

1 Timothy 3:1-16

PART V

{Sunday, November 18, 2012 A.D.}

1 Timothy 3:1-16 (NASB95)

¹ It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires *to do*.

² **An overseer, then, must be** above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³ not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money. ⁴ *He must be* one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity ⁵ (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?), ⁶ *and* not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil. ⁷ And he must have a good reputation with those outside *the church*, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

⁸ **Deacons likewise must be** men of dignity, not double-tongued, or addicted to much wine or fond of sordid gain, ⁹ *but* holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰ These men must also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons if they are beyond reproach. ¹¹ Women *must likewise be* dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things. ¹² Deacons must be husbands of *only one wife, and* good managers of *their* children and their own households. ¹³ For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

¹⁴ I am writing these things to you, hoping to come to you before long; ¹⁵ but in case I am delayed,

I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth. ¹⁶ By common confession, great is the mystery of godliness:

PRUDENT:

having good sense in dealing with practical matters

using good judgment to carefully consider likely consequences and act accordingly

careful in managing resources so as to provide for the future

Proverbs 1:1-7 (NASB95)

¹ The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel:

² To know wisdom and instruction, To discern the sayings of understanding, ³ To receive instruction in wise behavior, Righteousness, justice and equity; ⁴ To give **prudence** to the naive, To the youth knowledge and discretion,

⁵ A wise man will hear and increase in learning, And a man of understanding will acquire wise counsel, ⁶ To understand a proverb and a figure, The words of the wise and their riddles.

⁷ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction.

ELDERS: {serve Christ as under-shepherds by exercising spiritual authority over the local visible church – through preaching/teaching/counseling & ruling/discipline & prayer & etc}

² **An overseer, then, must be. . . prudent**

DEACONS & DEACONESSES: {serve Christ by serving His church with their spiritual gifts – do not function as exercising authority over church members – basically ALL other functions which are non-specific to elders}

⁸ **Deacons likewise must be. . .**

¹¹ **Women must likewise be. . .**