

The Office Of A Bishop

I Timothy 3:1-7

Intro:

- A. Desiring the office of a bishop and being called to preach are not the same thing.
 - 1. Men are called to preach without qualification and not according to the flesh.
 - 2. Romans 9:9-16
 - 3. I Corinthians 11:26-31
 - 4. There are examples:
 - a. Amos, herdsman of Tekoah - Jeremiah 1:5
 - b. Samuel, Hannah's son
 - c. The Apostles were called while in spiritual immaturity

- B. A God-called preacher should not be set over a church unless he desires the work and he is blameless.
 - 1. He must desire it.
 - 2. He must be blameless.

I. The Desire To Be A Bishop.

- A. Vs 1a "This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a bishop..."
 - 1. "True" = ΠΙΣΤΟΣ = "worthy of confidence".
 - 2. "Desire" = ορεγω = "to reach", "to stretch out", "To long after", "to try to gain".
 - 3. "Bishop" = ΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ = "watching over", "taking care of", used to denote men of Athens who were sent to watch over subdued cities.

- B. Vs 1b "...he desireth a good work."
 - 1. "Desireth" = επιθυμew = "to fix the desire upon", "to set one's heart upon".
 - 2. "Good" = καλος = "beautiful", "pleasing".
 - 3. "Work" = εργον = "work", "deed", "that which is brought into being by labor".

II. The Qualification Of A Bishop.

A. Vs 2a "A bishop then must be blameless..."

1. "Must" = δεῖ = "it is necessary".
2. "Blameless" = ἀνπιληπος = "not able to be taken hold of", "beyond reproach".
3. **Titus 1:6-7**

B. Paul now gives a list of positive and negative personal characteristics, situations and circumstances that if present or absent, will cause a man to be blamed.

1. Love is not mentioned.
2. Faith is not listed.
3. These are examples of the things Paul has in mind as well as things specific.

III. Things That May Be Used To Reproach The Bishop. Vs 2b

A. Some positive things

1. "the husband of one wife" = "a one woman man", Two wives whether in polygamy or as a result of divorce, will cause many problems.
2. "Vigilant" = νηφαλιος = "sober", "temperate", "as to wine, abstinent", "watchful", "circumspect".
3. "Sober" = σωφρων = "self-controlled", used of one who follows sound reasoning, restrains passions.
4. "Of good behaviour" = κοσμιος = "orderly", "the orderly fulfillment of all duties and a well-ordered inner life".
5. "Given to hospitality" = φιλοξενος = "loving strangers", These were, "of the household of faith". **III John 5-6**
6. "Apt to teach" = διδακτικος = "able to teach", "one who is skilled in teaching".
7. "Not given to wine" vs 3 = παροινος = "one who sits long at his wine", "a slave to drink".
8. "No striker" = πληκτης = "not a giver of blows", "one who is prone to violence".

9. "Not greedy of filthy lucre" = αφιλαργυρος = "for the sake of dishonorable gain" He would use the office to his own advantage".
10. "But patient" = επιεικης = "not insisting on just rights", "one given to gently equity".
11. "Not a brawler" = αμαχος = "not a fist-fighter", "one who's first thoughts are not fighting".
12. "Not covetous" = αφιλαργυρος = "love of money".

IV. The Bishop And His Family.

- A. Vs 4 "One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity."
 1. "Ruleth" = προιστημι = "to stand before", "to manage".
 2. "Well" = καλως = "well".
 3. "Subjection" = υποταγη = "submission".
 4. "Gravity" = σεμνοτης = "dignity", A man of stateliness and courtesy. A humble man.
- B. Vs 5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)
 1. "Know not" = οιδα + ουκ = "not knowledge".
 2. "Take care of" = επιμελεομαι = "to have the management of", "the employment of means for a desired result".
- C. Vs 6 "Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into condemnation of the devil."
 1. "Novice" = νεοφυτος = "newly planted", "a new comer to the faith".
 2. "Pride" = τοφωω = "to smoke", "to fume", "to surround with smoke", "to make inflated".
 3. "Condemnation" = κριμα = "judgment".

V. The Bishop And The Unchurched.

- A. Vs 7 "Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without..."

1. "Good" = καλος = "good".
 2. "Report" = μαρτυριαν = "witness".
 3. "Without" = εξωθεν = "outside" Those who were outside the church for any reason.
- B. "...lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil."
1. "Reproach" = ονειδισμος = "disgrace".
 2. "Snare" = παγισ = "the snare made by Satan".
 3. "fall under the same sentence".