

1 Timothy 3

I. Bishops (vv. 1-8)

A. The **Office** (v. 1)

1. Is it an office or a work?
 - a. It is literally the **oversheership**.
 - b. It is a position ("The position of bishop" -- NKJV)
 - c. It is an appointed position. (Tit. 1:5; Acts 14:23)
 - d. It is a working position or office.
 - (1) "If any man desire the office (or position) of president he desires a good work".
 - (2) "If any man desire the presidency he desires a good work."

B. The **Nature of the Office**.

1. "Bishop" (overseer) and "Pastor" (shepherd) refer to nature of the work.
 - a. Parallels the relationship of a shepherd to a flock of sheep.
 - b. He feeds or tends the flock. (Cf. 1 Peter 5:2).
 - c. He oversees (watches over) the church like a shepherd over sheep (Cf. 1 Peter 2:25; 1 Peter 5:3).
 - d. He rules house of God like a man over his family. (v. 5, ch 5:17).
 - e. He rules well with emphasis on leadership rather than lordship. (1 Pet. 5:3)
 - f. He answers to the Chief (arch) Shepherd. (Jesus is our Archbishop)
2. "Elder" (presbyter) refers to his fitness for the work. (Older, mature, experience).

C. The **Qualifications for the Office**.

1. Qualities of **Character**.
 - a. Blameless
 - b. Husband of one wife - Not polygamist
 - c. vigilant, temperate (NKJ).
 - d. sober, sober-minded.
 - e. Given to hospitality, hospitable.
 - f. Not given to wine, no brawler (R.V.)
 - g. No striker, not violent.
 - h. Not given to filthy lucre (Filthy gain), Not greedy for money.
 - i. Patient, Gentle.
 - j. Not a brawler, not quarrelsome.
 - k. Not covetous
 - l. Good report of those without.
2. Qualities of **Ability**.
 - a. Apt to teach.
 - b. Rules house well.
 - (1) Wife
 - (2) Children.
 - c. Not a novice.

II. Deacons (vv. 8-10,12-13)

A. The Office. - service (see NKJV)

B. The qualifications.

III. Wives (v. 11)

IV. Timothy's Conduct.

A. Behavior in house of God.

B. "Living God" probably refers Christ. (v. 16; cf. Acts 20:28)