

# 1 Timothy 3:1

LESSON 13

## *The Desire of a Bishop*

### 1. Introduction to Ch. 3

- a. This is a section (ch.2-3) talking about good work of people in the church
- b. This is controversial... why? It speaks of authority, control, personal, judgmental
- c. The need for organization and order is obvious: there are officers in the church
- d. Others have noticed how Paul's orders sound Jewish (yes, contra pagan)
- e. These are instructions on how he ought to behave – 1 Tim 3:14-15

### 2. What is a Bishop

- a. Bishop, pastor, reverend, elder, presbyter, Pope, buddy – What's in a name?
- b. 'Reverend' only describes God's name - Ps 111:9; Presbyter (elder) - 1 Tim 4:14
- c. Unacceptable would be priest or Pope (father) – Matt 23:2-10
- d. Pastor speaks to shepherd, flocks, sheep, pastoral = feeding – Jer 3:15, 32:1-2
- e. Paul uses 'pastor' also Eph 4:11, and Israel used 'bishop' – Ac 1:20, 1 Pe 2:25
- f. Church membership is by faith, not denomination decree or certificate – Eph 5:30
- g. Ministry is done by everyone and not just the paid pastor – Titus 2; Eph 4:12

### 3. What They Do

- a. They are responsible for the knowledge/understanding/governing – Ac 20:17, 28
- b. The bishops are the elders that keep order and rule – Titus 1:5-9
- c. They are the caretakers and rulers of the local church - 1 Tim 3:5
- d. They warn, charge, discipline, confirm, exhort, rebuke, reprove, exhort, teach
- e. Pastors of music, children, counseling, worship, priests are not Pauline

### 4. What Makes a Bishop

- a. First, desire – not money, status, recognition, vocation
- b. Desire, proof, acceptance – not decree, seminary, election, anointing, special calling
- c. If you are saved in the BoC you have been called into ministry – 2 Cor 5:17-18
- d. Your ordination papers are Eph 2:10, Eph 4:1, and 2 Tim 3:16-17
- e. The dirty little secret of pastors: they don't get an unction 1Jo 2:20, 27, Lu 12:11-12
- f. Eph 4:11 describes spiritual gifts which are no longer – see Rom 12, 1Cor 12
- g. The spiritual gifts were given until the BoC was functional – Eph 4:13-16
- h. It is better to trust the word of God working in you than an experience/feeling
- i. The list does not describe any one person, but describes the office/position