Elders October 12, 2014

1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:4-9

I. The Work of an Elder
   A. Pray (1 Thessalonians 5:17; Acts 6:4; 20:36)
   B. Lead by example (1 Timothy 4:12, 15, 16; 5:1-3; 2 Timothy 1:8; 2:3, 7-8, 24; 4:5; Titus 2:7-8, 15; Ephesians 6:12)
   C. Know, teach, preach, and use biblical doctrine (1 Timothy 4:11, 16; 5:21-22; 6:20; 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13; 2:1-3, 14-15; 3:14-15; Titus 3:1; Ecclesiastes 10:10; Ezra 7:10)
   D. Protect God's flock (1 Peter 5:2; Acts 20:29-31; John 10:12-13; Matthew 18:18)
   E. Help other men become faithful leaders (1 Timothy 5:19-22; 2 Timothy 2:1-2; Titus 1:5; Galatians 2:11-14)
   F. Trust the Chief Shepherd to do his work through you (1 Peter 2:24-25; 5:1-2)

II. The Character of an Elder
   A. Character is the elder's primary qualification!
   B. Character must be proven in other settings
   C. Able to handle conflict in the right way
   D. Able to control himself, and not be controlled by something else (1 Timothy 5:23; Proverbs 31:4-7; Hebrews 13:5)
   E. Other traits and habits: hospitable (1 Timothy 3:15); able to teach (2 Timothy 2:24); loving good (Philippians 4:8); just/righteous/upright; holy (1 Timothy 2:8; Hebrews 7:26); self-controlled; disciplined (1 Corinthians 9:25)

III. Electing Elders
   A. Call for an election
   B. Eligible for election: adult male member of Christ RPC in good standing
   C. Notice of election
   D. People needed to have the election: half of resident communicant members
   E. Election
   F. After the election each "elder-elect" must say whether he's willing to serve
   G. Examination and ordination

IV. "He desires a noble task"
   A. Authority: a task, and the right and power to carry it out
   B. Is authority *good*?
   C. What authority is for

D. The redemption of authority

I Timotheo 3:1-7

1 Ni neno la kuaminiwa; mtu akitaka kazi ya askofu, atamani kazi njema.
2 Basi imempasa askofu awe mtu asiyelaumika, mume wa mke mmoja, mwenye kiasi na busara,
mtu wa utaratibu, mkaribishaji, ajuaye kufundisha;
3 si mtu wa kuzoelea ulevi, si mpiga watu; bali awe mpole; si mtu wa kujadiliana, wala asiwe
mwenye kupenda fedha;
4 mwenye kuisimamia nyumba yake vema, ajuaye kutiisha watoto katika ustahivu;
5 (yaani, mtu asiyejua kuisimamia nyumba yake mwenyewe, atalitunzaje Kanisa la Mungu?)
6 Wala asiwe mtu aliyeongoka karibu, asije akajivuna akaanguka katika hukumu ya Ibilisi.
7 Tena imempasa kushuhudiwa mema na watu walio nje; ili asianguke katika lawama na mtego
wa Ibilisi.

Tito 1:4-9

4 kwa Tito, mwanangu hasa katika imani tuishirikiyo. Neema na iwe kwako na amani zitokazo
kwa Mungu Baba na kwa Kristo Yesu Mwokozi wetu.
5 Kwa sababu hii nalikuacha Krete, ili uyatengeneze yaliyopunguka, na kuweka wazee katika kila
mji kama vile nilivyokuamuru;
6 ikiwa mtu hakushitakiwa neno, naye ni mume wa mke mmoja, ana watoto waaminio,
wasioshitakiwa kuwa ni wafisadi wala wasiotii.
7 Maana imempasa askofu awe mtu asiyeshitakiwa neno ,kwa kuwa ni wakili wa MUNGU;asiwe
mtu wa kujipendeza nafsi yake,asiwe mwepesi wa hasira,asiwe mlevi wala mgomvi,asiwe mpenda
mapato ya aibu.
8 bali awe mkaribishaji, mpenda wema, mwenye kiasi, mwenye haki, mtakatifu, mwenye
kudhibiti nafsi yake;
9 akilishika lile neno la imani vile vile kama alivyofundishwa, apate kuweza kuwaonya watu kwa
mafundisho yenye uzima, na kuwashinda wenye kupinga.