Having Faithful Children And A Greater Issue

Tony Mauck · Titus 1:6

INTRODUCTION

- You show me your friends. I'll show you your future.
- The emphasis of this qualification is that he has demonstrated something in the rearing of his children that suggests that he has led, that he has managed.
- But if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?

1 Was Timothy's List Sufficient to Appoint Elders?

1 Timothy 3:4–5; Titus 1:6

- It seems to me that the 1 Timothy chapter 3 qualification demands something less than the child being a baptized believer.
- We ought to consider all of the relevant information in the elder selection process. But was Timothy's list sufficient for him to appoint elders?
- Titus had Titus's list, and Timothy had Timothy's list, and either should have been sufficient by themselves.

2 Does Believing Equal Baptized Into Christ?

1 Corinthians 1:9; 1 Corinthians 4:17; John 20:27

- So that raises this question. Does believing equal baptized into Christ?
- Does that, just because they've been immersed in water at some point in the past, does that necessarily mean that they are believing now?
- God is pistos. God is faithful. That has something to do with God's character, right? He is trustworthy, he's reliable, he's dependable.
- I have sent to you Timothy, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord.
- This term can be used in both ways in the New Testament. So the question is, how is it being used in Titus chapter 1 and verse 6?

3 Must the Elder Have More Than One Child?

1 Timothy 5:4

- The other question is, must the elder have more than one child?
- You say, Yes, I have children. I have a child.
- May I suggest to you that raising children is not the same as shepherding adults.

- I don’t think the point of the qualification is his experience as much as it is he has demonstrated the ability to lead and manage those kids.

4 Must the Children Be Faithful Perpetually?

Titus 1:6; 1 Timothy 3:4–5

- So the final question. Must the children be faithful perpetually?
- Just because a child sins, even while the child is still in the home, that is not necessarily a reflection on the failures of the parent.
- All children sin and fall short of the glory of God, and that’s not a reflection on poor parenting necessarily.
- This qualification is more about his leadership and the home, not the status of his adult children.
- If you see faithful as trustworthy under him, that does actually mesh better with the 1 Timothy account.

5 The Greater Issue: Take Care of the Church of God

1 Timothy 3:5

- If he can’t manage his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?
- But I’ll tell you what the greater issue is. Men who have been appointed to this task who have lost sight of what it means to take care of the church of God.
- Elders must never lose sight of that mission.
- Elders are entrusted with souls and caring for them and nurturing them and doing their best to strive to save them.
- This is the point of the sermon. I talked about faithful kids a lot. Elders take care of the church of God.
- I say that for us to respect and pray and be thankful for them. Because they get it.

THE CHALLENGE

And are you numbered among the sheep? That’s how this lesson ends. You need to be in this flock. It’s the flock of safety.

MY NOTES