

# Help for the Elders

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: I Timothy 5:17-25.

B. Paul is dealing with the divinely given machinery for the proper function of the church.

C. The church is the place where you find God and is the display case of God.

## II. Overseers or elders are worthy of double honor.

A. Those who lead well are worthy of honor—not necessarily those in charge.

B. All elders ought to lead by teaching.

C. Honor.

1. Respect.

2. Remuneration.

a. Salaries are to be paid in order to meet their needs.

b. The laborer deserves his wage. (Luke 10)

## III. Discipline.

A. Charges against error must be supported by more than one person.

B. Public rebuke is only required if the elder persists in sin. The Word calls us to correction in certain matters. (Matthew 18)

## IV. Timothy was a surrogate Apostle, which the Scripture has taken the place of today.

## V. Timothy was not to show partiality among the elders.

## VI. Admonitions.

A. Act rightly no matter the circumstances.

B. Do not be hasty to recognize a man as being chosen of the Lord—you participate in an elder's sin when you select him unwisely.

C. Drink a little wine to prevent an upset stomach. While abstaining from wine might be wise counsel, it should never be a religious restriction.

## VII. Sin and good deeds are conspicuous and cannot be hidden.

A. Some elders may have bad deeds behind them.

B. Other elders may have good deeds, but be patient for they will be revealed.

**Application questions:**

1. What is a church elder according to Scripture?

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2. Why ought one to be wise in selecting their elders? What pitfalls can be avoided?

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3. How is one to address properly a leader's sin in the church? What are instances where this may not apply, if any? Explain.

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