

Introduction

- I. What is the profile for an elder, deacon, or pastor?
- II. The beautiful truth we see in the text is the fundamental principle of reformed church government: Christ rules His church through office bearers.

**The Profile of the Office Bearer**

- I. **A Submissive Slave**
  - A. Paul identifies himself, Timothy, and all pastors, elders, and deacons as slaves of the Lord.
    - B. The text shows us that office bearers are under the authority of Jesus Christ (servant-leaders)
- II. **A Tender Teacher**
  - A. The chief calling of pastor, elders, and deacons is to teach those who oppose themselves.
    - 1. Who are these unruly members that oppose themselves?
    - 2. We are called to deal with all the members by teaching. What does this involve?
  - B. The text emphasizes how this teaching must be done: do not strive, but be gentle, patient, and meek.
- III. **A Desired Deliverance**
  - A. The goal of this work is repentance from sin.
  - B. The text emphasizes that it is God who accomplishes this.