

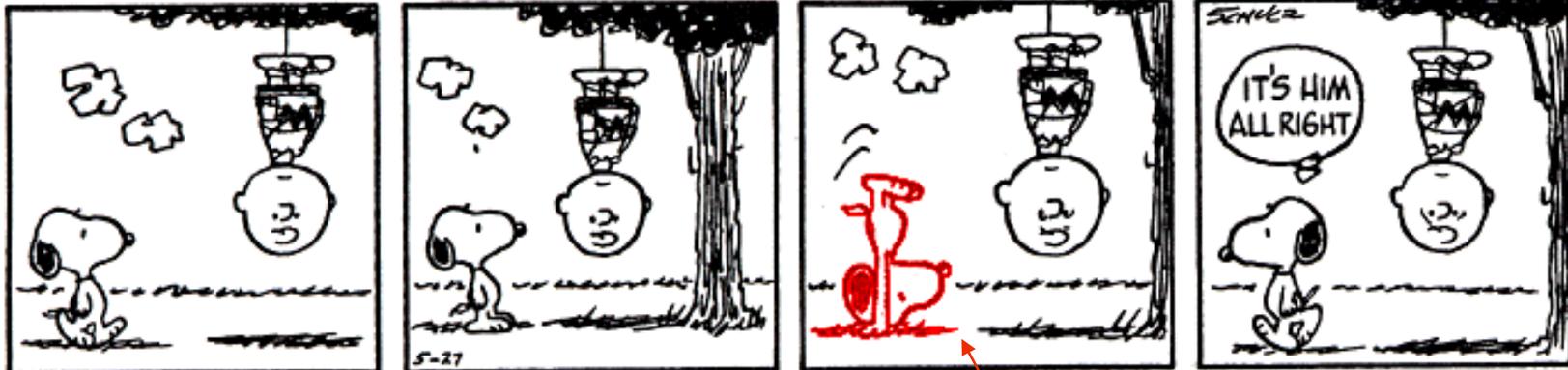
Marks of Spiritual Maturity

1 Timothy 3:1-7

Titus 1:5-9

Recognizing an elder . . .

PEANUTS



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Requires an unusual perspective!

According To God's Perspective

1 Tim 3 Titus 1

Meaning

- v. 2 - "one who cannot be validly accused"
- v. 2 v. 6 "completely devoted to his wife"
- v. 2 - "avoids extremes and excesses"
- v. 2 V. 8 "wisely establishes priorities"
- v. 2 - "respected"
- v. 2 V. 8 "loves strangers"
- v. 2 - "skillful teacher"
- v. 3 v. 7 "not addicted to wine"
- v. 3 v. 7 "not given to physical violence"
- v. 3 - "forbearing"
- v. 3 - "not an arguer"
- v. 3 - "does not love money"
- v. 4 - "one who manages his household well"
- v. 4 - "children obey him with respect"
- v. 6 - "not a new believer"
- v. 7 - "good testimony to the outside world"

