



The LORD is My Shepherd, Part 1  
**He Oversees His Flock:**  
**The Role of Faithful Elders**  
*Men of Conviction, Character, Competence*

*“The husband of one wife” means that marital and sexual fidelity must be a characteristic of this man’s life. It doesn’t exclude widowers or bachelors or men properly remarried after the death of a spouse or even men who have been divorced, if in the divorce the man was innocent of wrong, but it does mean that, if he is married, as most men were and are, the first and most profound human relationship of his life must be one characterized by Christian faithfulness.”*

**Robert S. Rayburn**

*“Character is who you are when no one is looking”*

**John Wooden**

*“The greatest honor of my life? That I was called to serve as an elder in a Presbyterian Church.”*

**Woodrow Wilson**

**I. Faithful MEN** *“He” is to be a Faithful “Husband” to One Wife (vs. 1-2a)*

- A. A Man of **Godly Aspiration** (Not resume-building Ambition)
- B. The **Husband** to One Wife (Covenant Fidelity)
- C. **Male Headship** (Prescriptive, not merely Normative)

**II. Faithful Men of CONVICTION** *Doctrinally “Sound” and Proven over Time (vs. 2,6)*

- A. **Able to Teach (vs.2)** (Not “public speakers,” but sound in the principles of the faith)
- B. **Not a Recent Convert (vs. 6)** Proved to have passed the “Test of Time”

**III. Faithful Men of CHARACTER** *Personal Holiness and Discipline (vs. 2-5)*

- A. *Above Reproach*
- B. *Faithful in His Marriage*
- C. *Temperate*
- D. *Self-Controlled*
- E. *Respectable*
- F. *Hospitable*
- G. *Not dominated by strong drink*
- H. *Not Violent, but Gentle*
- I. *Not Quarrelsome*
- J. *Not a Lover of Money*
- K. *Manages his own family well and in a respectable manner*

**IV. Faithful Men of COMPETENCE** *Knowledge of Scripture and Wisdom for Life/Faith*

- A. *Gifted and capable (competent) to serve as a church officer*
- B. *Circumstances of Life* allow for the demands of service (*Marriage, Health, Work, Family*)
- C. *Examination* affirms those who are qualified, but still flawed/Imperfect Men (Self, Session)

Through such men the LORD shepherds His church!

*“Faithful to the Scriptures,  
True to the Reformed Faith,  
Obedient to Great Commission”*

**1 Timothy 3:1-7**

1 Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. 2 Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3 not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. 4 He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect. 5 (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) 6 He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. 7 He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

**Titus 1:5b-9**

Appoint elders in every town as I directed you— 6 if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. 7 For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, 8 but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. 9 He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

**Ephesians 4:11-12**

11 Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors (shepherds) and teachers, 12 to equip his people for the work of ministry (service), so that the body of Christ may be built up.

**Jeremiah 50:6**

"My people have been lost sheep; their shepherds have led them astray and caused them to roam on the mountains. They wandered over mountain and hill and forgot their own resting place."