

Pastoral Qualifications

1 Timothy 3: 1 – 2a

24 July 2022 A.M.

Series: Conduct in God's House

1 Timothy 3: 1 – 2a

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,

[New American Standard Bible: 1995 update \(1 Ti 3:1–2\). \(1995\). The Lockman Foundation.](#)

The Office of Overseer. V. 1.

- The trustworthy statement concerns the call to Pastoral ministry.
- This is a limited calling – if any man.
 - Confirms 2 Timothy 2: 12.
- This is a Compelling Calling.
 - Aspire – to take steps to become an overseer
 - Desire – the inward feeling or desire (call).
- A Responsible Calling.
- A Worthy Calling.
- A Demanding Calling.

Above Reproach. V. 2a

- Must be above reproach.
 - Titus 1:6 also calls the Pastor to be above reproach.
 - No obvious sinful defect in character.
 - This term is expounded in the list that follows.
 - He must be a model the church can follow.
 - He cannot give the enemies of the church reason to attack the churches reputation.
- The reason he must be above reproach.
 - He is a special target of Satan, his fall harms the church more, he is held to a greater accountability, his sin is more hypocritical as he preaches against it.

Husband of One Wife. V. 2b

- Various interpretations;
 - Not a polygamist.
 - Never divorced.
 - Never remarried.
 - A single man need not apply.
- The main point is that Pastor is devoted in heart and mind to the one woman who is his wife, maintaining sexual purity.
 - He loves, desires, and thinks only of his wife.
 - This standard refers to moral character not marital status.

Conclusion

- God has established order in His church, under the organization of a God called Pastor whose moral character examples Christianity at its finest.
- God calls the Pastor to be above reproach, meaning that no one in or out of the church may charge him with sinful character.
- More than anything else, the way a Pastor treats his wife and shows devotion only to her proves His moral character.