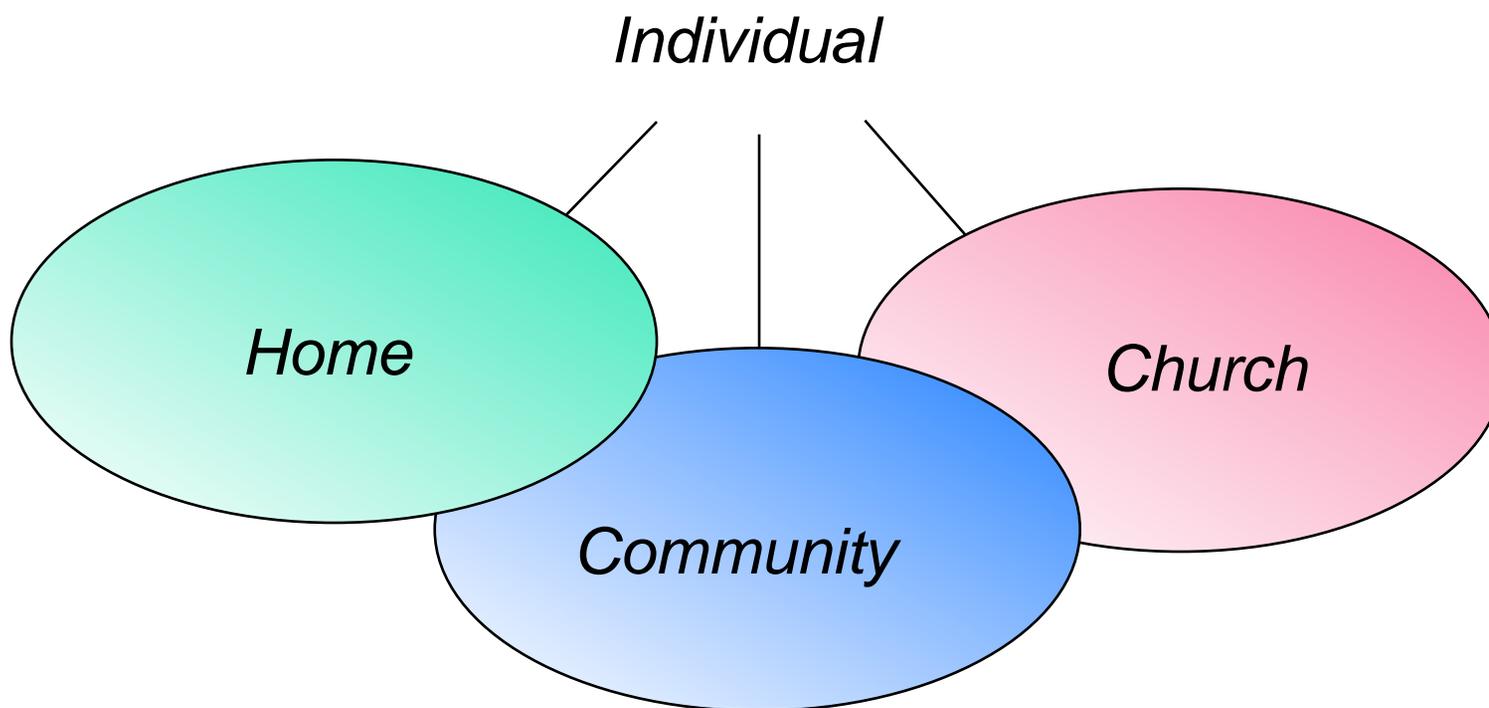
1 Tim 3 Titus 1

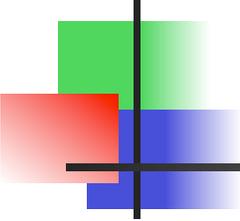
Meaning

- v. 6 "cannot be validly called to account"
- v. 6 "children who are believers"
- v. 6 "children are not in rebellion"
- v. 7 "not self-serving"
- v. 7 "longsuffering"
- v. 7 "does not dishonestly seek gain"
- v. 8 "a lover of goodness"
- v. 8 "one who is a believer & consistently fair"
- v. 8 "one who is holy"
- v. 8 "restrained in mind & over fleshly desires"
- v. 9 "faithful to the Word"
- v. 9 "able to defend the truth."

NOT: wealth, position, power, friendship, charisma or skills . . .

Qualifications – all areas

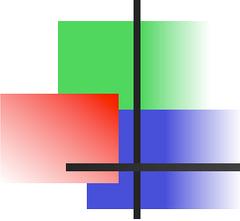




Qualifications Are . . .

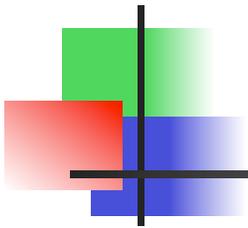
- **A Peek** into a man's spiritual heart . . .
- **Safeguard** against wrong leadership . . .

Spiritual Measure of God's Leader . . .



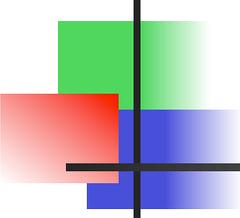
Include Traits & Abilities . . .

