

- What comes to mind when you hear the word *leader*?
  - “A man who has the ability to get other people to do what they don’t want to do and like it.” (Harry Truman)
  - “One who, out of madness or goodness, volunteers to take upon himself the woe of the people.” (John Updike)



*Paul's Letter to  
the Disciple*



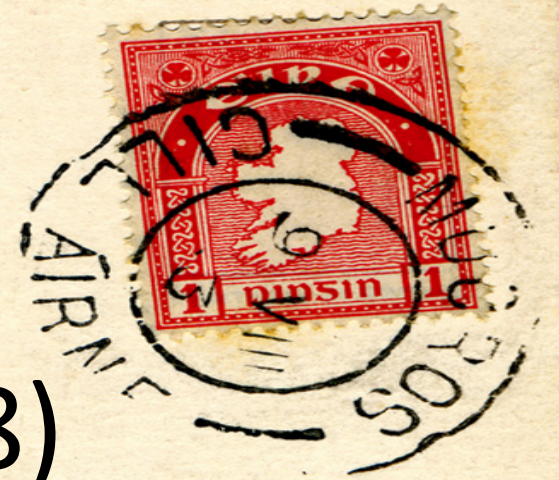
# I Timothy

*Relating to Elders*



# 1 Tim. 5:17-25

1. Honoring Worthy Elders (17-18)
2. Correcting Sinning Elders (19-21)
3. Commissioning New Elders (22-25)





# 1. Honoring Worthy Elders

- The elders who *rule well*
  - *Manage well own house (3:4-5)*
  - *Direct, preside over, lead*
  - *Well – excellently; rightly*
- All elders *rule*, but some do not do it *well* (e.g.- those who were leading others astray (1:3-7; 4:1-2; cf. Acts 20:29-30))







# 1. Honoring Worthy Elders

- Especially those laboring in preaching and teaching
  - *Preaching – in word – words or the Word*
  - ‘Teach’ – 13x in 1 Timothy
  - All elders are to be able to teach (3:2), but some *labor* at it full time (cf. 4:13, 16)



# 1. Honoring Worthy Elders

- Worthy of double honor?
  - *Honor* – both esteem & support
    - See 1 Thess. 5:12-13; Heb. 13:7, 17
  - *Double* -> position & performance
  - Scripture: Deut. 25:4; Luke 10:7
  - See 1 Cor. 9:1-14 – *get their living from the gospel* (cf. 2 Chron. 31:4)





## 2. Correcting Sinning Elders

### A. For their protection (19)

- Two or three witnesses
  - See Deut. 19:15-21
  - Matt. 18:15-18
    - Show him his fault in private first
    - If no resolution, take one or two others
    - If no resolution, go to church leaders





## 2. Correcting Sinning Elders

### B. For their correction (20)

- Those who *continue* in sin
  - Persist; refuse to repent; do not change
  - Activities or teaching (see 1:3)





## 2. Correcting Sinning Elders

### B. For their correction (20)

- *Rebuke* – “to convict, to prove one in the wrong and thus to shame him”
  - *Reprove, expose* (see Matt. 18:15)
- *In the presence of all*
  - See 2 Thess. 3:14-15
  - Nerves -> pain | | conscience -> pangs





2. Correcting Sinning Elders  
C. For their direction (20)



**Those who continue in sin,  
rebuke in the presence of all, so that  
the rest also will be fearful of sinning.**



## 2. Correcting Sinning Elders

### C. For their direction (20)

- *So that the rest may have fear*
  - See Deut. 13:10-11; 17:13; 19:20; 21:21
  - Perfect love casts out fear? (1 John 4:18)
    - Motive for obedience: *fear* -> *love*
      - God is perfecting/maturing our love for Him and others (1 John 4:17)

