

The Biblical Elder

1 Tim 3:2-7 & Titus 1:5-9



Intro:

*“The elders [**presbuteros**] who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: ² Shepherd [**poimainō**] the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers [**episkopeō**], not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly.”*

1 Peter 5:1–2

I. The biblical elder's call



I. The biblical elder's call

“And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, ²² strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.”



I. The biblical elder's call

23 So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.”

Acts 14:21-23



I. The biblical elder's call

Application—4 insights to help

I. We should note of those men who *regularly attend the church's services and the church's business meetings*



I. The biblical elder's call

Application—4 insights to help

1. We should note of those men who *regularly attend the church's services and the church's business meetings*

2. *Are they already appear to be shepherding members of the church even though they don't have the title "elder" or "pastor"*

I. The biblical elder's call

Application—4 insights to help

3. Do they *show respect and trust in the existing leadership*



I. The biblical elder's call

Application—4 insights to help

3. Do they *show respect and trust in the existing leadership*

4. Be patient and note those men who *evidence the desire over time*



II. The biblical elder's qualifications



II. The biblical elder's qualifications

“Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.²⁷ And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Matthew 20:26-28

II. The biblical elder's qualifications

“...nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.”

I Peter 5:3



III. The biblical elder's role



III. The biblical elder's role

A. They communicate sound doctrine



III. The biblical elder's role

“But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine”

Titus 2:1



III. The biblical elder's role

A. They communicate sound doctrine

B. They collectively lead



III. The biblical elder's role

A. They communicate sound doctrine

B. They collectively lead

- **They make decisions for the church**



III. The biblical elder's role

A. They communicate sound doctrine

B. They collectively lead

- **They make decisions for the church**
- **They defend the church**



III. The biblical elder's role

“holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict. ¹⁰ For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision,



III. The biblical elder's role

“ whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain.”

Titus 1:9–11



III. The biblical elder's role

A. They communicate sound doctrine

B. They collectively lead

- They make decisions for the church
- They defend the church
- They discipline the church

III. The biblical elder's role

“But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness. ¹⁷ And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, ¹⁸ who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some.”

2 Timothy 2:16–18