- Character Traits
- Two Abilities
- **Patterns of Life** - not flawless perfection
- **Very High Standards**



Lord Looks For Patterns of Life



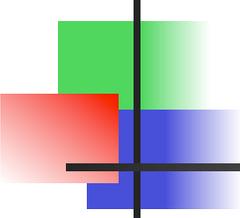


“Above Reproach”

ανεπιλημπτον = “one cannot be validly accused”

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

- strong pattern of high moral conduct
- no valid criticism
- without major fault

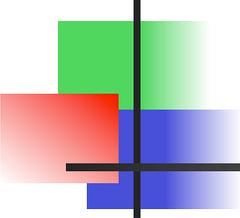


“Husband of one wife”

μιας γυναικος ανδρα = “one woman man”

Major views:

- Not a bigamist
- Never divorced
- **Completely devoted to his wife**

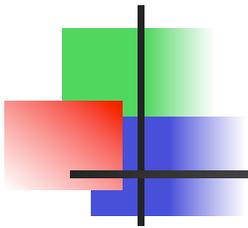


“Temperate”

νηφαλιον = “sober, wineless”

He avoids excesses and extremes:

- Root word means “no wine”
- But it had the sense of sober – that is, “he was **not out of control.**”



“Prudent”

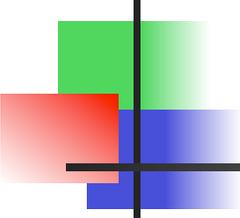
σωφρωνα = “well-disciplined, self-controlled”

He wisely establishes priorities . . .

“the idea of a correct way of reasoning, but also a sense of moderation, a moderation or reserve that is expressed in inner equilibrium.”

C. Spiq.

emphasis on
his thinking

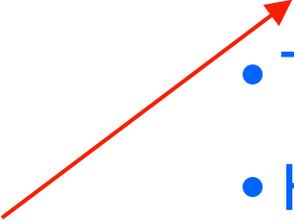


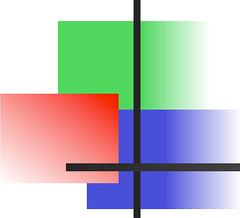
“Respectable”

ΚΟΣΜΙΟΝ = “well-behaved, modest, respectable”

He is respected . . .

emphasis on
his conduct

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

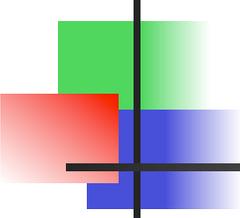


“Hospitable”

φιλοξενον = “stranger love”

He loves strangers . . .

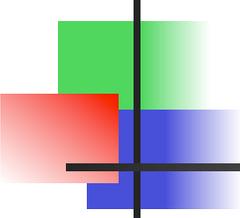
- This person shares his stuff
- He **loves strangers**
- He invites others into his home



“Able to Teach” – part 1

διδασκτικον = “skilled at teaching”

- Occurs in **only** two N.T. passages
 - 1 Tim. 3:2
 - 2 Tim. 2:24
- Definition rests heavily on Greek lexicons



“Able to Teach ” – part 2

διδασκτικον = “skilled at teaching”

“skillful in teaching”

- Philo (Congr. 35; Praem. Poen. 27)

- Arndt, W. F. A Greek-English Lexicon

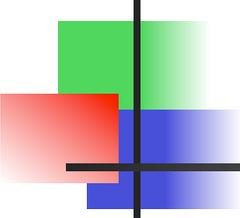
- Calvin, John. 1 Timothy

- Colin Brown, DNTT

- Danker and Bauer’s Greek-Lexicon

“apt and skillful in teaching”

- Thayer’s Greek Lexicon



“Able to Teach” – part 3

one qualified to teach

- A. T. Robertson, Word Pictures

not merely given to
teaching, but . . . skilled in it

- Kenneth Wuest, 1 Timothy

both the willingness and
the skill and ability to teach.

