

I. Review: the tasks of a shepherd

- A. Know the sheep
- B. Feed the sheep
- C. Lead the sheep
- D. Protect the sheep

II. The character of an shepherd

- A. Character is the primary qualification for a shepherd!
- B. A shepherd's character should be proven in other settings
 - i. above reproach – no one “has anything on you”
 - ii. husband of one wife (a “one woman man”)
 - iii. manages household well
 - iv. respectable
 - v. not a recent convert
 - vi. good reputation with outsiders
- C. An overseer should be able to handle conflict in the right way
 - i. not violent but gentle
 - ii. not quarrelsome
 - iii. not willful/arrogant
- D. An overseer should be able to control himself, and not be controlled
 - i. temperate
 - ii. not given to wine (1 Timothy 5:23; Proverbs 31:4-7)
 - iii. not a lover of money (Hebrews 13:5)
 - iv. not quick-tempered
- E. Positive traits and habits
 - i. hospitable (1 Timothy 3:15)
 - ii. able to teach (2 Timothy 2:24)
 - iii. loving good (Philippians 4:8)
 - iv. just/righteous/upright
 - v. holy (1 Timothy 2:8; Hebrews 7:26)
 - vi. self-controlled
 - vii. disciplined (lit. empowered cf. 1 Corinthians 9:25)

III. Who is equal to this?

- A. These are the qualifications for a shepherd of God's flock
- B. Jesus is our Shepherd and he exercises his rule for our good
- C. We are accepted through the shed blood of the Shepherd – and he is able to change us into the kind of people fit to serve him (Romans 16:25,27; Ephesians 3:20-21; Jude 24-25)