



The Qualifications of Elders-Overseers

**We are looking at the qualities
they must possess written in
1Tim 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9**

The First Qualification

- “...if any man aspires to the office...” 1Tim 3:1
- “...not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to *the will of God*...” 1Peter 5:2
 - Aspire ~ to seek to accomplish a specific goal, *aspire to, strive for, desire* (BDAG)
 - Heb 11:16
 - Voluntarily ~ without compulsion, i.e. *deliberately, intentionally* (BDAG)
 - Heb 10:26
 - According to *the will of God* ~
 - Rom 12:2, 1Peter 4:1-2

The Qualities

- *Blameless*
- *Husband of one wife*
- *Temperate -Self controlled*
- **Sober-minded**
- **Not Self willed**
- **A lover of what is good**
- **Just**
- **Holy**
- **Of good behavior**
- **Hospitable**
- **Able to teach-exhort & convict**
- **Not given to wine**
- **Not violent**
- **Not greedy for money**
- **Gentle**
- **Not quarrelsome-quick tempered**
- **Not covetous**
- **Rules house well -children in submission -faithful children**
- **Not a novice**
- **Has a good testimony from those outside**

Sober-minded

- to being in control of oneself, *prudent, thoughtful, self-controlled* (BDAG)
- This is referring to someone's judgment or thinking being clear often translated sensible or prudent (having good sense)
- the Hellenic model is avoidance of extremes and careful consideration for responsible action: ... (Aristotle) the prudent person is intent on the what, the how, and the when of doing what should be done; (BDAG)

Not Self-willed

- **Self-willed ~ *self-willed, stubborn, arrogant* (BDAG)**
- **A self-willed person may be someone who has to have their own way or is arrogant. They may be viewed as overbearing or as dictators.**
- **Peter describes those who walk according to the flesh as self-willed people.**
 - ***2 Peter 2:9-10 "then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries,"***

A Lover of What is Good

- Loving “that which, being “good” in its character or constitution, is beneficial in its effect;” (Vines)

- Begins with God

- *Matt 19:17 "So He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.””*

- Understood by us

- *Rom 12:2 "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”*

- And practiced on others

- *Gal 6:9-10 "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.”*

Just

■ Pertaining to being in accordance with high standards of rectitude (integrity) , *upright, just, fair* (BDAG)

■ 1John 3:7 *"Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous."*

■ Acts 10:22 *"And they said, "Cornelius the centurion, a just man, one who fears God and has a good reputation among all the nation of the Jews, was divinely instructed by a holy angel to summon you to his house, and to hear words from you.""*

■ 1 Peter 3:12 *"For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.""*

Holy

- Pertaining to being without fault relative to deity, *devout, pious, pleasing to God, holy* (BDAG)

- This really is referring to the right relationship this man has with God. This only happens because of the reconciliation of Christ and the new man created in Christ Jesus.

- 1 Tim 2:8 *"I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;"*

- Eph 4:23-24 *"and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness."*

Of Good Behavior

- Refers to characteristics or qualities that evoke admiration or delight, an expression of high regard for persons, *respectable, honorable* (BDAG)
- Different forms of the word are used of women's clothing (1Tim 2:9), a well-ordered house (Mt 12:44), well-trimmed lamps (Mt 25:7), adorning the doctrine of God with proper behavior.
- Titus 2:9-10 *'Exhort bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all things, not answering back, not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.'*