

First Timothy 3:1-7

57 AD - Acts 20:17-38 – “Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the **elders (presbuteros)** of the church to come to him. And when they came to him, he said to them: “You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ...Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure **fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.** Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

62 AD – 1 Timothy 1:3-7 – “As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith. The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.”

1 Timothy 1:19-20 – “Some have made shipwreck of their faith, among whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.”

1 Timothy 2:8 – “I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling.”

- Similar passages:
 - Titus 1:5-15 – “This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders (presbuteros) in every town as I directed you— if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. For an overseer (episkopos), as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.”

- 2 Timothy 2:15-18 – “Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness, and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, who have swerved from the truth, saying that the resurrection has already happened. They are upsetting the faith of some.”

First Timothy 3:1 – “**The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task.**”

4103 [e]	3588 [e]	3056 [e]	1487 [e]	5100 [e]	1984 [e]	5713 [e]	2570 [e]	2041 [e]	1937 [e]	
Pistos	ho	logos	ei	tis	episkopēs	oregetai	kalou	ergou	epithymei	
1 Πιστὸς	ὁ	λόγος	:	εἴ	τις	ἐπισκοπῆς	ὀρέγεται	, καλοῦ	ἔργου	ἐπιθυμεῖ
Trustworthy [is]	the	saying	If	anyone	overseership	aspires to	of good	a work	he is desirous	
Adj-NMS	Art-NMS	N-NMS	Conj	IPro-NMS	N-GFS	V-PIM-3S	Adj-GNS	N-GNS	V-PIA-3S	

1. “Trustworthy is the saying”
2. Two positions of leadership are identified:
 - a. **Episcope** = “overseer” (some translations “bishop”, “superintendent”) – meaning “a visiting”, “an overseeing”. Used to refer to “oversight”, “supervision” or “a visitation for judgment or evaluation”
 - i. In Titus 1:9 they have authority to fight heresy
 - ii. In Greek culture *episkepoi* was a financial officer or a technical office.
 - iii. *Episkopos* is a general word for any position in the Greek world that had any kind of oversight responsibility.
 - b. **Diakonoi** = “deacon” – meaning “servant”, “minister”. Used to refer to “a waiter” or a “servant” and can be used of “one who performs a service” or “an administrator”
 - i. Word used in 1 Timothy 1:8
 - c. **Presbuteros** – presbyter
 - i. 1 Timothy 5:1 – “Do not rebuke an older man (*presbuteros*) but encourage him as you would a father”
 - ii. 1 Timothy 5:17 – “Let the elders (*presbuteros*) who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching.”
 - iii. Titus 1:5 – “This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders (*presbuteros*) in every town as I directed you.”
 - iv. May be same position or responsibility as *episcope*
 - v. The *episcope* of 1 Timothy 1:7 and 3:5 is the *presbuteros* in Titus 1:5
3. The office of overseer is defined.
4. The church in Ephesus is 8-10 years old. Timothy is not establishing the “overseer”, but correcting.
5. The regulations for an overseer are in agreement with regulations for all Christians.
6. “Aspire” or “Desire” – *oregetai* – means “to stretch oneself out”
 - a. This is not meant in a negative sense
7. “Desire” – *epithymei* – expresses strong desire meaning “to set one’s heart upon.”

3:2 – “Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,

1163 [e]	3767 [e]	3588 [e]	1985 [e]	423 [e]	1510 [e]	1520 [e]	1135 [e]	435 [e]
dei	oun	ton	episkopon	anepilēpton	einai	mias	gynaikos	andra
2 δεῖ	οὖν	τὸν	ἐπίσκοπον	ἀνεπίληπτου	εἶναι	μῆς	γυναικὸς	ἄνδρα
It behooves	therefore	the	overseer	above reproach	to be	of one	wife	[the] husband
V-PIA-3S	Conj	Art-AMS	N-AMS	Adj-AMS	V-PNA	Adj-GFS	N-GFS	N-AMS