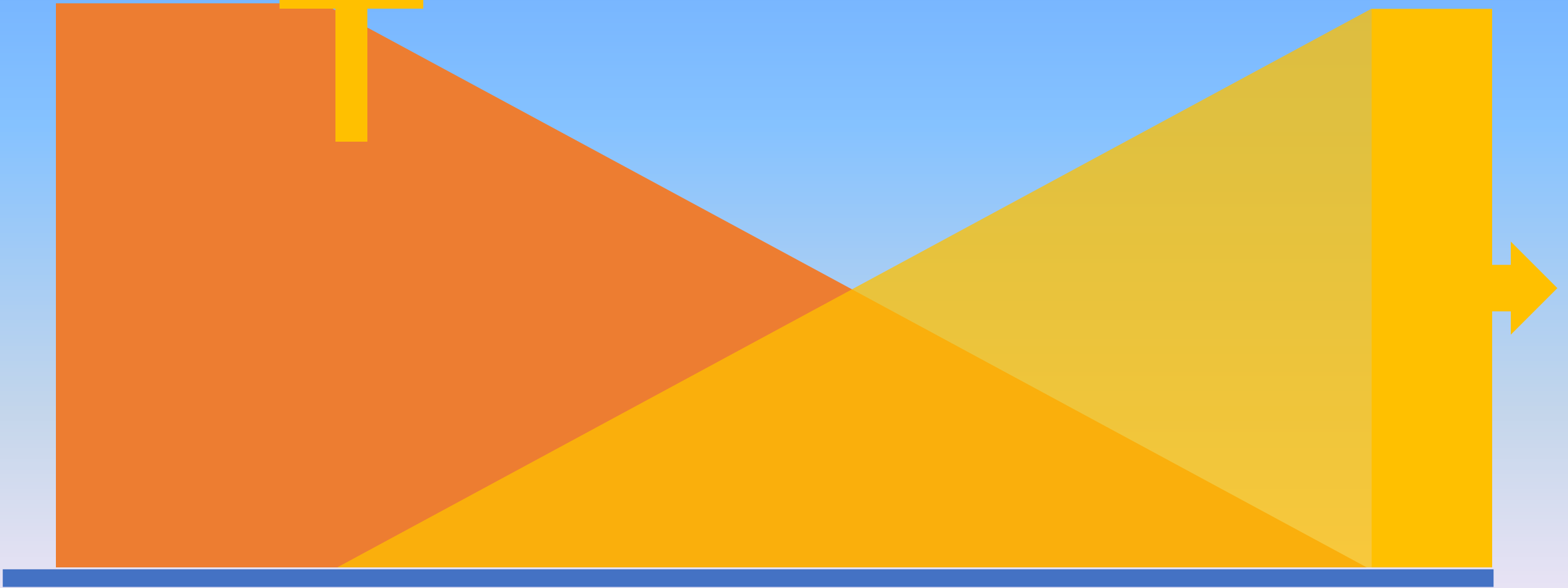




Love  
for Self



Love  
for God





## 2. Correcting Sinning Elders

### D. For Timothy's integrity (21)

- This is serious!
  - God (Rom. 2:11); Christ Jesus (2 Tim. 4:8);  
Angels (cf. Matt. 25:31)
- No bias / no partiality
- No wimping out (*maintain these principles*)





### 3. Commissioning New Elders

- Exercise great caution! (22)
  - Evidence over time (see 3:1-7)
  - Vet potential elders carefully
    - Laying on hands -> *blessing/approval*
      - Approving the wrong person will come back to bite you
    - Keep yourself *pure*





### 3. Commissioning New Elders

- How does *wine* fit in here? (23)
  1. Totally random thought
  2. Introducing a new topic
  3. *Sins of others* – asceticism (cf. 4:3)
    - Committed to total abstinence?
    - “A little can be beneficial” -- just not too much (3:3)





**UNFIT**

**Sins  
Evident**

**Sins Not  
Evident  
(Yet)**

**FIT**

**Good Deeds  
Evident**

**Good Deeds  
Not Evident  
(Yet)**



### 3. Commissioning New Elders

- *Evidence over time* (24-25)
  - Thorough investigation at first will save you from a lot of problems later
  - Elders are not sinless!
    - *Stumbling vs. Pursuing*
  - Is he *pursuing* godliness? (4:7; 6:11)
    - Evidenced by his conduct





## So What?

- Heb. 13:17
- Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be *unprofitable* for you.
  - *Yields no gain in the end; hurtful*

