

sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, Verse By Verse Fellowship
Sept 3, 2023 | "Respect and Reproof" | 1 Timothy 5:17-25

1. _____ faithful elders (5:17-19)
 - a. _____ *financially for vocational elders*
 - b. _____ *the elders from spurious accusations*

2. _____ unfaithful elders (5:20-21)
 - a. _____ *the persistent sins of an elder*
 - b. _____ *any display of partiality*

3. _____ the office of elder (5:22-25)
 - a. _____ *hasty elder installations*
 - b. _____ *the church's reputation*

Questions for Further Application of God's Word:

GO DEEPER

Read 1 Timothy 5:17-19. What does "ruling well" look like for an elder? Why are preaching and teaching emphasized as important tasks for an elder? Explain how Paul uses the OT quotation about an ox in this passage. Is this metaphor flattering? Demeaning? Fitting? Comical?

Read 1 Timothy 5:20-25. Why does Paul caution that two or three witnesses need to establish a charge against an elder? If church elders meet the qualifications from 1 Timothy 3:1-7, how does this decrease the potential for accusations? How can accusations against elders be limited by obedience to 5:22, "Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands."

Why does Paul want leaders who persist in sin to be rebuked publicly? How does this benefit the church? When we see and hear an elder rebuked publicly, what should our response be? To the elder? To our own sin?

GET PERSONAL

We can summarize 1 Timothy 5:24-25 with the following statement: "Truth and time walk hand-in-hand." How does this passage bring comfort to those who have experienced injustice? How should those who hide their sins react to this verse?

In this passage, Paul warns Timothy about the dangers of partiality (i.e. favoritism). Partiality can be a problem at all levels of the church. Have you struggled with showing partiality to certain people in the church? How do you guard against that?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

What are some practical ways that you can support the pastors of your church? What are some additional ways that you can support the lay elders of your church?

ADVANCED QUESTION

Paul seems to quote Jesus from Luke 10:7 in 1 Timothy 5:18, "The laborer deserves his wages." But many scholars believe that Paul wrote 1 Timothy before Luke finished his gospel. Is it anachronistic for Paul to call this Scripture? How did Paul have access to Jesus's words if Luke's gospel wasn't finished yet? Consult the article below by Michael Kruger to familiarize yourself with the issue. Then consult a technical commentary to help you formulate a theory.
<https://www.michaelkruger.com/when-is-the-first-time-we-see-a-new-testament-book-used-as-scripture/>