

Elders: Qualifications Related To Responsibilities

1 Timothy 3:2, 4-5; Titus 1:9

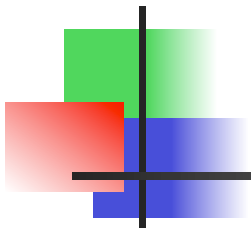


Chicken Ranch



Specific Duties of Elders

- 1. Teaching** **1 Tim. 5:17**
- 2. Maintain doctrinal purity** **Acts 20:29-32**
- 3. Care** **Acts 20:35**
- 4. Pray healing of the sick** **James 5:13-16**
- 5. Church discipline** **Matt. 18:15-20**
- 6. Manage money** **Acts 11:30**



Broad Responsibilities of Elders

Oversight



Shepherding ← **Priority**



“Manages His House Well”

οικου καλως προϊσταμενον = “house well managed”

He ~~caringly-~~manages his family. . .

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- Προϊστημι has the sense of leading, control, and caring for.
 - Same word used in 1 Tim. 5:17
 - More than just organization - has a shepherd's heart for his family.



“Children under control”

ΤΕΚΝΑ . . . ΕΝ ΥΠΟΤΑΓΗ = “children in submission”

His children obey him with respect . . .

- His children are in submission.
- His children respect him and do not despise or hate him.
- Titus 1:6 illustrates this principle . . .



“Children are well behaved”

μη εν κατηγορια| ασωτιασ = not in accusation of
αωνυποτακτα dissipation or rebellion.

His children are not in rebellion . . .

- Children usually reflect their parents
- **Rebellious children *usually* imply that there is something seriously wrong in the home.**

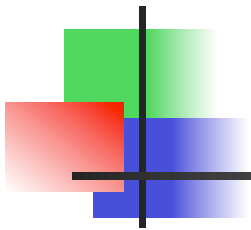


“Children Who Believe”

ΤΕΚΝΑ ΕΧΩΝ ΠΙΣΤΑ = “children have faith”

His children believe . . .

- His children hold to the faith.
- This implies his children share his faith and **are born again.**



Qualifications Related To Shepherding



“Able to Teach” – part 1

διδασκτικον = “skilled at teaching”

- Occurs in **only** two N.T. passages
 - 1 Tim. 3:2
 - 2 Tim. 2:24
- Definition rests heavily on Greek lexicons



“Able to Teach” – part 2

διδακτικον = “skilled at teaching”

“skillful in teaching”

- Philo (Congr. 35; Praem. Poen. 27)
- Arndt, W. F. A Greek-English Lexicon
- Calvin, John. 1 Timothy
- Colin Brown, DNTT
- Danker and Bauer’s Greek-Lexicon

“apt and skillful in teaching”

- Thayer’s Greek Lexicon



“Able to Teach” – part 3

“one qualified to teach”

- **A. T. Robertson, Word Pictures**

“not merely given to teaching, but . . . skilled in it”

- **Kenneth Wuest, 1 Timothy**

“both the willingness and the skill and ability to teach”

- **Heibert, First Timothy**

“highly skilled teacher”

- **John MacArthur, 1 Timothy**

“skilled teacher”

- **J. N. D. Kelly, The Pastoral Epistles**



“Holds Fast To The Word”

αντεχομενον του κατα την διδαχην πιστου = “holds firmly, clings to the faithful teaching”

He is faithful to the truth . . .

- He knows it
- He believes all of it is the truth.
- He **holds to sound teaching** (2 Tim. 2:2)
- He avoids error James 3:1-2.
- He is diligent (2 Tim. 2:15)

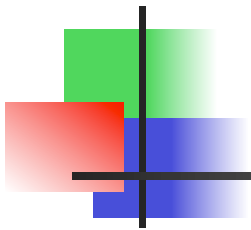


“Able to exhort . . . refute”

παρακαλεω = “to call or exhort
... αντιλεγω . . . speak against or contradict”

He is able to defend the Word of God . . .

- He has a **good grasp of scripture.**
- He can explain the major doctrines of scripture to others
- He can identify error.



Perspective From 1700 A.D.

. . . one that is able to instruct others, and who has a facility or aptness to it, neither an ignorant nor yet a lazy man.

Matthew Poole, 1700 A.D.



Perspective From 1840 A.D.

As the principal business of an [elder] is to teach, or to communicate . . . the knowledge of the truth, the necessity of this qualification is obvious. He is one . . . who is qualified to impart to others on the doctrines . . . and he is industrious, and self-denying, and loves to study in order to know God . . .

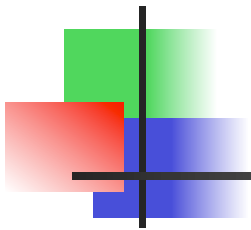
Albert Barnes, 1840 A.D.



Perspective From 1900s A.D.

This is something I emphasize, because I do not feel any man ought to be an elder in a church unless he can teach the Word of God. I used to say to my church officers that I wished it was possible to give a theological exam to each one of them to determine if he was qualified to be an officer.

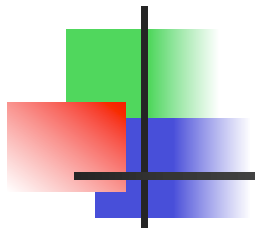
- J. Vernon Mc Gee



Encouragements For Growth

1 John 2:12-14

Hebrews 5:11-14



Message of Hebrews 13:17

Elders . . . “Watch over you souls”

Believers . . . “be persuaded and yield”



How Shall We Respond?

1. Pray for guidance in selecting elders
2. Seek to become a **“spiritual father in the faith”**