to church	Weak leadership in home	Weak leadership in church Rebellion in family
Not a novice	Prove oneself Learn to respond to authority as a servant Grow in grace by humility	Immaturity in leadership	Pride Sharing of Satan's condemnation No grace for trials & growth No example to church
A good report	Favor with others Clear conscience	An evil report	Diluted testimony Vengeful attitude

Spurgeon's Notes

3:15—What do these words mean, "the truth"? They mean nothing more or less than is wrapped up within the two covers of the Bible. What is the truth? I might say that it is the counsels of heaven revealed on earth, the mind of God made known to men, all the precepts, statutes, and testimonies of the Most High. I might point us to the person of Christ, His obedience to the law, His death, His resurrection, and His ascension, and remind us that the gospel contained in the writings of the four evangelists is the truth of God. Or, once more, I might tell us of the witness of the Holy Spirit, those convictions he brings home to the believer's heart and the teaching by which he trains up the heir of glory from the moment of conversion until their final gathering into the heavenly assembly and say that all the witness of the Holy Spirit is "the truth."