

The Pastoral Epistles

I Timothy 3:1b-7 – “If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. ²Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, ⁵for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? ⁶He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. ⁷Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.”

This whole passage deals with the office of an “_____.” Two other terms are used in the New Testament to refer to this office.

_____ - This term depicts his responsibilities as one who protects and provides

_____ - This term depicts his responsibilities as one who operates with wisdom and maturity.

Paul says that aspiring to this office is to aspire to a “_____” task.

In the major English translations, verse two says that the overseer *must be* of a certain moral makeup. We can understand this in one of a couple of ways:

- 1) He does these things and is this way for the _____ of being godly, or
- 2) He does these things and is this way as a _____ of being godly.

He must be “above reproach.” He hasn’t got obvious or _____ sin.

He must be “the husband of one wife.” He is _____ to one woman.

He must be “sober-minded.” He is temperate, or _____.

He must be “self-controlled.” He lives a measured and _____ life.

He must be “respectable.” His is worthy of regard because he lives _____.

He must be “hospitable.” He is willing to share with an _____.

He must be “able to teach.” He communicates well in _____ others.

He must not be “a drunkard.” He is not controlled, or _____ by alcohol.

He must not be “violent, but gentle.” Not given to _____, but has the calm demeanor of _____.

He is “not quarrelsome.” He isn’t looking for, nor picking _____.

He is “not a lover of money.” He doesn’t pursue money as a _____.

He “must manage his own household well...”

1) An overseer must manage his family “with all _____.”

2) An overseer must keep “his children _____.”

This doesn’t mean that he is overly oppressive nor abusive, but by inference we can deduce that this man knows how to lovingly lead and maintain order.

3) A deduction can be made from a man’s home-life. If he isn’t a very good father, he isn’t going to be a very good _____.

He “must not be a recent convert.”

1) Moving quickly to the highest office of the church after salvation can cause “_____.”

2) Conceit can cause judgment to fall upon you akin to the _____.

He “must be well thought of by outsiders.” He has a reputation that reflects godliness.

1) A bad reputation brings “_____” to the cause of Christ.

2) A bad reputation makes it easy for “_____” to hamstring your ministry.