

August 23, 2015
Sermon
Lesson 11: 1 Timothy 3:1-7

ORDER IN THE CHURCH—PART II

*Main idea: God's church must be led by elders who are **above reproach!***

The elder must:

- Be the husband of one wife (2)
- Be sober-minded (2)
- Be self-controlled (2)
- Be respectable (2)
- Be hospitable (2)
- Be able to teach (2)
- Not be a drunkard (3)
- Not be violent (3)
- Be gentle (3)
- Not be quarrelsome (3)
- Not be a lover of money (3)
- Manage his own household well (4-5)
 - With all dignity keeping his children submissive
 - Lack of home management means lack of church care
- Not be a recent convert (6)
 - Lest he become puffed up
 - And fall into the condemnation of the devil
- Be well thought of by outsiders (7)
 - So that he may not fall into disgrace, a snare of the devil

Questions:

1. Are these 15 qualifications for BECOMING an elder, or BEING an elder?
2. How can God require these impossible requirements of us?
 - ⇒ The Holy Spirit qualifies elders (fruit of the Spirit, virtues)
 - ⇒ The Holy Spirit ordains elders (Acts 14:23)
3. How do we proceed in elder selection?
 - ⇒ Preponderance of the evidence
 - ⇒ Baseline qualification
 - ⇒ Continuous growth

*May God continue to raise up the elders
by which the Church will grow and thrive and glorify God!*