

1 Timothy 3 - What Your Pastor Should Be

October 22, 2015

1 Timothy 3:1-13

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**, **given 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.

BISHOP (episkopos) - *one who watches over, superintendent, overseer, inspection, guardian of souls, visitation, superintendence, one who watches over their welfare, to look upon to help or benefit, to look after, to care for, to visit; from skopos meaning the distant end or goal in view*

Acts 20:28

“ Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you **OVERSEERS** (episkopos), **TO FEED THE CHURCH OF GOD**, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

BLAMELESS - (anepilēptos) *cannot be laid hold of, not open to censure, not apprehended, unrebukeable*

Blameless Required:

1. No reproach brought to the name of Christ or the Church.
2. Must be a model, a pattern, an example for others to follow. You can't take people where you haven't gone yourself.

1 Peter 5:1-3

1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but **BEING ENSAMPLES** (model, pattern) **TO THE FLOCK**.

Blamelessness is not sinlessness. But sins of the pastors or elders must be dealt with publicly, to correct any reproach and to set an example.

The publicity of the pastor's / elder's sin can vary according to the scope of effect.

Galatians 2:11

"But when Peter was come to Antioch, **I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.**"

1 Timothy 5:19-20

19 Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.

20 **Them that sin rebuke before all**, that others also may fear.

Proverbs 28:13

"**He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.**"

HUSBAND OF ONE WIFE - *given to, dedicated to, loving one wife in marriage*

Dedicated to one wife in affection and desire. Dedicated to one wife in care and provision.

Proverbs 5:18-19

18 Let thy fountain be blessed: and **rejoice with the wife of thy youth.**

19 Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and **be thou ravished always with her love.**

Ephesians 5:28-29

28 **So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.**

29 **For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church.**

VIGILANT - (nephaleos) *literally "not to drink", abstaining from wine to stay awake, watchful, attentive, sober, temperate, circumspect - translated 2 times as "sober" and 1 time as "vigilant"*

The care and condition of the flock never leaves the pastor's heart, thoughts and prayers. It is the passion which compels him day by day.

Romans 1:9

"For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that **WITHOUT CEASING** I make mention of you always in my prayers."

1 Thessalonians 1:3

"Remembering **WITHOUT CEASING** your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father."

1 Thessalonians 2:13

"For this cause also thank we God **WITHOUT CEASING**, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe."

2 Timothy 1:3

"I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that **WITHOUT CEASING** I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day."

Ephesians 6:18

"**PRAYING ALWAYS** with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and **WATCHING** thereunto with **ALL PERSEVERANCE** and **SUPPLICATION** for all saints."

2 Corinthians 11:28

"Beside those things that are without, **THAT WHICH COMETH UPON ME DAILY, THE CARE OF ALL THE CHURCHES.**"

SOBER - (sophron) of a sound mind, sane in one's senses, having a good understanding, prudent, discreet, self-controlled, curbing one's desires and impulses

A person is not "sober" (according to this Greek word) if you have to ask in response to something said or done, "What were they thinking?" or "Are they insane?"

Proverbs 2:10-11

10 When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul;
11 **DISCRETION SHALL PRESERVE THEE, UNDERSTANDING SHALL KEEP THEE.**

Deuteronomy 4:5-6

5 Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it.
6 Keep therefore and do them; for **THIS IS YOUR WISDOM AND YOUR UNDERSTANDING IN THE SIGHT OF THE NATIONS**, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, **SURELY THIS GREAT NATION IS A WISE AND UNDERSTANDING PEOPLE.**

GOOD BEHAVIOUR - well-arranged, orderly, proper, respectable, seemly, orderly, decent, grave, dignified modest

This is not presenting a certain image for the sake of appearance alone. However it is speaking of behavior and demeanor that is fitting for a representative of God and His Word.

"A clownish, rude, or boorish man should never have the rule of the Church of God; the sour, the sullen, and the boisterous should never be invested with a dignity which they would most infallibly disgrace." Adam Clarke

1 Corinthians 13:5

"Doth not BEHAVE ITSELF UNSEEMLY..."

1 Thessalonians 2:10

"Ye are witnesses, and God also, HOW HOLILY AND JUSTLY AND UNBLAMEABLY WE BEHAVED OURSELVES AMONG YOU that believe."

2 Thessalonians 3:7

"For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for WE BEHAVED NOT OURSELVES DISORDERLY AMONG YOU;

1 Timothy 3:15

"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 pillar and ground of the truth.

GIVEN TO HOSPITALITY - *loving strangers, generous to guests, lover of hospitality*

How can a pastor represent the generosity of God's grace if he himself does not have a generous heart?

