

Qualifications of Elders (IV)

Titus 1



Island of
100 cities
– Homer

1. Set in order things that are lacking, 5

- Set in order: set right...
- Things that are lacking
 - To be deficient in something that ought to be present (complete)
 - Tit.3:13, lack nothing
 - Lk.18:22, one thing you lack
 - Ja.2:15, in need of daily food
- Appoint elders in every city
 - Ac.14:23, in every church
- As I commanded you

2. Having faithful children ...6

- Faithful: the absolute also means believing (in Christ), a...believer – BDAG
- With regard to believers, they are spoken of sometimes in the active sense, sometimes in the passive, i.e., sometimes as *believers*, sometimes as *faithful* – Vine
 - Ac.16:15, *faithful* to the Lord
 - 2 Co.6:15, what part...*believer*...unbeliever
 - Ep.1:1, *faithful* in Christ Jesus
 - 1 Tim.5:16, *believing*; 6:2, *believing*

2. Having faithful children ...6

This is not mere faithfulness to parents...

- 2 Tim.2:2, faithful men ... faithful to whom?
- Would faithfulness to a father (not to God) demonstrate father's ability to lead church?
- Gn.18:19
- Goal of godly parents: Ep.6:4 – discipline, instruction of Lord
 - 2 Tim.1:5, genuine faith
 - 2 Tim.3:15, wise for salvation through faith...
 - Tit.1:6, faithful children

2. Having faithful children ...6

“What if a child is ‘faithful’ at home but falls away after leaving home?”

- How to prove qualification applies to children at home, but not after they leave?
 - 1 Tim.3:4, **well**
 - Tit.1:6, **faithful**
 - A man’s family training demonstrates his ability to lead others into strong faith

2. Having faithful children ...6

1 Tim.3:4-5, different words, same conclusion

- Rules own house well. 1 Tim.5:17
 - Exercise position of leadership, direct, be at the head (of)
 - Does he enforce obedience without training in way of Lord?
- Having his children in submission
- With all reverence: behavior that indicates what is above what is ordinary and therefore worthy of special respect. Seriousness, holiness – BDAG

2. Having faithful children ...6

- For if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how ... care of church of God?

1 Tim.3:4-5, take care of –

- The ‘rule’ of 1 Tim.3:5 is the ‘rule’ of v.4
- ‘Care’ – Lk.10:34-35 (to save a life) . . .
- 1 Tim.3:5, same diligence to save souls

2. Having faithful children ...6

- “Not only does the [overseer] watch over and busy himself with the community, but he also sees to its spiritual needs and devotes all his energy to it” – Spicq, II, 51f.

2. Having faithful children ...6

- “There is an analogy between caring for an ordinary household and caring for the household of God, which makes a working knowledge of the former a condition for success at the latter, and implies that the same qualities are required in both spheres”
– Marshall

2. Having faithful children ...6

- Do we expect elder's child to sit quietly in assembly, causing no disturbance . . . but not paying attention...?
 - The rule of 1 Tim.3:5 is the rule of 1 Tim. 3:4
 - Elder's house (1 Tim.3:5) prepares him for Lord's house (1 Tim.3:15)
 - What if a child receives little or no discipline? 1 Sm.3:13

2. Having faithful children ...6

- Tit.1:7, **overseer**: a man charged with the duty of seeing that things to be done by others are done rightly, curator, guardian, or superintendent – Th.
- Tit.1:7, **steward**: the responsibility of safeguarding or seeing to it that something is done in correct way, guardian
 - Joseph over Potiphar's house
 - Elders carry out Lord's laws, not their own

2. Having faithful children ...6

1 Pt.5:2-3, not lords...

1. Lording over implies possession of authority
2. He rules; he does not abuse his power
 - Mt.20:25 . . . Mk.10:42
 - Not even apostles were allowed to 'lord it over' a congregation

2. Having faithful children ...6

“Does ‘children’ require an elder to have more than one child?”

1. Gn.21:7, plural includes singular
2. Mt.22:24, having ‘no children’
3. Mk.12:19, ‘no child’ (ASV; NASV; ESV; ISV; NRSV)
4. Ac.2:37, promise
5. 1 Tim.5:4, if one child, not qualified...?

3. Not a novice, 1 Tim.3:6

- ESV: recent convert, , NASV: new convert
- Newly planted
- Danger: puffed up with conceit
- Fall into condemnation of devil (condemnation incurred by the devil, NASV)
- Pride is great disaster for congregation and novice

4. Good testimony among those who are outside, 1 Tim.3:7

- ESV: well thought of by outsiders.
- NASV: good reputation with those outside.
- Confirmation or attestation on the basis of personal knowledge or belief.
- Attestation of character / behavior – BDAG

4. Good testimony among those who are outside, 1 Tim.3:7

- Fall into reproach and snare of devil
- Weak spots will come to light
- Dn.6
- Reputation of church depends largely on its leaders. 1 Tim.5:19-21

5. Self-willed, Tit.1:7

- ESV: arrogant
- Stubborn, arrogant. One who pleases himself. Overvalues his own rights, reckless with others.
- Opposite of Mt.16:24

6. Not quick-tempered, Tit.1:7

- Inclined / prone to anger
- As an elder, his patience will be tried often
- If he is a hothead...
- Ep.4:26, Be angry, and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, 27 nor give place to the devil. [it can be controlled]

7. Lover of what is good, Tit.1:8

- Loving what is good (NASV)
- Whether 'good things' or 'good persons' is not clear, but probably it ought to be taken in its widest meaning, as including both – Bernard
- 2 Tim.3:3, *despisers of good*

8. Just, Tit.1:8

- ESV: holy
- Fair, upright, makes decisions free from partiality
- Mt.1:19, Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly

9. Holy, Tit.1:8

- Devout, pious, self-controlled; self-mastery
- Undefined by sin, free from wickedness, religiously observing every moral obligation, pure, holy, pious – Th.
- 1 Tim.2:8

10. Self-controlled, Tit.1:8

- Disciplined; devout. Having one's emotions, impulses, or desires under control
- Having power over; mastering, controlling, curbing, restraining – Th
- 1 Co.9:27, must master self before he can help others

11. Holding fast the faithful word... Tit.1:9

- Have a strong attachment to someone or someth., cling to, hold fast to, be devoted to
– BDAG
- Everyone holds fast to something. Mt.6:24
 - **Able to exhort in sound doctrine** – encourage, instruct, urge strongly
 - **Able to convict** – refute, rebuke, those who contradict (10-11)

‘It means to prove that things cannot be otherwise than as we have stated them’

– Aristotle