3524 [e]	4998 [e]	2887 [e]	5382 [e]	1317 [e]
nēphalion	sōphrona	kosmion	philoxenon	didaktikon
νηφάλιον	σώφρονα	κόσμιον	φιλόξενον	διδακτικόν
sober	self-controlled	respectable	hospitable	able to teach
Adj-AMS	Adj-AMS	Adj-AMS	Adj-AMS	Adj-AMS

1. Lists like these with the basic job requirements were common in the Greek world for leadership including: Kings, Generals, Midwife.
2. “above reproach” – *anepilempton* – means “good report”, “without reproach” with the idea that the subject was deserving a good report.
 - a. Used to say “irreproachable” and “never caught doing wrong”
 - b. Used only in 1 Timothy in the NT-
 - i. 1 Timothy 3:2 – (here)
 - ii. Concerning widows - 1 Timothy 5:7 – “Command these things as well, so that they may be without reproach.”
 - iii. To Timothy - 1 Timothy 6:14 – “I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
3. “husband of one wife”
 - a. Titus 1:6 – “if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife”
 - b. 1 Timothy 5:9 – “Let a widow be enrolled if she is not less than sixty years of age, having been the wife of one husband.”
 - c. Literally: “one woman man” or “man of one woman”
 - i. *Andra* from *aner* means “man”, or in the correct context “husband”
 - ii. *Gynaikos* from *gune* means “a woman”, or in the correct context “wife”, “my lady”
 - d. “One woman” or “One wife”...??
 - i. It could mean these things:
 1. Sexual purity...but, why not say fornication. Also, all Christians are to be sexually pure.
 2. Polygamy...polygamy was practiced in the pagan world and even in theory polygamy was still accepted in Judaism at the time
 3. Second marriage...widows are included in wording like this in:
 - a. 1 Timothy 5:9 – “Let a widow be enrolled if she is not less than sixty years of age, having been the wife of one husband.”

5503 [e]	2639 [e]	3361 [e]	1640 [e]	2094 [e]	1835 [e]	1096 [e]	1520 [e]	435 [e]	1135 [e]
Chēra	katalegesthō	mē	elatton	etōn	hexēkonta	gegonuia	henos	andros	gynē
9 Χήρα	καταλεγέσθω	μη	ἔλαττον	ἐτῶν	ἑξήκοντα	, γεγονυῖα	ένος	άνδρὸς	γυνή ,
A widow	let be enrolled	not	less than	years [old]	sixty	being	of one	man	[the] wife
N-NFS	V-PMM/P-3S	Adv	Adj-ANS-C	N-GNP	Adj-GNP	V-RPA-NFS	Adj-GMS	N-GMS	N-NFS

"one man woman"

b. 1 Timothy 5:14 – “So I would have younger widows marry, bear children, manage their households, and give the adversary no occasion for slander.”

i. Now, they have a second man or husband according to Paul’s direction.

4. Divorced/separated –

a. There was a certificate of divorce given by Moses due to the hardness of men’s hearts.

b. It was a complete legal action

c. Moses had a second wife

ii. Marriage must be supported by Paul:

1. Natural

2. 1 Timothy 4:3 – false teachers forbid and demonic teaching forbids - “Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that **God created to be received with thanksgiving** by those who believe and know the truth. For everything created by God is good, and **nothing is to be rejected** if it is received with thanksgiving, for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer.” (1 Timothy 4:1-5)

3:3 – “not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money.

