

# Morning Lesson

## QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS

1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:6-9

### INTRO:

1. "A group is but the lengthened shadow of its leaders."  
**Acts 14:23; Tit. 1:5**
2. The pattern of church organization is outlined in the New Testament. **Phil. 1:1; Eph. 1:22, 23; 1 Pet. 5:1-4, Matt. 28:19, 20**
3. There is only one work of oversight in the church to be occupied by men in a congregation.
  - A. Names applied to this work. **Eph 4:11; John 21:16; Acts 20:28**
  - B. These names describe the same work. **Acts 20:17, 28; Tit. 1:5-7; 1 Pet. 5:1, 2**
  - C. There is to be a plurality. **Acts 14:23; 20:17; Phil. 1:1; 1 Thess. 5:12; Tit. 1:5; Heb. 13:7, 17; 1 Pet. 5:1**
  - D. The authority is in the decisions of the elders as they act jointly. **Acts 15:4, 6, 22; 16:4**

### I. 1 TIMOTHY 3:1-7.

- A. Desire -- To stretch oneself out to touch or grasp something, to reach after something.
- B. Blameless - Not open to censure, irreproachable.
- C. The husband of one wife - one-woman man.
- D. Temperate -- sober, vigilant, abstaining from wine.
- E. Sober-minded - Prudent, thoughtful, self-controlled.
- F. Of good behavior - Well arranged, respectable, honorable.
- G. Hospitable. **Heb. 13:2**
- H. Able to teach. **2 Tim. 2:24**
- I. Not given to wine.
- J. Not violent -- No one who is prone to: "Prove his doctrine orthodox by apostolic blows and knocks."
- K. Not greedy for money.
- L. Gentle - Equitable, fair, patient, yielding, kind. **1 Pet. 2:18**
- M. Not quarrelsome.
- N. Not covetous. **Heb. 13:5**
- O. One who rules his own house well. **Eph. 5:22-24**
- P. Having his children in submission with all reverence. **Gen. 21:7; Luke 14:26; 1 Tim. 5:4**
- Q. Not a novice; not a new convert. **Heb. 5:12-14**
- R. Have a good reputation among non-Christians.