

Elders: Personal Qualifications

1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9



**Fruit of
The Spirit**

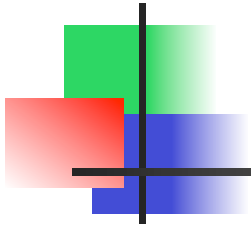
**Spiritual
Gifts**

Taught

**God's Elders Are
Prepared By The Holy Spirit**

Elders Are Elders

Because They Are Elders!

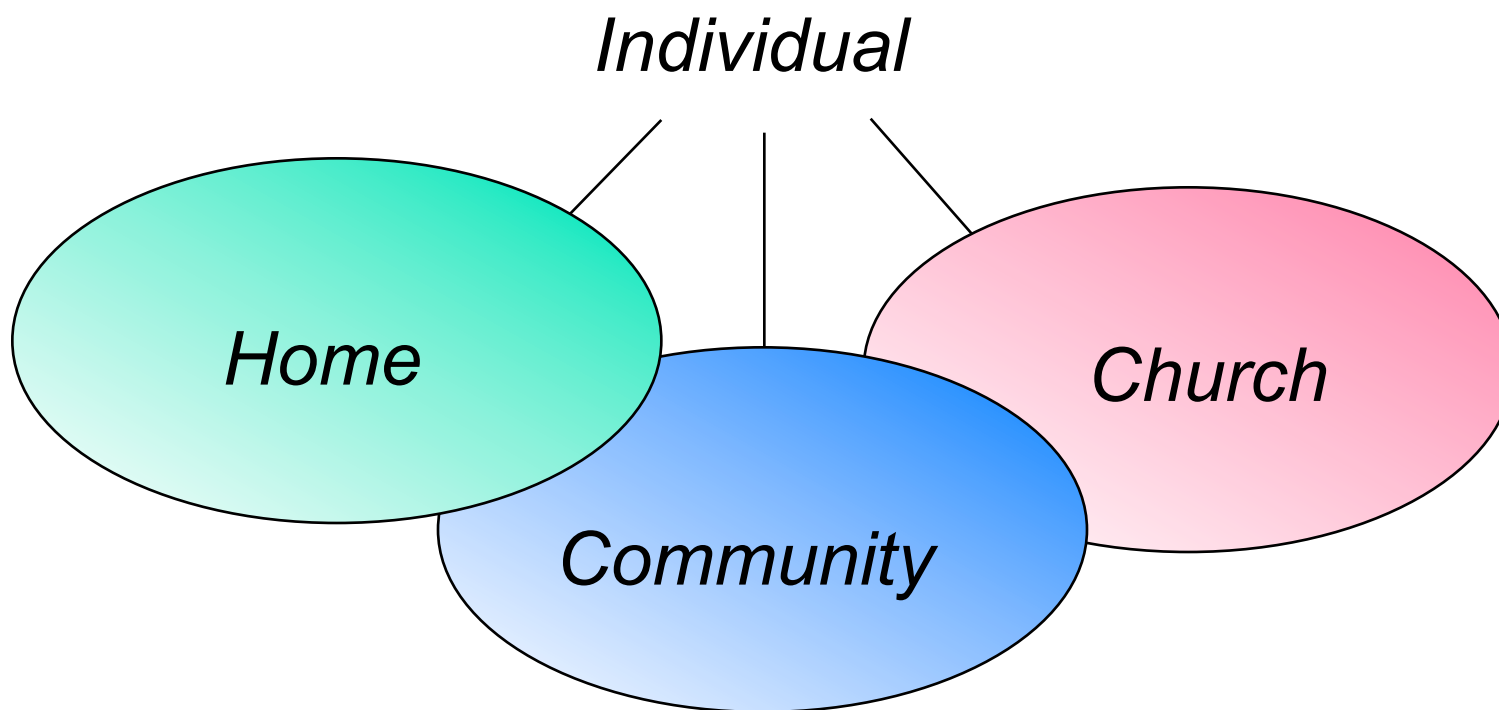


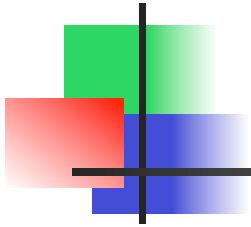
Qualifications Are . . .

