

{54} I Timothy

King James Version

(14) And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.  
 (15) Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

**Chapter 3**

(1) This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.  
 (2) A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;  
 (3) Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;  
 (4) One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;  
 (5) (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)  
 (6) Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.  
 (7) Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.  
 (8) Likewise *must* the deacons *be* grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;  
 (9) Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.

King James Paraphrase

(14) And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the sin.  
 (15) Nevertheless she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with discretion.

**Chapter 3**

(1) This is a true saying, If a man desires the office of a bishop {pastor},<sup>a</sup> he desires a good work.  
 (2) A bishop {pastor} then must be blameless, {presently be} the husband of one wife,<sup>b</sup> vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, able to teach;  
 (3) Not given to wine, no bully, not greedy for filthy worldly riches; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;  
 (4) One who rules his own household well, having his children in subjection with all honor;  
 (5) (Because if a man does not know how to rule his own household, how shall he take care of the church of God?)  
 (6) Not a new convert, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.  
 (7) Furthermore he must have a good report of those who are outside; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.  
 (8) Likewise the deacons<sup>c</sup> *must be* honorable, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy worldly riches;  
 (9) Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.

3:1a - bishop - episkopē {ἐπισκοπή} - overseer [pastor]

3:2b - notice the verb "be" is present tense - {εἶναι} [present infinitive in the Greek] the man must presently be the husband of one wife. To translate as "must have been" the husband of one wife would be a mistranslation and a distortion of God's word. The command here is that the man must currently have only one wife [ i.e. he cannot be a bishop {pastor} in the church if he currently has multiple wives, i.e. polygamist] I Tim 3:12 gives the same requirement for deacons. See Acts 6:3 {first deacons?} - qualifications always have to do with a person's present submission to the Holy Spirit - qualifications never have to do with past sin. – see also Titus 1:5f - see note on I Tim. 3:12 below.

3:8c - deacon - diakonos {διάκονος} – servant – attendant – someone who waits on another – see Acts 6

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(10) And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being *found* blameless.

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(11) Even so *must their* wives *be* grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.

(11) Even so *their* wives *must be* honorable, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.

(12) Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

(12) Let the deacons {presently} be the husbands of one wife,<sup>d</sup> ruling their children and their own households well.

(13) For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

(13) Because those who have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

(14) These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly:

(14) These things I write to you, hoping to come to you shortly:

(15) But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

(15) But if I delay long, that you may know how you ought to behave yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

(16) And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

(16) And without controversy; great is the mystery of godliness: God was revealed in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached to the Gentiles {non-Jews}, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

**Chapter 4**

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(1) Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

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(2) Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

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(3) Forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

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3:12d - {διακονοι [deacons] εστωσαν [must be] μιας [one] γυναικος [wife] ανδρες [husbands]}

- estoesan {εστωσαν} is present tense imperative - To translate as "must have been" the husband of one wife would be a mistranslation and a distortion of God's word.

Qualifications for deacons, elders, or bishops [overseers] are always based on a person's present relationship with the Lord, never on their past {See Acts 6:3} - see note on 3:2 above and Titus 1:5f. [If the qualifications were based on a person's past - Paul himself would be disqualified!]