

## HOW DOES GOD LEAD HIS CHURCH? Qualifications for elders we all should aspire to

### Titus 1:7

- I. **REVIEW:** *ELDERS MUST BE ABOVE REPROACH*, exhibiting Christlike character and spiritual maturity **IN RELATION TO FAMILY LIFE** (6)
- II. **ELDERS MUST BE ABOVE REPROACH**, exhibiting Christlike character and spiritual maturity, **IN RELATION TO THEIR INNER PERSONAL LIFE** (Titus 1:7-8, 1Tim. 3:1-7)
  - A. God's **Steward** must be **above reproach** (Titus 1:7a, 1Tim 3:2)

### B. What God's Steward must not be... (Titus 1:7, 1Tim 3)

1. **Self willed** (Titus 1:7a): Elders must not be self pleasing
2. **Quick tempered** (Titus 1:7a): Elders must not have a short fuse
3. **Addicted to wine** (Titus 1:7b, 1Tim 3:3): Elders must not be continually alongside wine
4. **Pugnacious** (Titus 1:7, 1Tim 3:3): Elders must not be quick to be physically violent
5. **Fond of sordid gain** (Titus 7) **not a money lover** (1Tim 3:3): Elders must not be in it for the money

**Next week** there will not just be a lack of the above but a exhibition of below

### C. Christ like character qualities an elder must have instead... (TITUS 1:8)

**Titus 1:8**  
A love of what is good  
Just  
Devout  
Self controlled

**Titus 1:8 & 1Tim 3:1-7**  
Hospitable  
Sensible (prudent)

**1Tim 3:1-7**  
Temperate  
Respectable  
Gentle  
Uncontentious  
A good reputation

### D. A Warning: Must not be a new convert (1Tim 3:6)

**Two weeks**

- III. **ELDERS MUST BE ABOVE REPROACH**, EXHIBITING CHRISTLIKE CHARACTER SPIRITUAL MATURITY **IN RELATION TO THEIR HANDLING AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORD** AND THE THREATS TO THE WORD (9-16)