

Qualifications of a Pastor

1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:6-9

¹It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer (ἐπίσκοπος), it is a fine work he desires *to do*. ²An overseer (ἐπίσκοπος), then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, uncontentious, free from the love of money. ⁴*He must be* one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity ⁵(but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?); ⁶*and* not a new convert, lest he become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil. ⁷And he must have a good reputation with those outside *the church*, so that he may not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

⁵For this reason I left you in Crete, that you might set in order what remains, and appoint elders (πρεσβυτέρους) in every city as I directed you, ⁶*namely*, if any man be above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion. ⁷For the overseer (ἐπίσκοπος) must be above reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain, ⁸but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled, ⁹holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, that he may be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.

First understand the words used in the Bible for the position of pastor:

Acts 20:28 "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers (ἐπισκόπους), to shepherd (ποιμαίνειν) the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

Elder = Bishop = Shepherd = Pastor

What specific pastoral qualifications does Paul list? _____

Is that list exhaustive? _____

Are these qualifications applicable only to Pastors?

What qualification(s), if any, do(es) God want you to meet that you currently do not?

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