3361 [e]	3943 [e]	3361 [e]	4131 [e]	235 [e]	1933 [e]	269 [e]	866 [e]
mē	paroinon	mē	plēktēn	alla	epieikē	amachon	aphilargyron
3 μη	πάροινον	, μη	πλήκτην	, ἀλλὰ	ἐπιεικῆ	, ἄμαχον	, ἀφιλάργυρον
not	given to wine	not	a striker	but	gentle	peaceable	not loving money
Adv	Adj-AMS	Adv	N-AMS	Conj	Adj-AMS	Adj-AMS	Adj-AMS

3:4 – “He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive,

3588 [e]	2398 [e]	3624 [e]	2573 [e]	4291 [e]	5043 [e]	2192 [e]	1722 [e]	5292 [e]	3326 [e]
toū	ιδίου	οίκου	καλῶς	προϊστάμενον	τέκνα	ἔχοντα	ἐν	ὑποταγῆ	μετὰ
4 τοῦ	ιδίου	οίκου	καλῶς	προϊστάμενον	, τέκνα	ἔχοντα	ἐν	ὑποταγῆ	, μετὰ
the	own	house	well	managing	children	having	in	submission	with
Art-GMS	Adj-GMS	N-GMS	Adv	V-PPM-AMS	N-ANP	V-PPA-AMS	Prep	N-DFS	Prep

3956 [e]	4587 [e]
pasēs	semnotētos
πάσης	σεμνότητος —
all	dignity
Adj-GFS	N-GFS

3:5 – “for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church?”

1487 [e]	1161 [e]	5100 [e]	3588 [e]	2398 [e]	3624 [e]	4291 [e]	3756 [e]	1492 [e]	4459 [e]	1577 [e]	2316 [e]
ei	de	tis	tou	idiou	oikou	prostēnai	ouk	oiden	pōs	ekklēsias	Theou
5 εἰ	δέ	τις	τοῦ	ἰδίου	οἴκου	προστῆναι	οὐκ	οἶδεν	, πῶς	ἐκκλησίας	Θεοῦ
if	but	one	the	own	household	to manage	not	knows	how	[the] church	of God
Conj	Conj	IPro-NMS	Art-GMS	Adj-GMS	N-GMS	V-ANA	Adv	V-RIA-3S	Adv	N-GFS	N-GMS

1959 [e]

epimelēsetai

ἐπιμελήσεται ? —

[how] will he care for

V-FIP-3S

3:6 – “He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil.

3361 [e]	3504 [e]	2443 [e]	3361 [e]	5187 [e]	1519 [e]	2917 [e]	1706 [e]	3588 [e]	1228 [e]
mē	neophyton	hina	mē	typhōtheis	eis	krima	empesē	tou	diabolou
6 μὴ	νεόφυτον	, ἵνα	μὴ	τυφωθεῖς	, εἰς	κρίμα	ἐμπέση	τοῦ	διαβόλου
not	a novice	that	not	having been puffed up	into	[the] judgment	he might fall	of the	devil
Adv	Adj-AMS	Conj	Adv	V-APP-NMS	Prep	N-ANS	V-ASA-3S	Art-GMS	Adj-GMS

3:7 – “Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

1163 [e]	1161 [e]	2532 [e]	3141 [e]	2570 [e]	2192 [e]	575 [e]	3588 [e]	1855 [e]	2443 [e]	3361 [e]	1519 [e]
dei	de	kai	martyrian	kalēn	echein	apo	tōn	exōthen	hina	mē	eis
7 δεῖ	δὲ	καὶ	μαρτυρίαν	καλὴν	ἔχειν	ἀπὸ	τῶν	ἔξωθεν	, ἵνα	μὴ	εἰς
It behooves [him]	now	also	a testimony	good	to have	from	those	outside	so that	not	into
V-PIA-3S	Conj	Conj	N-AFS	Adj-AFS	V-PNA	Prep	Art-GMP	Adv	Conj	Adv	Prep

3680 [e]	1706 [e]	2532 [e]	3803 [e]	3588 [e]	1228 [e]
oneidismon	empesē	kai	pagida	tou	diabolou
ὀνειδισμόν	ἐμπέση	, καὶ	παγίδα	τοῦ	διαβόλου
reproach	he might fall	and	[the] snare	of the	devil
N-AMS	V-ASA-3S	Conj	N-AFS	Art-GMS	Adj-GMS