

## INTRODUCTION

1. Act 6:3 and 1 Tim 3:8-13. Virtues & vices: wisdom or folly. Aaron Renn

**1st: The Spiritual Qualifications: Matured Christian Piety**

1. Only a true Xn man - A6:3 *select from among you*
2. A mature Xn - not a new convert (1 Tim 3:6). Act 6:3
  - i. *full of the Spirit:*
  - ii. *and of wisdom:*
3. Mature grasp of doctrinal truth. 1 Tim 3:9
  - i. *the mystery of the faith*
  - ii. *with a clear conscience*
  - iii. *holding to*

**2nd: The Personal Qualifications: Matured Christian Character**

1. 1 Tim 3:8 *men of dignity*
2. v8 - *not double tongued* - Jms 1:26-27
3. v8 *not addicted to much wine*
4. v8 *or fond of sordid gain*
5. Self-control - fruit of Spirit.

**3rd: The Interpersonal Qualifications: Matured Christian Leadership**

1. Act 6:3 *men of good reputation - above reproach* (1 Tim 3:2, 7): *inclusio*
2. 1 Tim 3:12 leadership in family
  - i. *a good manager*
  - ii. 1 T 3:4 & Tit 1:6 *children who believe* - "faithful, trustworthy" - behaves orderly - *not be accused of dissipation or rebellion*: concern with reputation: *not accused of*. 1 Tim 3:5
  - iii. Qualitative continuity w/ leadership in home.
3. 1 Tim 3:12 *husband of one wife*. 1 Cor 11:7 *wmn is the glory of the man* - she demonstrates effects of his headship. 1 T 3:11 - like her husband: *dignified* (v8); *not malicious gossip* (v8); *temperate* (v2,8); *faithful in all thgs* (v8).

**4th: The Practical Qualifications: Matured Christian Wisdom**

1. Emph on the practical - 1 Tim 3:10 *first tested*. No text w/ a job description, Rather we are shown men serving, meeting practical needs. Act 6:2-3
2. Deacons Express Jesus' benevolence to the needy: involves
  - i. Assessing needs & discerning character
  - ii. Giving advice
  - iii. Helping to meet material needs
  - iv. Diaconate is a spiritual office & overlaps ministries of pastors
3. Men with practical wisdom & matured Christian virtue; given by Christ & made by the HS.