

Qualifications of Overseers and Deacons: A Comparison Chart

Compiled by Gregory A. Smith from 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:6-9 (ESV) • July 2013

	The Office of Overseer/Elder— a noble task (1 Tim. 3:1)	The Office of Deacon—good standing and great confidence (1 Tim. 3:13)
Mature Faith		
<i>Overall Character</i>	above reproach: ἀνεπίλημτος (1 Tim. 3:2; cf. 1 Tim. 5:7; 6:14); ἀνέγκλητος (Titus 1:6; 1:7; cf. 1 Tim. 3:10)	
<i>Spiritual Virtues</i>	sober-minded: νηφάλιον (1 Tim. 3:2; cf. Titus 2:2)	
	self-controlled: σώφρονα (1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:8; cf. Titus 2:2; 2:5)	
	respectable: κόσμιον (1 Tim. 3:2)	
	hospitable: φιλόξενον (1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:8; cf. 1 Peter 4:9)	
	gentle: ἐπιεικῆ (1 Tim. 3:3; cf. James 3:17; 1 Peter 2:18)	
	a lover of good: φιλάγαθον (Titus 1:8)	
	upright: δίκαιον (Titus 1:8; cf. Phil. 4:8)	
	holy: ὅσιον (Titus 1:8; cf. 1 Tim. 2:8)	
	disciplined: ἐγκρατῆ (Titus 1:8)	
<i>Faith Communication</i>	able to teach/able to give instruction in sound doctrine (1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:9)	must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience (1 Tim. 3:9)
	able to rebuke those who contradict [sound doctrine] (Titus 1:9)	
<i>Depth of Spiritual Experience</i>	not a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit (1 Tim. 3:6)	let them also be tested first; then let them serve if they prove themselves blameless (1 Tim. 3:10)

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Healthy Family Relations		
<i>Undivided Intimacy</i>	the husband of one wife (1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:6)	the husband of one wife (1 Tim. 3:12)
<i>Household Management</i>	must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive (1 Tim. 3:4-5)	managing their children and their own households well (1 Tim. 3:12)
	his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination (Titus 1:6)	
<i>A Spiritually Minded Wife</i>		dignified: σεμνός (1 Tim. 3:11; cf. Titus 2:2)
		not slanderers: μη διαβόλους (1 Tim. 3:11; cf. 2 Tim. 3:3; Titus 2:3)
		sober-minded: νηφάλιον (1 Tim. 3:11; cf. Titus 2:2)
		faithful in all things (1 Tim. 3:11)
Freedom from Vices		
<i>Abusive Speech</i>	not quarrelsome: ἄμαχον (1 Tim. 3:3; cf. Titus 3:2)	
		not double-tongued: μη διλόγους (1 Tim. 3:8)
<i>Anger & Violence</i>	not violent: μη πλήκτην (1 Tim. 3:3; Titus 1:7)	
	not quick-tempered: μη ὀργίλον (Titus 1:7)	
<i>Greed</i>	not greedy for gain: μη αισχροκερδῆ (Titus 1:7)	not greedy for dishonest gain: μη αισχροκερδεῖς (1 Tim. 3:8)
	not a lover of money: ἀφιλάργυρον (1 Tim. 3:3; cf. Heb. 13:5)	
<i>Misuse of Alcohol</i>	not a drunkard: μη πάροινον (1 Tim. 3:3; Titus 1:7)	not addicted to much wine: μη οἴνω πολλῷ προσέχοντας (1 Tim. 3:8)
<i>Pride</i>	not arrogant: μη αὐθάδη (Titus 1:7)	

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Favorable Public Testimony

well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall
into disgrace (1 Tim. 3:7)
