

Qualifications for Leadership: Self-Controlled, Disciplined, Holy and Upright (Titus 1:8)

Self-controlled: to be regulated, proper and sound; describes a man who does not command himself but is commanded by God.

1. Felix and Drusilla (Acts 24:24-25)

Felix and his wife Drusilla were not self-controlled. Why did Paul use these specific adjectives when addressing them?

Felix was alarmed (fearful). Instead of breaking away from his sins, he broke away from the truth of God. His mistake was that he assumed the Spirit of God would convict him again. He chose unlawful amusements over eternal salvation and died in his sins.

2. Noah as Upright/Righteous (Genesis 6:8-10)

Upright (righteous): morally honest and just; to conform to God's standard.

- Noah lived an upright life despite the unprecedented evil in the world
- Noah lived a solitary life of obedience to the Lord
- Noah had regular communion with Lord
- Noah was lone among his generation, but never alone
- Noah walked in obedience, despite the scoffing
- Noah was upright because he found grace in God's sight. Where grace is, merit is far off.

Communion with God will be impossible if we are not fighting against sin (Amos 3:3; 1 John 1:6). Habitual, unconfessed sin will compromise intimacy.

3. Holiness (Hebrews 12:14)

Sanctification: general term that means to make holy, pure, to consecrate, devote to God, regard as holy.

Holiness describes the position (set apart), purpose (for God), and progression (jn the likeness of God)

Holiness does not come about by "casual passing." It is a striving and a pursuing for the things of God. Holiness is the habit of agreeing with the mind of God in accordance with what is described in Scripture and the living of that agreement out. Holiness is not just a mental assent, but a heart pursuit.

Marks of holiness:

- A holy person will endeavor to turn away from every known sin and to keep every known commandment (Psalm 119:128)
- A holy person will strive to be like Jesus Christ (1 John 2:6)
- A holy person will pursue love and brotherly kindness (Romans 12:10)
- A holy person will pursue a spirit of mercy and benevolence towards others (Ephesians 4:32)
- A holy person will pursue purity of heart (Matthew 5:8)
- A holy person will pursue the fear of God (Proverbs 9:10)
- A holy person will pursue humility (Nehemiah 5:15)
- A holy person will pursue faithfulness in all the duties and relationships in life (Colossians 3:23)
- A holy person will be spiritual minded (Psalm 63:8)

The natural, unregenerate cannot be holy; it is only possible if God has set him aside, caused a new birth, and filled him with his Spirit. Healthy saints will grow in sanctification and in holiness.