

THE MESSENGER



“... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!” Romans 10:15

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Evangelist and Editor:

Dempsey Collins

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Listen to PROVE ALL THINGS on 730 AM WKRE, Sunday mornings from 8:15 to 8:30

I Timothy 3:1-7

by Dempsey Collins

1. These qualifications are required. Verse 2 “Must be” (Not optional)
Titus 1:6 “If any man **IS** . . .” i.e. **is already**
2. **ALL** the qualifications are required. “**must be**” includes every characteristic
3. All qualifications are attainable.
 - Not unrealistic goals
 - Most are characteristics required of all Christians
4. Men must be proven mature in all areas. “**must be**” “If any man **is** . . .”
He has shown maturity in all areas.
5. These men fail at times (I John 1:8, 9; cp. I Peter 5:1 with Galatians 2:11-14)
6. There is room for growth in all qualifications involving character.
 - *Did Paul mature after becoming an apostle? II Cor. 12:7-10; 1:9
 - *Abraham? Gen. 22:12
 - *Job? 42:5, 6
 - *Peter? I Peter 5:1; Gal. 2:11-14; Matt. 26:69-75
 - *Overseer?

7. These qualifications are observable and may therefore be objectively assessed.
Matthew 7:17 – Good and bad teachers are known by their fruits.
8. These qualifications are relevant to his work (Point in the direction of his work)
(cp. Apostles Acts 1:22, 24 – Doctor, dentist, pilot)
9. Verse 2 – “Above reproach . . . respectable”
 - You must be able to trust them fully.
 - Elders will be making many decisions on behalf of the congregation (use of funds, subjects studied, teaching arrangement, teachers, goals, evangelists’ support, who is supported, how much, how long, responsibilities of deacons, assessment of local needs, assessment of individual needs, of family needs, etc.)

ELDER – (Presbuteros)

The term is used:

1. Of age (Acts 2:17; I Tim. 5:1)
2. Leaders among the Jews (Matt. 16:21)
3. Those appointed to spiritual oversight of a congregation (Acts 20:17; 11:30; 14:23)
 - *Both age and maturity are in mind since both usually go together.

*He is well learned and thoroughly practiced in the Word. He has learned and applied God’s Word in every aspect of life. He knows the Chief Shepherd well and can help the sheep to know Him.

Compare I Tim. 3:6 “Not a novice”

NOTES & NEWS:

Remember to check the prayer list for those with ongoing spiritual weaknesses and physical illnesses.
“...Pray for one another...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” James 5:16