- **Given in 1 Tim. 3:1-7 & Titus 1:5-9**
- **Marks of Spiritual Maturity**

**Measure of
God's Leader . . .**

Qualifications Cover All Areas





Part I – General Principle



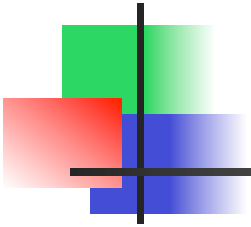
“Above Reproach”

ανεπιλημπτον = “one cannot be validly accused”

**There are no valid damaging accusations
against him . . .**

- no valid criticism

**This Is The Requirement
- Specifics Follow**



Part II – Personal Marks

Specifics



“Husband of one wife”

μιας γυναικος ανδρα = “one-woman man”

Major views:

- Not a polygamist
- Not a widower
- Never divorced
- Not Single



“Husband of one wife”

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Major views:

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- Never divorced
- Not single
- **Completely devoted to his wife**



“Not a New Convert”

μη νεοφυτον = “not newly planted”

He is not a new believer . . .

- **This eliminates the new Christian from leadership.**
- **Jesus did not start ministry until He was 30 years of age.**
- **“Elders” were typically someone of an older age.**

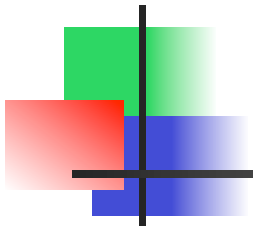


“Temperate”

νηφαλιον = “sober, wineless”

He is **“clear headed.”**

- **Avoids excesses and extremes**
- **Not out of control**



“Prudent”

σωφρωνα = “well-disciplined, self-controlled”

He wisely establishes priorities . . .

“the idea of a correct way of reasoning, but also a sense of moderation . . .”



**emphasis on
his thinking**

C. Spiq.

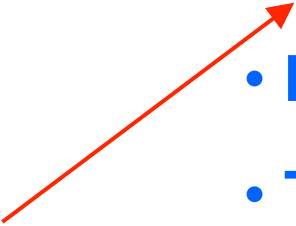


“Respectable”

κοσμιον = “well-behaved, modest, respectable”

He is respected . . .

**emphasis on
his conduct**

- 
- **His life is well ordered and honorable.**
 - **The person is well-behaved or virtuous.**
 - **He is not a ball of confusion.**
 - **He is virtuous.**



“Hospitable”

φιλοξενον = “stranger love”

He loves strangers . . .

- This person shares his stuff
- He **loves strangers**
- He invites others into his home



“Not Addicted To Wine . . .”

μη παροινον = “not given to wine, not a drunkard”

He does not have a reputation of drunkenness. . .

- He is not controlled by wine. . .
- This is an issue of self-control . . .



“Free From Love of Money”

αφιλαργυρον = “not a lover of money”

He does not love money . . .

- He is not greedy.
- Money is not a major focus of his life.
- He **does not pursue money.**



“Not Fond of Sordid Gain”

μη αισχροκερδη = “not fond of sordid gain, greedy for money, dishonest gain”

He honestly earns his living . . .

- He is **honest in his work.**
- He does not cheat his customers.
- He does not cheat the local and federal governments.
- He does not use the church.



“Devout”

οσλος = “holy, devout, dedicated”

He lives a holy life . . .

- **The elder lovingly seeks to please the Lord.**
- **He is committed to the Lord.**
- **His pattern of life is dedicated, holy living.**



“Just”

δικαιον = “law-abiding, upright, honest, good”

He “**observes the right**” . . .

- **Personal** -The elder obeys the laws of the land, and seeks to bring out the good in his family.
- **Others** -This elder seeks justice for all, including the widows, orphans, and poor.



“Loving What Is Good”

φιλαγαθος = “loving good things”

He “**loves the good**” . . .

- He must understand what is good.
- He loves the good such as:
 - Being generous
 - Honest people



God's Expectation Is High

**God's High Standard
For Leaders**



**Godly Patterns
For All**

**Elders Should
Be Followable**



Hebrews 13:7