Romans 12:13 "DISTRIBUTING TO THE NECESSITY OF SAINTS; GIVEN TO HOSPITALITY."

APT TO TEACH - *able to teach, skillful in teaching*

The pastor must be thoroughly able to teach by thorough preparation including prayer, study and meditation.

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."

NAS - "...accurately handling the word of truth."

1 Timothy 4:13-16

13 Till I come, GIVE ATTENDANCE (*hold the mind towards, pay attention to*) TO READING (*a knowing again, owning*), TO EXHORTATION (*a calling near, a summons, encouragement, comfort*), TO DOCTRINE (*teaching, instruction*).

14 NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

15 MEDITATE UPON THESE THINGS; GIVE THYSELF WHOLLY TO THEM; THAT THY PROFITING MAY APPEAR TO ALL.

16 **TAKE HEED UNTO THYSELF, AND UNTO THE DOCTRINE; CONTINUE IN THEM:** FOR IN DOING THIS THOU SHALT BOTH SAVE THYSELF, AND THEM THAT HEAR THEE.

Acts 6:1-4

1 And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministrations.

2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.

3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

4 **BUT WE WILL GIVE OURSELVES CONTINUALLY TO PRAYER, AND TO THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD.**

NOT GIVEN TO WINE - *not addicted, not drunk, not "staying near the wine"*

The leader is never immune to moral failure and sin. In fact, because he is a leader, he is a priority and strategic target.

1 Corinthians 9:27

"BUT I KEEP UNDER MY BODY, AND BRING IT INTO SUBJECTION: LEST THAT BY ANY MEANS, WHEN I HAVE PREACHED TO OTHERS, I MYSELF SHOULD BE A CASTAWAY."

NO STRIKER - (plektes) *bruiser, ready for a blow, quarrelsome, contentious*

A pastor who starts, enters in or seeks to win a debate or quarrel does not demonstrate the required character. One who seeks to defend or promote his personal reputation by proving himself right does not have the love of the Truth as his top priority. Truth, having a divine origin, needs no human defense.

2 Timothy 2:23-26

23 But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.

24 **AND THE SERVANT OF THE LORD MUST NOT STRIVE** (*fight, engage in a war of words, used of armed combatants, quarrel, dispute*); **BUT BE GENTLE UNTO ALL MEN, APT TO TEACH, PATIENT,**

25 **IN MEEKNESS INSTRUCTING THOSE THAT OPPOSE THEMSELVES;** if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

NOT GREEDY OF FILTHY LUCRE - (aischrokerdes) *not loving money, greedy for money*

Greedy leaders who can be swayed in judgment by the prospect of money or material gain are dangerous. Truth and just judgment are not safe with them.

Deuteronomy 16:18-19

18 Judges and officers shalt thou make thee in all thy gates, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, throughout thy tribes: and **THEY SHALL JUDGE THE PEOPLE WITH JUST JUDGMENT.**

19 **THOU SHALT NOT WREST (*distort, pervert*) JUDGMENT; THOU SHALT NOT RESPECT PERSONS, NEITHER TAKE A GIFT: FOR A GIFT DOTHTH BLIND THE EYES OF THE WISE, AND PERVERT THE WORDS OF THE RIGHTEOUS.**

1 Samuel 8:1-3

1 And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel.

2 Now the name of his firstborn was Joel; and the name of his second, Abiah: they were judges in Beersheba.

3 **AND HIS SONS WALKED NOT IN HIS WAYS, BUT TURNED ASIDE AFTER LUCRE, AND TOOK BRIBES, AND PERVERTED JUDGMENT.**

PATIENT - (*epieikes*) *mild, gentle, moderate, appropriate, equitable, fair, fitting* - translated "*moderation*" in Phil 4:5, "*gentle*" in Titus 3:2, James 3:17 & 1 Peter 2:18

NOT A BRAWLER - (*amachos*) *not contentious, abstaining from fighting, peaceable* - used two times in NT

Paul's mention of "NO STRIKER" in verse 3 appears to be speaking in the offensive, while the mention of "PATIENT, NOT A BRAWLER" appears to be more in the defensive or reactive.

The leader must be patient, mild and gentle in response to adversity from either people or circumstances. He must not retaliate, lose his temper, strike back nor repay evil for evil.

Titus 3:1-4

1 Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,

2 **TO SPEAK EVIL OF NO MAN, TO BE NO BRAWLERS, BUT GENTLE (*epieikes*), SHEWING ALL MEEKNESS UNTO ALL MEN.**

3 **FOR WE OURSELVES ALSO WERE SOMETIMES foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.**

4 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared,

NOT COVETOUS (*aphilargyros*) *not loving money, not avaricious*

The meaning of "covetous" is identical to "not greedy of filthy lucre."