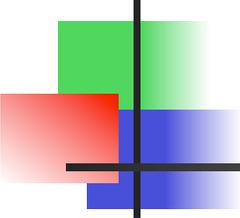
- Heibert, First Timothy

highly skilled teacher

- John MacArthur, 1 Timothy

skilled teacher

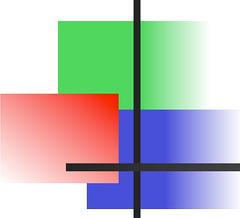
- J. N. D. Kelly, The Pastoral Epistles



“Able to Teach” – part 4

As the principal business of a preacher of the gospel is to teach, or to communicate . . . the knowledge of the truth, the necessity of this qualification is obvious. He is one . . . who is qualified to impart to others on the doctrines . . . and he is industrious, and self-denying, and loves to study in order to know God . . .

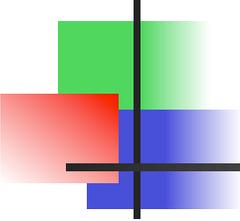
Albert Barnes, 1840 A.D.



“Able to Teach” – part 5

This is something I emphasize, because I do not feel any man ought to be an elder in a church unless he can teach the Word of God. I used to say to my church officers that I wished it was possible to give a theological exam to each one of them to determine if he was qualified to be an officer.

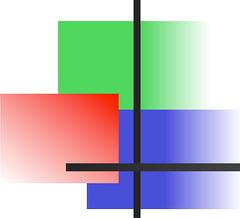
J. Vernon Mc Gee



“Able to Teach” – part 6

... one that is able to instruct others, and who has a facility or aptness to it, neither an ignorant nor yet a lazy man.

Matthew Poole, 1700 A.D.

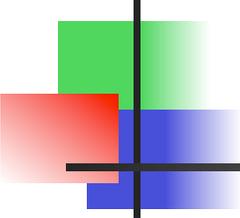


“Holds Fast To The Word”

αντεχομενον του κατα την διδαχην πιστου = “holds firmly, clings to the faithful teaching”

He is faithful to the truth . . .

- He believes all of it is the truth.
- He **holds to sound teaching** (2 Tim. 2:2)
- He is mindful of James 3:1-2.
- He is diligent (2 Tim. 2:15)

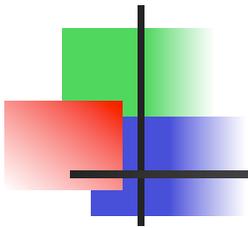


“Able to exhort . . . refute”

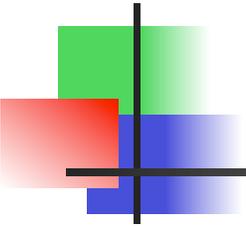
παρακαλεω = “to call or exhort
... αντιλεγω . . . speak against or contradict”

He is able to defend the Word of God . . .

- He has a **solid grasp of scripture**. He is not dependent on someone else.
- He can explain scripture at the “drop of the hat.”
- He can identify error.



Part II – Personal Stuff



“Not Pugnacious but . . .”

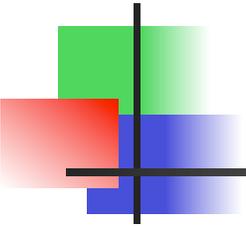
μη πληκτην = “not given to physical violence”

He is not a physical fighter . . .

- This man does not exhibit a pattern of physical violence.
- He does not have to have his own way
- It is contrasted to the next word . . .

Heart
Issue



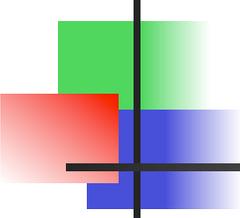


“Gentle”

επιεκη = “forbearing, gentle, yields his rights”

He is forbearing with others . . .

- Has the **sense of gentleness** with a sense of grace towards others.
- He does not fight for himself.
- He **yields his rights**.
- His focus is eternal.

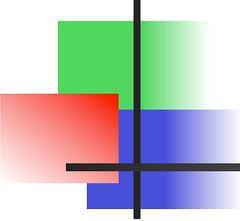


“Not Arrogant”

μη αυθαδη = “one who does not please himself”

He is not self-serving . . .

- He does not have a pattern of promoting himself.
- He encourages others at his own expense.

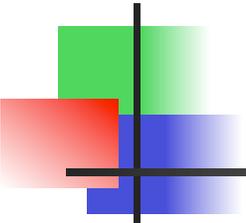


“Uncontentious”

αμαχον = “not argumentative, not verbal violence, peaceable”

He is not an arguer. . .

