

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE

SERMON OUTLINE

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The Book of 1 Timothy Series # 8

1 Timothy 3:1-7

If we are going **TO FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH** as we are told to do in chapter 1 and verse 18, we then need to understand the Biblical Qualifications of a Pastor. As we noted before, even though the church is an **organism**, it must be **organized**, or it will die.

Christian pastors are to be examined, to be exemplary, and to be examples. A God called pastor is what every local church needs! **They do not need a hired man, but a holy man!** According to the New Testament, the terms “**bishop**,” “**pastor**,” and “**elder**” are synonymous referring to one and the same.

Bishop means “overseer,” and the office of bishop had the responsibility of overseeing the work of the church (Acts 20:17, 28; 1 Peter 5:1-3). **Elder** means “an old man” and speaks of maturity. **Elders** and **bishops** (two names for the same office, Titus 1:5, 7) were mature people with spiritual wisdom and experience. “**Pastor**” means “**shepherd**,” one who leads and cares for the flock of God. Pastors that are called by God do not have a ‘**job**,’ but they have a **ministry**. They do not seek employment, but they seek God’s will and placement in His service for them. This passage gives us some qualifications of a God called pastor or if you will a **Biblical Checklist for Calling a Pastor**.

I. THE PASTOR’S PERSON Vs.1-3

A. A Faithful Saying About the Work V-1

A God called pastor is not seeking after **position, prestige, power, or praise!** A God called pastor is seeking to obey the Lord Jesus and His call on their lives.

B. The Facts Stated About His Walk Vs.2-3

The word of God gives a list of what God requires of pastors. First of all, Paul gives a word about:

1. **His Character V-2a** - The word “*blameless*” does not mean “*sinless*.”
2. **His Companion V-2b** “a man of one woman.”
3. **His Conduct Vs.2c-3**
 - ♦ *Temperate/vigilant*
 - ♦ “*Sober*” sound in mind / moderate as to opinion or passions.
 - ♦ “*Good Behavior*”
 - ♦ “*No Striker/Violent*”
 - ♦ “*Gentle*” Contrary to being a violent man
 - ♦ “*Quarrelsome*” Quarrelsome describes a person that is not peaceable
4. **His Competency** – “**able to teach**” V-2d
5. **His Contentment V-3** “*not greedy for money, not covetous;*”
6. **His Consumption** “not given to wine” V-3
It is also translated – “*not addicted to wine.*”
7. **His Compassion** – “hospitable” v-2

II. THE PASTOR’S PERSUASION Vs.4-5

A. The Instruction About Their Rule V-4

B. The Importance Of Their Rule V-5

III. THE PASTOR’S POSITION Vs. 6-7

A. He Must Live Humbly V-6 - A God called pastor must not be a “*novice*”

B. He Must Live Honorably V-7

The pastor’s position is seen in his call to live humbly and his call to live honorably. May the Lord Jesus empower His servants to be a God called pastor! May this church have a God called pastor now and until Jesus comes again. Pray for your pastor that God would use him and be glorified in his life.