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The Letter to Titus

Chapter 1: Church life

Chapter 2: Individual and family life

Chapter 3: Society and public life

8

Titus Chapter One

- I. Greetings and Introduction (1:1-5)
 - A. From Paul to Titus (1:1-4)
 - B. Reason Titus was left in Crete (1:5)
- II. Elders and their qualifications (1:6-9)
- III. The need to deal with problem people (1:10-16)

9

Used interchangeably:

- **Elders** (1:5) = Greek *presbuteros* stressing age, experience
- **Overseers** (1:7) = Greek *episkopos* stressing their duty of oversight
- "And when they had appointed elders for them in every church. . . " (Acts 14:21-23)

10

The overseer/ elder

- MUST (essential; necessary) = Greek *dei* be above reproach, blameless (1:6, 7)
- MUST be = I Tim. 3:2; above reproach, blameless (NOT sinless)
- MUST = I Tim. 3:7; have a good reputation with those outside the church
- You MUST—*dei*—be born again (John 3:7)

11

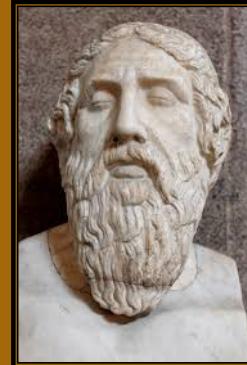
Do some sins disqualify permanently?

- Prov. 6:32-33 “The one who commits adultery with a woman is lacking sense. He who would destroy himself does it. Wounds and disgrace he will find and **his reproach will not be blotted out.**”
- Forgiveness does not equal being qualified.

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What is the job of an elder?
What do they do?
See handout sheet

13



Epimenides,
Cretan poet
About 500 B.C.
“Cretans are
always liars!”



14

How should churches handle people teaching error?

1. They are to be silenced, reproved (1:11, 13).
2. Reject a factious (heretical) person after 1st and 2nd warning (3:10).
3. Avoid such men as these (2 Tim. 3:5).
4. With gentleness correct those (unbelievers) in opposition (2 Tim. 2:25).
5. Keep an eye on those causing dissention, contrary to the teaching you have heard. Turn away from them (Rom. 16:17-18).

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