

Doctrine of Eldership Rule
Characteristics of Biblical Leadership

1 Corinthians 13

1. A Biblical Leader will suffer long.
2. A Biblical Leader is kind.
3. A Biblical Leader does not envy.
4. A Biblical Leader is not proud.
5. A Biblical Leader does not behave unseemly
6. A Biblical Leader seeketh not his own.
7. A Biblical Leader is not easily provoked.
8. A Biblical Leader thinketh no evil.
9. A Biblical Leader rejoiceth not in iniquity.
10. A Biblical Leader rejoiceth in the truth.
11. A Biblical Leader beareth all things.
12. A Biblical Leader believeth all things.
13. A Biblical Leader hopeth all things.
14. A Biblical Leader endureth all things.
15. A Biblical Leader is one who loves.

Doctrine of Eldership Rule

1 Timothy 3:1-7

“This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work 2 A bishop then must be blameless: the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; 3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; 4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; 5(For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) 6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. 7 Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.”

1. An Elder must be a man.

- *1 Timothy 2:12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.*

2. An Elder must be a converted man to Christ. While the conversion of ministers is assumed in *Scripture* it is not always the case in life when people consider spiritual leaders.

3. An Elder must be one who desires the office of a spiritual overseer.

- *1 Timothy 3:1 This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.*

4. An Elder must be blameless (above reproach) in specific areas.

- the husband of one wife (Does this mean an elder must be married...Is this not implied? If so would this disqualify a widower from being an Elder or a mature single man who has never married?)
- vigilant
- sober
- of good report
- given to hospitality
- apt to teach
- not given to wine
- no striker
- not greedy of filthy lucre
- patient
- not a brawler
- not covetous
- one who rules his own house well
- not a novice
- having a good report of those outside the Christian community