



Church Leadership: An Issue of Character

1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9

- 1) The character of overseers must be above reproach (1 Tim 3:1-7)
 - a) The overseer's heart desires to serve in Christ's church (1)
 - b) The overseer's nature is moral (2-3)
 - c) The overseer's home life is peaceful (4-5)
 - d) The overseer's spiritual life is respectable (2, 6)
 - e) The overseer has a good reputation w/ unbelievers (7)
- 2) What do church elders do?
 - a) Shepherds who feed Christ's flock (John 21:15-17; Acts 2:42)
 - b) Apologists defending the gospel (Phil. 1:7)
 - c) Umpires arbitrating disputes (Acts 15:2)
 - d) Overseers watching over souls (Heb. 13:17)
 - e) Prayer leaders, lifting up holy hands (1 Tim. 2:8)
- 3) What can church members do? Pray for your elders
 - a) They get discouraged; become apathetic
 - b) They grow weary in service, hearing mostly the bad
 - c) They can become arrogant & complacent
 - d) They are not perfect but must remain above reproach