

Edgemont Bible Church
Pastor Al Osden
1 Timothy 3:2-3

July 23, 2017

Intro:

IX. Qualities of a Godly Leader - Part 1 (Moral Qualities)

A. The Overarching Requirement of a Godly Leader - vs 2a

1. A bishop then must be blameless,

a. Must - **Dei** - it is necessary (as binding):--behoved, be meet, must (needs), (be) need(-ful), ought, should.

b. 17th Century Puritan, Richard Baxter

c. Be - **einai** - to exist:--am, was. come, is, there is, to be, was. Refers to present state of being

d. **Anepileptos** - not arrested, inculpable:--blameless, unrebukeable.

i. Pastors are special targets of Satan, they are assaulted with more severe temptation, bearing the brunt of satanic opposition

ii. Their fall has greater potential for harm, devastating for the sheep

iii. Greater knowledge of truth brings greater chastening if he falls

iv. Leader's sin is more hypocritical b/c they preach against those very sins

v. leaders need an abundance of God's grace and power b/c of the greater responsibility and visibility

vi. To protect themselves, leaders need to spend in-depth time in God's word

- nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed. - 1Ti 4:6

- Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You! - Ps 119:11

2. The Churches responsibility to measure men and maintain godly leadership

a. Tendency is to forgive and restore immediately.

b. forgiveness should be immediate, but immediate restoration lowers God's standard

c. being above reproach shows itself in four areas, moral character, home life, spiritual maturity, and public reputation.

B. The Moral Character of a Godly Leader - vs 2b-3

1. the husband of one wife,

a. Lit. a one woman man,

b. Not referring to marital status

c. Refers to his moral, sexual behavior

i. A man may be a husband of one wife and not be a one woman man

ii. Why this first, more men have left the ministry b/c of this area than any other

iii. Sexual sin

- is a reproach that never goes away - Pro 6:32-33;
- and disqualifies one from preaching - 1 Co 9:27

d. important in Ephesus where sexual evil was all around

d. Some think

i. Paul is dealing with polygamy

- which wasn't an issue in the Jewish culture,
- nor in the Church

ii. There should be no remarriage after death of spouse (see above)

- Paul encourages marriage after death of spouse 1 Tim 5:14
- Paul teaches that marriage ends with death - 1 Co 7:39

iii. Paul is talking about divorce and remarriage

- still not dealing with marital status (see above)
- Bible does not forbid remarriage after divorce
 - Each divorce passage gives rules as to when remarriage is allowed
 - Mt 5:31-32; 19:9 - when adultery causes divorce
 - 1 Cor 7:15 - when unbelieving spouse abandons and thereby initiates the divorce
 - God hates divorce - Mal 2:16

iv. Paul is saying that a pastor must be married—1 Co 7:8, Paul single?

2. temperate,

a. **nephaleos** - sober, circumspect, wineless, or unmixed with wine, clear headed.

i. And wine that makes glad the heart of man - Ps 104:15

ii. But may cause great harm - Wine is a mocker, Strong drink is a brawler, And whoever is led astray by it is not wise - Pr 20:1

b. Examples of those affected by wine

i. Noah - Gen 9:20-27

ii. Amnon - 2 Sam 13:28-29

c. Lev. 10:9 forbids priests from drinking wine when performing their duties

3. sober-minded,

a. **sophron** - safe (sound) in mind, self-controlled (moderate as to opinion or passion):--discreet, sober, temperate.

b. The result of being temperate, he is well disciplined, knows how to correctly order his priorities - Phil 4:8

4. of good behavior,

a. **kosmios** - orderly, decorous, of good behavior, modest.

b. a well disciplined mind leads to a well disciplined life

5. hospitable,

a. **philoxenos** - fond of guests, hospitable, given to (lover of, use) hospitality. From 2 words best translated “to love” and “strangers”

b. does not refer to entertaining friends - Lk 14:12

c. elders are to be available, heart and home to be open.

6. able to teach;

a. **didaktikos** - instructive ("didactic")--apt to teach.

b. the one qualification that deals with giftedness and function (primary duty of overseer) and distinguishes from a deacon

c. why this qualification in the area of moral character? - effective teaching is woven into the moral character of the teacher

d. since preaching and teaching is the primary task of elders - 1 Tim 4:6,11,13,16; 5:17; 2 Tim 2:15,24 - This is why they are given to the Church - Eph 4:11-14

i. Must have the gift of teaching, not natural ability - Spirit-given enablement to teach effectively the truths of God's word

ii. Must have a deep understanding of doctrine - 2 Tim 1:6

iii. Must have an attitude of humility. Pride undermines the very truth being taught - 2 Tim 2:24-25

iv. Is marked by a life of holiness - 1 Tim 4:7,12; 6:11

v. Must be a diligent student of the Word 2 Tim 2:15

vi. Must avoid error - 1 Tim 4:7; 6:20; 2 Tim 2:16

vii. Must have strong courage and consistent convictions - 1 Tim 1:18-19; 4:11,13

7. not given to wine,

a. **paroinos** - staying near wine, i.e. tipping (a toper)--given to wine.

b. nothing to do with whether or not he gets drunk

c. does not have a reputation as a drinker, doesn't frequent bars or involve himself in the places associated with drinking - Isaiah rebuked the spiritual leaders of his day for this very sin - Is 28:7; 56:9-12

d. A leader is to be an example, but it didn't mean he was not to drink - 1 Tim 5:23

8. not violent,

a. **plektes** - a smiter, pugnacious (quarrelsome)--striker.

b. lit. not a giver of blows

c. leaders must not react to difficulty with violence - 2 Ti 2:24-25

9. not greedy for money,

a. **aischrokerdes** - sordid--given to (greedy of) filthy lucre.

b. a perverse corruption of the ministry

c. love of money is the heart motivation of false teachers - 1 Th 2:5; 1 Pet 5:2; 2 Pet 2:1-3,14; Jd 16

d. Geoffrey B. Wilson - The earthbound desires of a covetous spirit always clip the wings of faith and love

10. but gentle,

a. **epieikes** - appropriate, i.e. (by implication) mild:--gentle, moderation, patient.

b. must be a person who is considerate, genial, forbearing, and gracious who easily pardons human failure

11. not quarrelsome,

a. **amachos** - peaceable:--not a brawler.

b. not referring to physical violence

c. will result in disunity, disharmony, hindering the effectiveness of his leadership

12. not covetous;

a. **philarguros** - unavaricious:--without covetousness, not greedy of filthy lucre.

b. see # 9