

The Qualities of a New Testament Leader - Part IV

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1. Does this man have a true TESTIMONY of faith?
2. Does this man handle his first ministry, his FAMILY, with care?
3. Are his MOTIVES for serving pure?

4. Is this man's character and faith _____

Christians should aim to please God, not man, (Gal. 1:10, 1 Thess. 2:4)

BUT... we should have *some* concern for the perceptions of others, for two important reasons:

- a. We _____ the Lord.
- b. We desire their _____ (see 1 Corinthians 10:31-33)

In light of this, 1 Timothy 3:2, 8-10, and Titus 1:7-8 tell us that a biblical leader should be:

Above _____, blameless, upright, dignified and holy.
(see Daniel 6:4-5, 1 Peter 2:11-12)

A person who is *reproachable* is a person who is vulnerable to expressions of _____ or _____.

Blameless doesn't mean the deacon or elder is required to be flawless (see 1 John 1:8, 1 John 2:1-2), but he *is* required to be _____, and _____.

Has *dignity* become unimportant to some people in our day? If so, why?

The word _____ in Titus 1:8 speaks to the visible nature of this man's character. He walks in the ways of the Lord, and he is not ashamed of it. (see Romans 1:16)

What kinds of behaviors put a man in risk of reproach?

- Inappropriate attitude towards or management of _____.
- Inappropriate behavior with the opposite (or same) gender.
- Inconsistencies in _____.
- Lack of _____ towards Jesus or others.
- Behavior patterns that are inconsistent depending on whether he is with church folks or around non-believers.

What steps might a person take to be above reproach?

For next time...

A leader's reputation should extend beyond the walls of the church

1 Timothy 3:7 – *And he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.*