- Among the leadership this translates to **not being the king of many mountains.**
- This does not preclude the elder from taking a firm position on issues. He seeks unity of purpose and mind.
- He is not a debater.

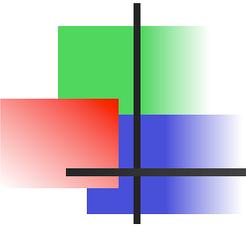


“Not Quick Tempered”

μη οργιλον = “not prone to anger”

He is longsuffering . . .

- This elder is **slow to anger**.
- He seeks “to bring others along.”
- He is justly angry over sin.

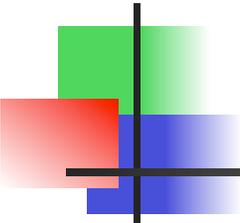


“Free From Love of Money”

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, shamelessly 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.

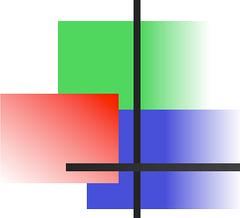
“Manages His House Well”

οικου καλως προϊσταμενον = “house well managed”

Comes from

He caringly-manages his family. . .

- Προϊστημι has the sense of leading, control, and caring for.
- Same word used in 1 Tim. 5:17
- More than just organization - has a shepherd’s heart for his family.

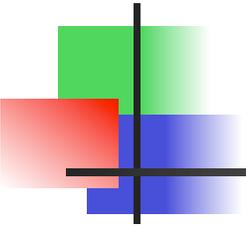


“Children under control”

ΤΕΚΝΑ . . . ΕΝ ΥΠΟΤΑΓΗ = “children in submission”

His children obey him with respect . . .

- His children are in submission.
- His children respect him and do not despise or hate him.
- Titus 1:6 illustrates this principle . . .

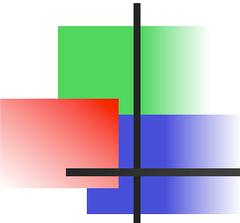


“Children are well behaved”

μη εν κατηγορια| ασωτιασ = not in accusation of
αωνυποτακτα dissipation or rebellion.

His children are not in rebellion . . .

- Children usually reflect their parents
- **Rebellious children** *usually* imply that there is something seriously wrong in the home.

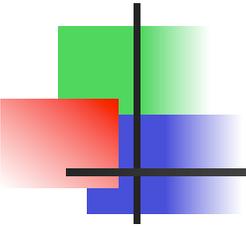


“Children Who Believe”

ΤΕΚΝΑ ΕΧΩΝ ΠΙΣΤΑ = “children have faith”

His children believe . . .

- His children hold to the faith.
- This implies his children share his faith and **are born again.**

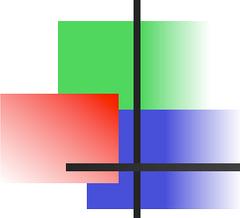


“Not a New Convert”

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.

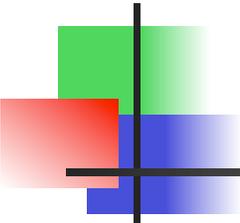


“Good Reputation Outside”

μαρτυριαν καλην . . . εξωθεν = “testimony good . . . outside”

He has a good testimony with those outside the church . . .

- The world should have a **high regard for this individual’s ethics and morals.**
- He should be known as a believer to the world.
- Does not end up being “two-persons.”

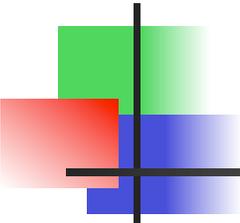


“Devout”

οσιος = “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.

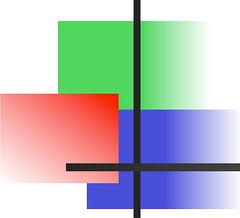


“Just”

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.



Elders – Should Be Followable

**GOD'S STANDARD
FOR LEADERS**

1 Tim. 3:1-7

Titus 1:5-9



**GODLY PATTERN
FOR ALL**

Hebrews 13:7