

OVERSEERS

(Elders, Bishops, Ministers, Servants, Stewards)

1 Tim 3:1-7 — This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a BISHOP (OVERSEER), he desires a good work. *A bishop then must be blameless*, the husband of one wife [not divorced and remarried—see 5:9], temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; not given (addicted) to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous (loving money); one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); not a novice (new convert), lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

Titus 1:5-9 — For this reason I [Paul] left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and *appoint elders in every city as I commanded you*—if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation (debauchery, incorrigibility) or insubordination. For A BISHOP (OVERSEER) MUST BE BLAMELESS, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, 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.

2 Cor 4:5 — NIV — For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, *and ourselves as your servants* for Jesus' sake.